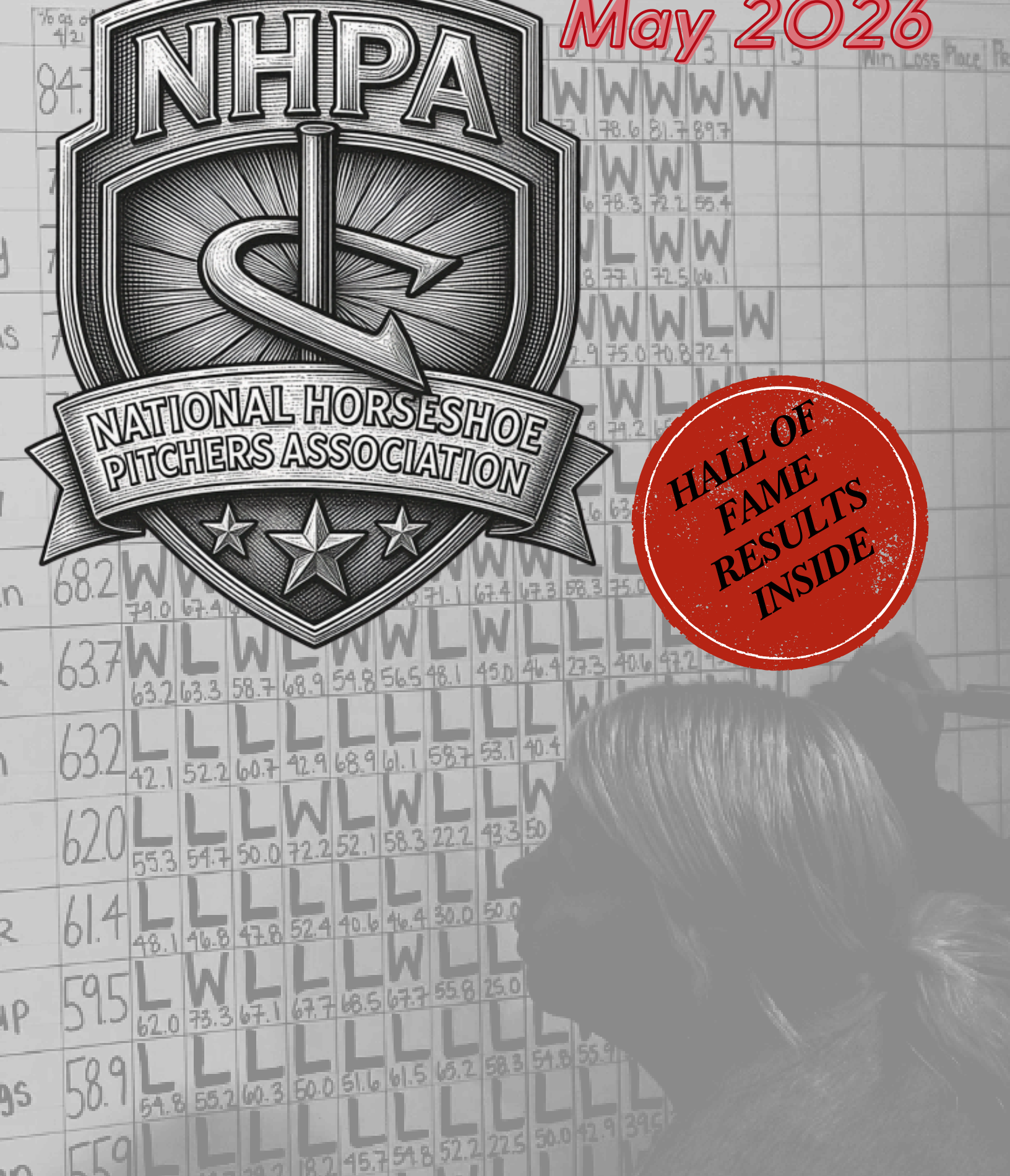


NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



**HALL OF
FAME
RESULTS
INSIDE**



NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



2026 Begins The Same At Invitational



NHPA PRESIDENT
BEN WEBB

The 2026 spring season came in hot with the nationals in ABQ this year, then we seen Newberry, SC open up the Horseshoe Tour yet again in April. Another staple of the pitching season and high point of the NHPA calender is the annual Hall of Fame invitational in Wentzville, Missouri, where 16 of the best 30 and 40 foot players meet to test their skill in the early season. A huge shoutout to all the volunteers at the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club who not only maintain our facility in Wentzville year round, but host the annual initalational.

