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Championship Class

Tom Steinke / Penny Steinke



Class A

Dave Quaid / Rowen Swick



Class B

Rich Peterson / Kim Peterson



Class C

Kalena Quaid / Rondi Mengelt

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Ken Jaeger	Jer Wegner
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THANK YOU!!

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Submissions deadline for our next issue is

Sept 15

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Date	Tournament	Location	Max	Entry	Jr Class	Deadline	Contact
Aug 7	Lox Classic	Combined Locks	48	\$20	No	July 31	Fred Lane
Aug 7	Summer Shindig	Rozellville		\$15	No	July 31	Mel Cook
Aug 10	Carson Park Classic	Eau Claire	64	\$10	Yes	Aug 3	Paul Wiese
Aug 14	Fond Du Lac Open	Fond Du Lac	32	\$20	Yes	Aug 7	John Meyer
Aug 15	FDL Team Tourney	Fond Du Lac	10	\$54		August 1	Jeff Secord
Aug 21	Warm Up	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Aug 11	Dan Newkirk
Aug 21-22	Mosinee Open	Mosinee	48	\$20	No	Aug 14	Kent Frailing
Aug 28	Goldendale Open	Germantown	36	\$20	No	Aug 21	Terry Sternberg
Sept 4-5	State Singles Tournament	Eau Claire		\$25	Yes	July 31	John Secord
Sept 11-12	Wet N Wild Tournament	Centuria		\$15	No	Sept 1	Toni Sloper
Sept 18	Arkdale Doubles	Arkdale	32	\$22	No	Sept 11	James Wicklander
Sept 18	Earl Paulson Classic	Beloit	54	\$20	No	Sept 8	Dan Newkirk
Sept 19	Don Goldsmith Doubles	Beloit		\$22	No	Sept 8	Dan Newkirk
Oct 2	Junction City Singles	Junction City	24	\$20	Yes	Sept 25	James Wicklander
Oct 2-3	October Fall Singles	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Sept 22	Dan Newkirk
Oct 9-10	Summit Ridge Fall Singles	Wonewoc	30	\$11	No	Oct 2	Dave Volz
Oct 16	WHPA Fall Meeting	Delton Sportsman's Club					
Oct 23-24	Deansville Singles	Deansville	40	\$20	No	Oct 16	Gary Volz
Nov 6-7	Doubles at the Barrel	Deansville	32			Oct 30	Gary Volz
Nov 13-14	Autumn Harvest	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Nov 3	Dan Newkirk
Dec 4-5	Deansville Open	Deansville	40	\$20	No	Nov 27	Gary Volz
Dec 11-12	Snowflake	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Dec 1	Dan Newkirk

Jr Class Yes or No (Yes = They will have their own class if enough entries. No = They will be in mixed classes)

Blast From the Past

Dave Volz

**Wisconsin Horseshoe
Newsletter Subscription**

6 issues/year - \$15/year

Send a check for the amount of \$15.00

Make checks payable and mail to:

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Norb Fuhrman
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Cal Pitel

Dan Newkirk– Intent to Run for WHPA 2nd VP

I would like to officially but my bid in to run for WHPA Second Vice President. I have been a member of the WHPA for six year to seven years now. I am still learning the ropes in the world of horseshoes compared to other members and loving every minute of it. If I am given the opportunity, I think that I can offer a fresh outlook that brings many ew ideas while keeping other members best interests at heart. I hope you consider my nomination for Second Vice President of WHPA this fall.

Yours truly,
Dan Newkirk



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A sincere thank you to everyone who contributes to our WHNL in any way—pictures, proofing, articles, printing, mailing.... It takes a TEAM.



As I write this there are Wisconsin pitchers ready to make their marks in Winnemucca Nevada at the World Tournament. Along with many of you I will be watching the live feeds to cheer on our friends. Blessings of safe travel, good pitching, a great experience and FUN to you all. I am preparing for the State Tournament in Eau Claire as I write this. My entry has been sent to John Secord, my hotel room is booked and my shirts are ready. Are you ready for the fun that is our State Tournament?

There is one small sticking point in my preparation for State and other local tournaments that I would like to discuss quickly. A member recently reached out to me about a very disappointing tournament recently. It was not that they pitched badly, but they were faced with politics and vulgarity. When asked to have the vulgarity removed they were faced with an obnoxious response. Neither of these things have a place in horseshoes. Our world today is already so divisive and ugly, does this really need to come into our pits? Why can't tournaments, leagues and all pits be an extension of our living rooms, a place where the ugliness doesn't touch us? Leave it in the world, don't bring it into our little family. We don't need it.