As you're reading this, we're mere days from the deadline for the annual world horseshoe pitching championships in Wausau, Wisconsin! Get your entry in before it's too late, you don't want to miss the marquee of our sport in 2026!

My horseshoe pitching season may take me to Hutchinson, Kansas or Ronceverte, West Virginia for the next stop on the tour for my next big event this season, who know's where the season will take us? I'm looking forward to next time I can see everyone at one of our big events somewhere across the nation!

Looking ahead though, local leagues and tournaments are in full swing and thank you to all the directors that keep these weekly events running! Here's a couple of ideas to advertise your events this season:

- Utilize social media (Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, etc), publish regular content with easy contact information
- Utilize community forums such as local newspapers and webpages to list your event
- Advertise with local television, radio, etc, many communities offer free publicity for community events

One tool we use within the NHPA heavily nowadays is Canva, we use it for fliers, advertisements, to make entry forms and even the digest each month. The free version has a ton of features but the premium version is a low cost option to create unique avertising material. The best part about it is how easy it is to use, if I can use it, it must not be too complex!

Within this edition of the digest, you'll find articles from several of our officers, the WT entry form, the next US Open information, HOF tournament results and we even tried to have a little fun throughout the edition.

Stay posted to NHPA communication channels this spring and summer for the latest updates, safe travels and good luck during this spring season everyone!

The Road to Wausau Runs Through ABQ and Hutch



2ND VICE PRESIDENT

DALTON RAKESTRAW

Over the past month, I've been fully focused on pushing our sport forward, both behind the scenes and in front of the players. From organizing events to improving communication and presentation, my goal has been simple: make our tournaments run smoother, look more professional, and continue growing participation. One of the biggest challenges I've implemented recently has been moving to fully online entry systems for our regional events. While it's an adjustment for some, it's already proven to be the most efficient way to ensure accuracy,

eliminate confusion, and prevent missed entries. With the volume of tournaments and the short turnaround times we're working with, this step has been necessary to keep things organized and fair for everyone involved. Alongside logistics, I've put a strong emphasis on branding and promotion. Creating updated flyers, social media graphics, and tournament materials has helped elevate the look and feel of our events. It's important to me that our sport is presented in a way that reflects the level of competition and dedication the players bring every time they step on the courts.

A major focus right now is preparing for the upcoming US Nationals Regional Championship event in Hutchinson, Kansas. That upcoming weekend is shaping up to be some of the most exciting we've had, and I've been busy working hard to ensure everything, from scheduling to communication, is clear and consistent. The Sports ETA Symposium will have come and gone by the time you read this edition of the Admin Digest. I have 59 appointments with destinations from around the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico!

The NHPA is still building those alliances and communications with those across our nation to bring you championship-level events! Beyond Hutchinson, attention is also turning towards the upcoming World Tournament in Wausau! I believe there's a real opportunity right now to continue growing our event, not just in participation but in visibility. With the right exposure (like ESPN) (hint, hint, wink, wink), including the potential for larger media involvement, we can bring new attention and revenue into the sport while honoring its traditions.

This past month has been about building a stronger foundation, improving systems, raising expectations, and making sure we're moving forward, not standing still. There's still plenty of work ahead, but the direction is clear. The goal is growth, professionalism, and creating the best possible experience for every player who shows up to compete. As we head into the Hall of Fame Invitational, Team World, the 2nd stop on the Horseshoe Tour, Hutchinson Regional, and beyond, I am excited to see that work come to life on the courts!

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



Rule Proposals for 2026

I would like to start by thanking the fine group of folks that make up the Rules committee. These people are experienced in every aspect of our great sport. The NHPA Rules Committee consists of Deb Michaud, MA, Tina Hawkins, OK, Dan Sanders, OH, Lee Stevenson, CO, Russ Girtz, MN, Clarence Lassiter, SC. This group devoted many hours of their time, and expert opinions for the betterment of our sport. I am happy to announce that we have completed our work for the 2026 proposals. Not all proposals are passed beyond the committee. If you submitted a proposal that did not pass through the committee and wish to pursue it further, reach out to me and I will try to help. The link below will take you directly to the 2026 proposals that will be discussed and voted on by the delegates at the 2026 NHPA Annual Convention: <https://horseshoepitching.com/world2026/NHPAOfficial2026Proposals.pdf>



NHPA 3RD VICE PRESIDENT
JERRY LABROSSE



NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



Charter Tournaments Kicking Off!