Lastly, a huge THANK YOU to the member who did reach out to me. It must have been hard but please know that I am eternally grateful that you felt you could reach out and I appreciate you very, very much. I hope each of you knows that my door is open, my email is public, my cell phone number is right here in this newsletter. Have a concern? Please let me know and we will deal with it as best we can. If you have no concerns, you know what? Shoot me a message about the best things horseshoe pitching has done for you. Let me know the bad and the good, let's open the communication lines and talk, because that's what families do. See you in the pits!

Behind the Mask . . . With NHPA Chaplain Ken Heinritz

The World Tournament is upon us & if you are not attending, you are missing out on something very special. I love the equal playing field, the tough competition & simply the memories built with fellow competitors. Building good friendships with other horseshoe pitchers across the nation is high on my priority list. The sad truth is that this year I will not be attending. Having pitched in 20 World Tournaments, I have grown accustomed to pitching in this yearly event. And this tournament is my favorite, hands down.



Because of my love for this event, there are not many things that would keep me from attending. You may have heard the statement that 'family comes first'. While it's true that family comes before fun (in this case horseshoe pitching), I would say more accurately: Faith, Family & Fun in that order. My challenge is one on the home front where my wife Kelly is currently in the thick of her battle with cancer. And as her husband I need to be in her corner and cover her with love during this time. I believe it's the right thing to do.

I wish for a safe and enjoyable time for all who are attending this year's World Tournament in Winnemucca & for those who are not, won't you consider making the World Tournament part of your annual experience. Take it from me, you'll be glad you did! If you delay, health issues may spring up when you least expect it, taking away those precious opportunities to make good memories playing the sport you love.

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her." Eph. 5:25 NKJV



WI State Walking Doubles Results

Dan Newkirk / Dobie Gutweiler

Championship Class

Tom Steinke	4.5	1.5	22.22
Penny Steinke			71.11
Ken Heinritz	4	2	41.11
Bob Klingaman			40.56
Jim Larson	3.5	2.5	56.67
Lonny Trangsrud			60
Ray Groskinsky	3	3	42.22
Kerry Morris			47.22
Dobie Gutweiler	3	3	26.67
John Meyer			60
Jill Peterson	2	4	30
Eugene Pribnow			45.56
Zak Schwartz	1	5	50
Cliff Shave			43.33

Class A

Dave Quaid	6	1	34.28
Rowen Swick			40.95
Tammy Newkirk	5	2	54.28
Dan Newkirk			27.61
Tava Cook	4	2	25
Aleena Lepak			59.44
Cindy Castellano	3	3	46.67
Toni Sloper			36.67
Bruce McLinn	2	4	38.33
Jim Tollefson			27.78
Al Holloway	2	4	12.78
Rick Weller			38.33

George Dunn	0	6	24.44
Dave Leckwee			36.67

Class B

Rich Peterson	5	1	42.22
Kim Peterson			27.22
Jeff Gustafson	4	2	31.67
Paul Henning			10
Roger Anderson	3	2	20.67
Mary Thompson			28.67
Melanie Kasun	2	3	20
Greg Smith			31.33
Kevin Aarstad	2	3	8.67
Linda Roeber			32.67
Kevin Brekke	0	5	19.33
Fred Lane			14.67

Class C

Rondi Mengelt	5	0	27.33
Kalena Quaid			23.33
Jim Schraufnagel	4	1	25.33
Jerry Schroeder			15.33
Kim Briggs	3	2	12
Brenda Price			22.67
Scott Linhart	2	3	18
Rob Tilton			9.33
Rayna Bauer	.5	4.5	21.33
Barb Ramquist			2.67
Zach Secord	.5	4.5	6.67
John Secord			15.33



Championship Class



Class A



Class B



Class C

Platteville Singles

Mark Mauthe

<u>Class A</u>			
John Meyer	6	1	60
Jim Larson	5	2	60.23
Joe Smith	5	2	59.64
<u>Class B</u>			
Rick Weller	6	1	31.79
James Wicklander	5	2	29.29
Dave Volz	4	3	29.64
<u>Class C</u>			
Richard Conrad	7	0	27.5
Lambert Narlock II	6	1	20.36
Jason Goldsmith	4	3	18.21

Muskego Open

Tom Steinke

<u>Class A</u>			
Penny Steinke	4	1	60.5
Tammy Newkirk	4	1	60
Kerry Morris	3	2	54.5
<u>Class B</u>			
Jeff Gustafson	6	0	39.58
Tom Leair	5	1	30.83
George Dunn	4	2	33.33
<u>Class C</u>			
Kevin Brekke	7	0	36.07
Brenda Price	6	1	31.07
Rayna Bauer	4	3	28.93
<u>Class D</u>			
Guy Fleming Jr	5	1	18.75
Dave Palmersheim	5	1	17.08
Ryan Bergles	3	3	15.83

Butternut Open

Jer Wegner

<u>Class A</u>			
John Meyer	5	0	67.6
Larry Grabowski	4	1	59.45
Ray Groskinsky	2	3	54.72
<u>Class B</u>			
Josh Smith	5	0	50
Mona Lane	4	1	45.28
Dennis Wegner	3	2	42.13
<u>Class C</u>			
Greg Hehlig	5	0	35.2
Isaac Wegner	4	1	30
Ralph Marthaler	3	2	23.2



Another Horseshoe Family of Champions!
Kalena / Dave Quaid



Each One Reach One Contest

We have started another Each One Reach One contest this year. For each new member you refer you get an entry into a drawing for 2 \$25 prizes and 5 \$10 prizes. A new member is anyone who has not been a WHPA member for the past 2 years. The drawing will be held at the fall meeting. Submit the name, address, DOB, email, phone, sponsor to John Secord

Dan & Sylvia David Memorial

Sonia / Mel Cook

Class A

Sarah Chaffee	6	0	82.5
Aleena Lepak	5	1	60.83
Veronic Groshek	4	2	45.83

Class B

Dennis Bach	4.5	1.5	32.5
Scott Peckham	3.5	3.5	27.5
Kevin Hellenbrand	3.5	2.5	23.75

Class C

Theresa Vlach	6	1	22.5
Jim Schraufnagel	5	2	25.71
Jerry Schroeder Sr	4	3	20.71

Wolf River Open Tournament

Ken Jaeger Sr

Class A

G Bogenschneider	3	1	50
Martin Papesh	2	2	55.62
John Meyer	2	2	55.62

Class B

Veronica Groshek	4	0	54.37
John Nawroot	3	1	50.6
Kerry Morris	1	3	52.5

Class C

Wally Grulkowski	5.5	1.5	29.28
Jerry Schroeder Sr	4.5	2.5	25.35
Greg Hehling	4	3	31.07

Class D

Evan Schoohs	6	1	23.57
Ben Kinjerski	5	2	26.42
Lambert Narlock	5	2	21.42

Ken Kosky Memorial

Kent Frailing

Class A

Cliff Erickson	7	1	57.59
John Meyer	6	2	60.2
Randy Rein	5	2	50

Class B

Glenda Lawver	5	0	46.8
Dennis Wegner	4	1	42.91
Toni Sloper	3	2	38.4

Class C

Greg Smith	6	1	42.5
Wally Grulkowski	6	2	36.62
Jerry Neimuth	5	3	37.68

Class D

Josh Gibson	4	1	36.80
Randy Mitchell	3	2	29.84

Class E

Rich Brockway	6	2	26.74
Kevin Hellenbrand	6	3	23.96
Bev Hans	5	3	24.3

Class F

Theresa Vlach	6	0	26.25
Reese Geier	5	1	20.90
Jeremy Studinski	4	3	16.39

2021 /WHPA Membership & Renewal Form

Name: _____ Card # _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email: _____ Date of Birth _____

If new member, referred by: _____

Circle your Division:

Men-\$35 Women-\$35 Elder Men-\$35 (70+) Jr. Boys-\$5
 Jr. Girls-\$5 Med/Exempt-\$35 Cadet Boys-\$5 Cadet Girls-\$5

If renewal is after June 30th 2021, \$2 is added to dues

I would like to donate to the electronic scoring upgrade fund .

Just add \$2 \$5 \$10 Other \$_____ to the total

Send to: **WHPA W6868 Brown Rd. Fond du Lac, WI 54937**

(Note: If you want a printed membership card you can go to www.eShoe.com to print one or include a self-addressed, stamped envelope to have one mailed to you.)