Well here we are in May. I hope April showers brought you beautiful May flowers. I hope all of your tournaments are going good and they are well attended for the start of the 2026 season. Each month I would like to feature different tournaments, but I haven't received anything for the month of May. If you would like to have your tournaments featured in the monthly digest, please send me a brief email with the information about the tournament you would like to have featured.



NHPA 4TH VICE PRESIDENT
BARBARA CARSON

This month I am featuring the Oregon Horseshoe Pitchers Association. This tournament was held in March. Congratulations to all of the winners. March 21 in Merlin, Oregon: 10 pitchers in one group. Each pitcher had 4 doubles matches – different partners for each doubles match. A 4-way tie for first – pitcher scoring the most points in the match they lost was the tie breaker. Final results:

1. Doug Hanson (4-1), 2. Kevin Lumpkin (4-1), 3. Mike Imel (4-1), 4. Wes Honn (4-1), 5. Ed Rizzuti (2-3), 6. Alan Ringo (2-3), 7. Todd Liles (2-3), 8. Scott Wine (1-4), 9. Dwayne Durham (1-4), 10. Jason Palmer (1-4)

Oregon Horseshoe Pitchers regular season tournaments started April 25/26 in Phoenix, Oregon. Call tournament director Alan Ringo for details – 541-944-5721.

Please remember that we are looking for volunteers to help with Check-in and Shift Directors for the World Tournament in Wausau, WI.

Thank You to all of you for everything you do to support our sport. See you at the Pits.

Use Social Media to Promote this Season



PUBLICITY DIRECTOR
MICHELLE FOARD

May is a big month for horseshoes. Of course the deadline for the World Tournament is fast approaching on the 18th. If you have questions don't hesitate to reach out to me. The other big thing is Team World in Beloit, WI. I know many of you love seeing the coverage. The last 2 years I haven't played. This year Mn #4 made the cut so I will be playing. I will still try to go live on FB with games. Things may be a little difficult as I am also team captain. I will coordinate and make sure results get posted in the evening. I will chat with a few others and see if others will record their games as well.

With leagues starting did you try to make a post on Facebook to try and find new pitchers? Remember it is gonna take all of us the help gain new members. Maybe run a fun tournament and talk to people about getting sanctioned. Offer an intro to learn horseshoes night. Keep spreading the word. Also if you have any ideas please send your ideas my way. I am always here to answer questions for you. If I don't know I know where to go for answers.



2026 HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL



2026 HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL

May 2026



QRCH Hosts Annual Invitational

It was a typical spring weekend in Missouri as Mother Nature dealt us with cool mornings and sunny blue skies in the afternoons. In Missouri the weather can change in five minutes, but it stayed cool and calm as the horseshoe pitchers came from near and far to pitch in the exciting 30th HOF Invitation Tournament in Wentzville.

Serving as host for this event, the QRHC members sent out several hundred invitations to the top 40' and the 30' horseshoe pitchers in the USA. Across the country from the state of Washington to Maine to Florida, the QRHC received their entry forms. By the deadline on April 1, the QRHC selected the top 32 pitchers to qualify in each division. These pitchers represented 17 states.

In attendance for this 30th Hall of Fame Tournament were some VIPs from the NHPA: President Ben Webb-KY, 1st VP Austin Bailey-IL, 5th VP Josh Olson-MN, Stan Griggs-MO, NHPA WT Statistician, and Jim Kinney Jr-MO NHPA eShoe Director and NHPF President. We thank them for all they do.

The format for the 2-day event was a 16-man round robin for each division, pitching eight games on Saturday and seven games on Sunday. At 9:pm on Saturday the 40' pitchers were introduced by Kayla Tiller-QRHC Secretary with Norm Pierce and Dave Sullivan as Tournament Directors. Next the 30' Tournament Directors, Jeanette Claas and Rich Altis introduced the top sixteen 30' pitchers. After pictures were taken, Jim Kinney-MO sang the National Anthem and it was time to "play ball" or should I say, "throw shoes".