Spring Fling
Dan Newkirk

Class A

Dennis Reid	5	0	68
Penny Steinke	4	1	68
Tammy Newkirk	3	2	56.5

Class B

Bruce McLinn	5	1	46.67
Jill Peterson	5	1	42.92
Jeff Gustafson	4	2	40.42

Class C

Tom Steinke	4	1	32.5
Dan Newkirk	3	2	28.5
Roger Anderson	3	2	28

Class D

Glenn Hanson	4	1	25.5
Rayna Bauer	4	1	24
Mary Thompson	4	1	23.5

Class E

Joel Ramsdell	3.5	1.5	22
Richard Conrad	3	2	17.5
Dennis Simmler	2.5	2.5	14



Class A:
Tammy, Dennis,
Penny



Class B:
Dave, Jill, Bruce,
Jeff



Class C:
Tom, Roger, Dan

Platteville
Mark Mauthe

Class A

John Meyer	6	1	60
Jim Larson	5	2	60.36
Joseph Smith	5	2	59.64

Class B

Rick Weller	6	1	31.79
James Wicklander	5	2	29.29
Dave Volz	4	3	29.64

Class C

Rich Conrad	7	0	24.29
Lambert Narlock II	6	1	20.36
Jason Goldsmith	4	3	18.21



Class D: Mary,
Glenn, Rayna



Class E: Joel, Rich-
ard, Dennis

Reminder:

State Tournament Entry forms are due July 31.

John Secord, contact information page 2.

Eau Claire Open

Paul Weise

Class A

Jim Bilderback	5	1	70
Larry Grabowski	3.5	2.5	49.58
Bun Carley	3	3	52.5

Class B

Phil Swenson	6	0	41.25
Don Lammers	4	2	36.25
Dustin Duerr	3	3	37.5

Class C

Bob Kallstrom	5	1	31.25
Marv Mengel	4.5	1.5	17.92
Dan Sheehan	3	3	24.17

Class D

Robert Lawrence	5.5	.5	8.5
Lucas Rasmussen	5	1	12
Mackenzie Rasmussen	4.5	1.5	4.5

Eau Claire Open Winners

Class A: Lonny, Larry, Jim, Bun

Class B: Toni, Don, Phil, Dusty

Class C: Darren, Marv, Bob, Dan

Class D: Scott, Lucas, Robert, Mackenzie



Another Friend Missed: Jerry Kamps



To anyone lucky enough to know Jerry Kamps during his spectacular 90 year life, you know he was one in a million. One of his favorite sayings was, "It isn't what you know, it's who you know. Jerry was born and spent his entire life in Combined

Locks. He and Rosemary celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. They were a team. He was an idea guy—no idea too big or small. In the early 1960's he brought horseshoes to Combined Locks. The club held many tournaments, including State tournaments. He was a distinguished member of the WHPA Hall of Fame. He was a family man bringing many together for trips to Packer games, baseball games, horse races and benefits. He brought many people together and will be missed by many. Condolences to Rosemary and the Kamps family. Thank You Gene Mason for this notice.

Arkdale Results
Ray Groskinsky

<u>Class A</u>			
Penny Steinke	6	1	62.5
Bun Carley	5	2	60.36
Eugen Pribnow	4	3	51.79
<u>Class B</u>			
Kerry Morris	6	1	56.43
Cindy Castellano	6	1	51.43
Jill Peterson	4.5	2.5	46.07
<u>Class C</u>			
Toni Sloper	6	1	42.86
Michael Benzing Jr	5.5	1.5	43.93
Wally Grulkowski	5.5	1.5	39.64
<u>Class D</u>			
Jerry Schoeder Sr	7	0	36.43
Brenda Price	6	1	33.21
Tom Steinke	5	2	31.07
<u>Class E</u>			
Gerald Harris	7	0	25
Lambert Narlock II	5	2	27.14
Ken Davison	4.5	2.5	25



Arkdale Open Winners

- Class A: Cliff, Eugene, Penny, Bun
- Class B: Jill, Kerry, Cindy, Dean
- Class C: Brandon, Toni, Michael, Wally
- Class D: Tom, Brenda, Jerry, Randy
- Class E: Ken, Lambert, Gerry, Zak



Ken Lovaas Memorial

Dan Newkirk

Class A

Tammy Newkirk	6	0	65.42
Penny Steinke	5	1	62.5
Rowen Swick	4	2	47.92

Class B

Jim Huckabee	4	1	35
Jeff Gustafson	3.5	1.5	43
Jim Tollefson	3.5	1.5	42

Class C

Scott Linhart	5	0	34.5
Jack Zane	4	2	32.5
Dan Newkirk	3	2	24.5

Class D

Mitchell Uttech	5	0	21
Joel Ramsdell	4	1	27
Brian Herbst	3	2	21.5



Regional Directors Report

By: Dave Volz

The 2021 World Tournament is underway at Winnemucca, Nevada. We have 16 pitchers from Wisconsin pitching in this year's event which runs from July 19th through July 31st. A list of those pitching and the times they pitch can be found on the WHPA website home page. You can also access some live video feed, results and other information by clicking on the 2021 World Coverage Page link.

The summer tournaments are in full swing and most of

the Tournament Directors are now using the HSMaster tournament program. It was upgraded on the 1st of January with the new eShoe program which makes it much easier to update player averages and for sending in their tournament results. Don't forget to thank your Tournament Directors for all the work they do!

For those of you who participate in a sanctioned league, the NHPA will be running The Sanctioned League Tournament again this year. It will be on October 2nd and 3rd at the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club in Wentzville, Missouri. Look for the flyer to be out soon.



Juniors at the Hall of Fame tournament. Left to right, Heidi Sternberg, Ken Jaeger, Pam Steinke, Renee Sternberg, Jason Goldsmith, & Tom Hansen



The Patriot Horseshoe Tournament Beloit Horseshoe Club

Kevin Brekke

It was a fabulous fourth of July celebration at the Beloit Horseshoe courts on a beautiful but warm Sunday. The tournament started in 2010 at Race Track Park in Edgerton for 10 years, and paused because of Covid, this was its 11th year, but first at the Beloit Horseshoe Courts. The idea started with Kevin Brekke who lives in Edgerton and is a member of the Beloit Horseshoe Club. Kevin wanted to do something different with this tournament, where everyone who pitches gets money back and a prize.

This year first prize in each class was a medallion, and there were flags, bandana's, yo-yo's, and Toilet Paper for last.

Pitchers also get an attendance bag that his wife Karla puts together. Kevin wanted to give back to the horseshoe family and recreate the family picnic atmosphere and celebrate the freedoms we enjoy in this country. Also, any veteran that pitches also received a medal that said, "Freedom is not Free".

This year we had 43 pitchers from Wisconsin and Illinois, and numerous family members and friends that came to watch. We even had a few people stop by and are interested in pitching in the future.

There were six classes of six pitchers, and one class of seven. The ringer averages ranged from 7 percent to over 70 percent. Our Wisconsin women's champion Penny Steinke came and ended with an average over 78

What's New?

Jane Smith

Welcome to the WHPA 11 new members: Bill Bahan, Ken Bentzler, Tyler Melde, Ivan Mitchell, Brad Moeller, Erik Anderson, Alec Marquardt, Karen Molitor, Lambert Narlock II, Marianna Seep, Destiny Swenson. Good Luck to them as they become part of our WHPA horseshoe family.

Pitcher of the Year

Dave Volz

The Pitcher of the Year award is determined by the number of points accumulated in tournaments from August 1st through July 31st. There are 3 Divisions which are determined by pitcher averages as of August 1st. Division A is 45% and over, Division B is 30% - 44.99% and Division C is below 30%. Pitchers receive 15 points for a 1st place finish, 10 points for a 2nd place finish and 5 points for a 3rd place finish in open WHPA sanctioned tournaments. Bonus points are awarded for attending the WHPA Spring

percent, with high game of 35 for 40 shoes for an awesome 87.5 percent.

Dan Newkirk was the tournament director, and his wife Tammy did a lot of the organizing, putting baskets together and was basically the director in charge. Their good friends Dave and Gena Quaid and their daughter Kalena Quaid camped on the grounds and helped with the tournament. Gena is getting good at the computer, as everyone got a results sheet after pitching. There were so many others from the Beloit Horseshoe club that helped with the courts and grounds, and all the little things that make this special club go. Thank you.

There were shirts and hats made up for the tournament people could buy, and there was random face painting going on.

I want to give a shout out to Ken Beebe, who loves to pitch, but for this day is our Grill master, and does a great job. His wife Georgia pitches, but finds time to help with the 50-50 and whatever needs to be done.