After listening to the sounds of ringers on Saturday, pitching was completed by 3:30 pm. The QRHC provided the hungry pitchers and guests with a delicious fried chicken dinner with all the trimmings served on the north courts; Alan Francis-OH led a meaningful prayer before dinner. After the banquet Jeanette Claas presented several plaques to horseshoe pitchers who had pitched perfect games on the courts at NMHC/QRHC since 1994. Personal plaques were given to Alan Francis-OH for his two perfect games pitched at NMHC on April 25, 1998 and April 6, 2007, to Marlene Ray-TN at the Shamrock Tournament on March 14, 2009 and to Jenny Gegg-MO at the February 7, 2026. Sue Snyder-KY pitched a perfect game on May 3, 2008. It was announced that Stan Griggs was would be inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 2026. A worried poem about the 'Hereafter' with audience participation was read and dramatized by Jeanette Claas, Rosie Buehler and Kammye Gillette.

Thanks to all who came out for this great weekend!



Jeanette Claas
**30ft HOF
Tournament Director**



2026 HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL

May 2026



Experience Conquers 30ft Division Again

The Hall of Fame facility in Wentzville, Missouri would bear witness to a story as old as time, there's some things you just can't teach, you have to learn them the hard way.

We witnessed 16 of the best 30ft pitchers in the world come to the table to contend for the title of winning the Hall of Fame invitational this year. Those pitchers were: Marlene Ray, Jennifer Gegg, Virgle McCown, Dennis Muessig, Dale Moles, Brandy Morehead, Don Gillette, James Muller, Kelly Glidewell, Kevin Shields, Doris Hieden, Ron Legrand, Helga Hewlett, Tim Seagroves, Charles Ball and Dan Molineaux.

While players like Dan Molineaux and Charles Ball showcased the excitement of pitching in the event, a privilege many pitchers in this level of tournament often lose sight of after years of competition, other players came with different motives. James Muller and Kelly Glidewell came to put their game against the best in the world, players like Dale Moles, Virgle McCown and Ron Legrand came to test their ability and show they still had it, and pitchers like Jennifer Gegg and Brandy Morehead came with something to prove. Although Jennifer Gegg won the Women's World Championship in 2026, she's never conquered the HOF Invitational.

While seasoned veterans Amy Francis and 2025 winner Maxine Griffith both dropped out due to their respective injuries, and on the heels of Gegg's #1 overall seeding, high average and perfect game in the same building back in February, the QRHC and those attending the event no doubt thought she would be the favorite to win the tournament.

Gegg started off hot averaging in the 70's and 80's through the first 7 games of the tournament. The first 7 rounds saw Marlene Ray accompany her at the top of the leaderboard with her own respectable outing. Ron LeGrand picked up 1 win on day 1 over Brandy Morehead in the opening round and after the first game his day looked like it had a key stuck on the keyboard. L, L, L, L., L, L. Kevin Shields, then Kelly Glidewell, then Doris Heiden, then Dale Moles, then Marlene Ray, then Virgle McCown all walked through LeGrand, but there's more to the story than the W's and L's tell. When Ron meet Mar in round 6, LeGrand had his 2nd best game of the tournament so far and netted 26 points, the next game he didn't pitch as well but netted 37 points, almost picking up another W.

Ron would meet Gegg in round 8, the last game of Day 1. At this point, Ron hadn't pitched a game over 65.52% all day and Gegg hadn't had a game under 71.15% at this point, everyone in the venue, including Gegg must've been thinking the same thing, the hometown pitcher was about to waltz into Day 2 without an L. 59.09% would be the game the 2025 Women's World Champion would pitch at the veteran Legrand. Looking over the scoresheet, there were no long stretches where LeGrand would pitch more than 6 ringers in a row, and there were no stretches where the pressure would be very high for a long period of time. At 62 shoes, Ron would lead 37-24 and pitch first. The current world champion would be looking at 1 ringer when she threw her 63rd and 64th shoes, she would go on to score 1 point in that frame before throwing another single and letting the veteran LeGrand out.



2026 HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL

May 2026



Experience Conquers 30ft Division Again

Undoubtedly, this would have Gegg fired up going into Day 2 as she would need to most likely not only beat the Tennessee Twin, but may have to do it twice. Gegg steamrolled Morehead with a 90% game to start the game and wouldn't dip under 80% for the next 4 games, pitching 2 more 89% games.

Across the courts, Marlene Ray wasn't throwing high 80's, she was steadily floating in the low 80's with one 69% game mixed in on day 2. McCown would be undefeated all the way up to the 12th game where he would drop a nailbitter game to Morehead at 37-44, Ray would defeat him in the next game, essentially eliminating him from her path.