Our State Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association (WHPA) President Dobie Gutweiler came just to take pictures of this event.

The Beloit Horseshoe Club is located at 640 Ravine Dr in Beloit and has league play twice a week in the mornings, and twice a week in the evenings as well. They have 13 outdoor and 6 indoor courts. If you are interested in wanting more information about the club you can contact Dan Newkirk at 608-921-2834.

Please note the Goldendale Tournament Director is Terry Sternberg. His contact information is on page 4. The state tournament deadline is approaching. Join the fun in EC over Labor Day weekend pitching ringers.

Continued prayers and positive vibes for our Horseshoe families facing health, social, mental and financial issues.

and Fall meetings in the amount of 15 points each. If you would like to see the current standings, go to the website at www.whpahorseshoes.com/awards. The site is updated as the results come in from the tournament directors. With only a couple events left for the 2021 award, the standings are close in all three divisions. Any points from events after August 1st will go toward the 2022 award. This award is presented to the winners each year at the awards ceremony at the WHPA State Singles Tournament as well as most improved awards for one adult and one cadet/jr pitcher which is determined by comparing averages each year on August 1st to the previous year.

The Patriot
Kevin Brekke

<u>Class A</u>			
Penny Steinke	5	0	78.5
Tammy Newkirk	4	1	64.5
Eugene Pribnow	3	2	54.5
<u>Class B</u>			
Linda Roeber	5	0	57
Jill Peterson	3	2	50
Jeff Gustafson	3	2	45.5
<u>Class C</u>			
Jack Zane	4	1	24.5
Dave Quaid	3	2	33.5
Roger Anderson	3	2	33
<u>Class D</u>			
Rondi Mengelt	5	0	24
Brenda Price	3	2	24.5
Mary Thompson	3	2	21.5
<u>Class E</u>			
Rayna Bauer	5	1	29.5
Joel Ramsdell	4	1	27
Gerald Harris	3	2	20
<u>Class F</u>			
Dave Palmersheim	4	1	22.5
Kalena Quaid	4	1	21.5
Lambert Narlock II	3	2	21
<u>Class G</u>			
Kevin Aarstad	5	0	17.08
Barb Ramquist	5	1	8.33
Jack Zane	4.5	1.5	11.67

Patriot Games Winners

Class A: Rowen, Eugene, Tammy, Penny, Kerry, Rich

Class B: Bruce, Jill, Jeff, Linda, Bob, Jim

Class C: Roger, Dave, Jack, Kevin, Jim

Class D: Mary, Paul, Rondi, Scott, Dan, Brenda

Class E: Gerald, Joel, Rayna, Glenn, Patrick

Class F: Kalena, reg, Mike, Dave, Lambert, Gene

Class G: Ryan, Barb, Kevin, Alan, Georgia, Gary, Jack



Eagle River Open
Cliff Erickson

<u>Class A</u>			
Kerry Morris	5	0	46.
Cliff Erickson	3	2	51.5
Martin Papesh	3	2	45.59
<u>Class B</u>			
Jerry Neimuth	6	1	43.93
Dennis Wegner	5	2	39.29
Dennis Bach	5	2	33.93
<u>Class C</u>			
Wally Grulkowski	6	1	34.29
Jim Brendlinger	5	2	28.21
Edwin Pulsfus	5	2	20
<u>Class D</u>			
Lambert Narlock II	6	1	23.57
Randy Mitchell	5	2	20
James Wicklander	4	3	20.77
<u>Youth Class</u>			
Blake Benzing	5	1	36.67
Brandon Benzing	4	2	38.89
Bradley Benzing	3	3	35



Eagle River Winners

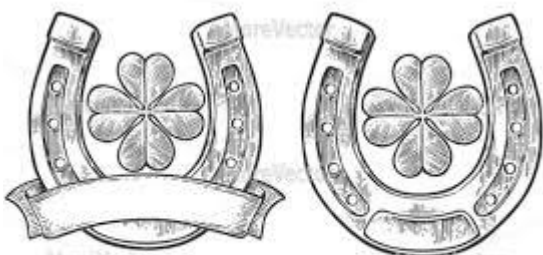
Class A: Martin, Kerry, Cliff

Class B: Jerry, Dennis, Dennis, Dusty

Class C: Wally, Jim, Ed, Dave

Class D: Ron, Lambert, Randy, James

Youth Class: Blake, Brandon, Bradley, Alan





**“The Cruel Shoes”
by Justin Kern
“A Summertime Case
of the Yips”**

Given my condition, I’m looking for advice from the experts. That’s all of you. Before that, though, an explanation and a public apology to Markelle Fultz. I haven’t thrown shoes in about a month. The reason, in my astute medical opinion, backed by that questionable foundation of having done “my own research” online is ...