Marlene entered the tournament as the #3 seed thus setting up for the 14th game to be the deciding factor for the tournament. Ray beats Gegg and the tournament is over, Gegg beats Ray and there could be a playoff.

Marlene started the game with 18/22 ringers to Gegg's 17/22, at 22 shoes the score was 12-9 Ray. At this point, Marlene's veteran instincts picked up on something subtle subconsciously, Gegg was not pitching 80%. Gegg had been pitching well into the 80's all day and at this moment when the pressure was present, Gegg was not pitching as well.

Marlene's experience, practice and will to win would kick in at this point and she would hit Gegg with 20 ringers in a row, 25 out of 26 our 28 our of 30, depending on how far beyond the stretch you want to count. At 48 shoes Mar would lead the game 36-12, and Gegg would pickup 6 points at 50 shoes. Ray would then hit her with 12 more ringers in a row and Gegg would match with 11/12. Gegg's HOF hopes now hinging on a singular point with the game being 39-18 Ray, Gegg would try to hang on. Jenniffer would pitch one more double after Ray missed at the end of that stretch but then miss one, and one the next frame, then she had a double, then single, single. This stretch would allow the veteran pitcher, and NHPA Hall of Famer, to lean back on her experience and finish Gegg at 74 shoes. Marlene stayed consistent the entire 2nd day until she had the tournament wrapped up and Gegg's game dropped around 10% when the tournament hung in the balance. Marlene's experience outperformed Jennifer's determination at this event.

The Twins, and frankly, Tennessee has had a stranglehold on the 30ft division for a decade now with Joan Elmore winning the tournament in 2016, 2017, & 2018. Maxine captured the title in 2019 and then Covid cancelled the tournament. Marlene would win the tournament in 2023 for the first time since 2012 then Maxine would win it back in both 2024 and 2025 before Marlene claimed it again this year. Two questions stand out on the heels of this event, who can pull the 30ft HOF championship away from the Twins?

The other question, the bigger question, is how will this tournament effect the landscape of the World Championships and who will claim the Women's title that Jennifer Gegg currently holds?



2026 HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL

May 2026



Francis Steamrolls Bailey enroute to 40ft Championship

Would anyone like to take a guess who won the 40ft division at the Hall of Fame Invitational? Since 2000, Alan Francis has won the HOF Invitational every year except for 3 of them, post-covid has seen no other 40ft champion than Francis and his history of the tournament reflect a win/loss record of 379 wins and 4 losses in 26 appearances. Setting the tone for the weekend was easy, with Francis being the clear favorite, Bailey was selected as the best potential upset contender this year for the tournament.

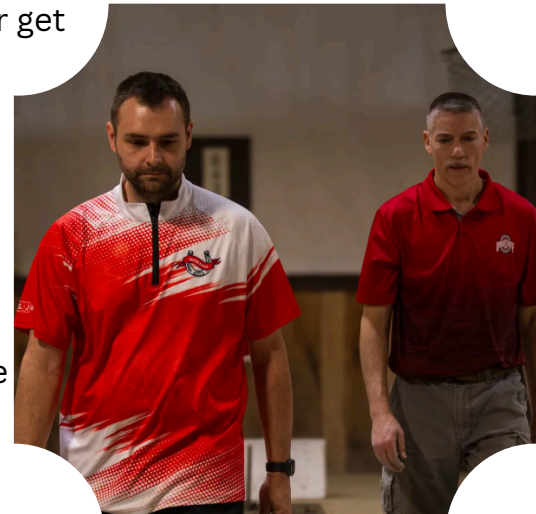
Day 1 demonstrated a clear separation of the top of the entrants from the bottom with most of the top 8 staying in contention after day 1, many of whom were undefeated. Andy Adams and Ben Webb sat towards the bottom of the top 8 with 7-1 records after upset losses to Justin Narup for Adams and Josh Olson (who's recently took an unrelated pay cut) for Webb.

Day 2 would be a roulette wheel where Francis' consistency provided a path for victory that ended the tournament well before the 15th game, with players 2-8 picking each other off in almost each round. Bearpaw and Adams defeated Bailey before his eventual game with Francis. Narup had defeated Adams before his loss to Francis and Bailey. Francis, Webb and Adams defeated Bearpaw. Adams, Webb, Francis and Bearpaw defeated Watson. This was just the top of the pack systematically eliminating each other before the 15th round.