The Yips.

Yes, I started out strong this spring, quickly edging back up to my modest ringer ratio of 12-to-20 percent, depending on the wind and number Miller High Lifes. Then, something unexplainable happened. My pitch, throw, toss simply changed. The looping back flip went from one turn, finishing open to the post, as I prefer and have found a groove, to an ugly, forced double flip, missing, bouncing and truly cruel.

I shortened my step, I moved my fingers. I switched sides at my trusty pits at Humboldt Park in Milwaukee. I threw harder, tried it more softly. I swore, into the sky and into the ground and far too close to a playground. All of these got me further from the pitch I knew – and no closer to being a better player. It got so frustrating that I put my game on pause. This must be mental, right? The more and more I looked and pondered without the shoes in my hand, the more I’ve become convinced it’s The Yips.

For anyone unfamiliar, The Yips is a nebulous condition where something routine goes astray. A thing you know like the back of your hand becomes foreign, undoable. It’s physical but it’s not, it’s all in your head though clearly out in the open. A nightmare that can come and go. Something no doctor can help with shrouded in a derisive name more fitting of a 1960s garage rock band.

For me, it also feels like a deserved curse. A few years ago, a buddy and I went to an early season Milwaukee Bucks game. With our state and much of the nation of Greece in “Bucks Lust” from the team’s championship run (as of this writing), it is only good editorial sense to try to tie any thread possible to this fantastic basketball team. But there is a real connection here, honest. At this game a few years back, the Bucks were playing the Philadelphia 76ers, a team filled with promising young players, yet each somehow beleaguered by respective demons. On this night, very present to all, were the shooting woes of phenom Markelle Fultz.

Todd – the aforementioned buddy who knows enough about basketball to sometimes even understand what a foul is – explained that Fultz showed up that season with mysterious changes in his shooting motion. Along with losing that ever-illusive “touch” carried by an elite and shifting number of basketball players, Fultz straight-up couldn’t even remotely sink basic free throws.

After Todd’s considerate and mature explanation of this condition, I proceeded to belt out Markelle’s last name every time he touched the ball in the arena, and especially when he lined up to miss free throws. In my defense, “FULTZ” is a comically perfect name for a fall guy. Try this: next time a loved one in your life or at the bar clumsily knocks over a drink, yell out “FULTZ!” It won’t help with the spill or to win over any new loved ones. It will sound ideal for the incident, an onomatopoeia for life’s silly incapacities. FULTZ!

Fultz, a doctor, the team, his agent, the new team he was traded to, they all tried to size up his sudden loss of that lottery-pick shot. There were laborious medical acronyms. Blame was sought. Repeatedly, underneath it all, has been The Yips. The situation so mind-bogglingly simple that it is haunting. You could do something and now, welp, you can’t.

To think Fultz (FULTZ!) was beguiled by The Yips as I, in the upper levels of Fiserv Forum, clutched my beer so as to lean into a vocal curse of his condition ... yet now, I face my own, minor league version of the same ... it’s a spiral of payback. To pull myself out, it’s important to first do what is right. Understanding there is a not-insignificant possibility current Orlando Magic guard Markelle Fultz isn’t a subscriber or even aware of our fine, fine newsletter, I’ll use this space all the same to say that I’m sorry. I’m sorry, ahem, FULTZ!, for mocking, mean and loud, as I now know this helpless feeling, of inability with something you’ve known and loved forever. And I wish you a return to better days on the court. (Except when you play against Milwaukee, where, as a fan, I am still obligated to hope you and all opposing players have an off night.)

With my conscience clean, I feel free to ask – have any of you experienced The Yips? What got you through? Or, if it’s persistent, how do you keep them at bay? Send them along to me at robotkern@hotmail.com. I’ll score you for an extra ringer for any tips that are accompanied with personal apologies to Chuck Knoblauch, Keith Medlycott or Elena Dementieva. Oh, and best of luck to everyone out pitching at tournaments this summer, from Winnemucca to Winneconne. FULTZ!