By the time Alan reached Bailey, Francis saw little resistance on his path, pulling out one close win against Bowman and crushing the rest of the field along the way. Hayward, Griggs, Smith, Bearpaw, Watson and Adams never reached the halfway point while Francis didn't allow a single point to hit his opponents board in his games with Peterman, Currier, Olson, and Fuller.

Austin Bailey has been selected by the general majority to be one of two things. Tyler Howard, Dan Watson, Matt Fuller, Gary Bearpaw and many others have joined a very special club over the years, they're the one's who consistently, almost, defeated the greatest of all time. The ones who almost claim the title, the ones who get the "what if" mentioned when we predict the winners. But unlike the Walter Ray Williams' and Brian Simmons' of our generation, they never get to the "when they did" conversation. Austin will be the next person in history to either go down in the one's that did category or the one's that almost did category. Which is it going to be? Only time can tell, and maybe time will see one of the other men switch categories?

This tournament was another chapter in the book that Austin has been writing and the legacy of dominance that Francis carries. Bailey dropping games to both Bearpaw and Watson along the way showcase the difference in levels we see from these two. Along the way for Francis, he saw Watson and Bearpaw at their respective peaks (so far)





2026 HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL

May 2026



Francis Steamrolls Bailey enroute to 40ft Championship

and conquered them both, Bailey dropped two costly games during this tournament but it's not over until it's over.

Bailey entered the 14th round stepping onto the court with the best ever, and didn't seem to flinch. Austin had one hope at this point in the tournament, if he could defeat Francis and if Webb could somehow pitch the best game he's pitched at Francis since Lansing, Michigan in 2023, then just maybe he could force a playoff. An unlikely scenario as Webb's 70% range had been fading on Day 2 as the marathon progressed but there was still a path, until Francis kicked the door shut.

Francis started the game with Bailey pitching 16 in a row, missing two at 18 shoes and still averaging 90% at 20 shoes. The 20-shoe score was 12-3 then Alan played it back with another 16 in a row, this time Bailey answered with 15 of his own and would have 4 more to pull the score to 15-6 at 40 shoes. The point Bailey was at was one that many players have been at in the past, if he can keep this pace for another 100 shoes he has a chance, but if not he only has about 20 shoes left in him, even if his pace is near 70% from this point.

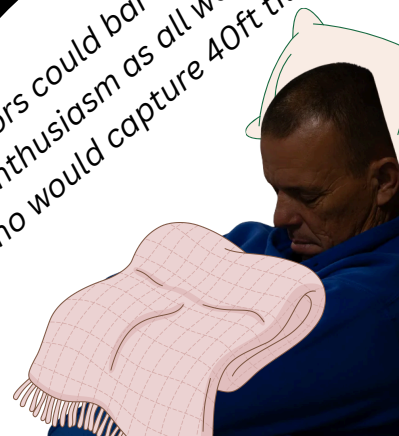
Francis would pick up 6 points at 42 shoes, Bailey got 3 back at 44 shoes, not so good of a trade but it's scoring. Francis would get 3 more at 46 shoes and Bailey would answer Francis' double at 48. Francis picked up 3 more at both the 48th and 50th frame and this is where the mental game gets heavy. Just doing some quick math in your head when Francis hits 30 points and is averaging 90, your next 4 misses may be the game, that's just 20 shoes if you're averaging 80%. Austin, to his credit, didn't lay down and rattle off 6 in a row, Alan killed all 6 of them. Austin would single out from 60-66 shoes letting Francis escape the game with a total of 61 ringer in 66 shoes, a score of 40-9 points and a respectable 51 out of 66 shoes for Bailey on the other end of the scoreboard.

Bailey would hold steady with his average to lock down second place against Andy Adams in the 15th round where Francis would meet Webb on court #1. In an almost victory lap level of competition for Francis, he would put away Webb in just 42 shoes with another 90+% game, in an underwhelming performance by Webb in the 11th hour.



Congratulations to
Alan Francis and Marlene Ray
on their respective
championships at the
*2026 Hall of Fame
Invitational!*

Spectators could barely contain
their enthusiasm as all wondered
who would capture 40ft title



NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



Stan Griggs,
NHPA World Tournament Statistician
NHPA Hall of Fame Chairman

250th Anniversary Edition – Part IV



It is now time for Part IV of our 250th Anniversary Edition which we are highlighting the 1976 World Tournament which was played in Levittown, Pennsylvania.

The Junior Girl's Division was in the start-up stages of our World Tournaments as this year was only the 10th year for this division.

Today's rules would never allow this, but you might be surprised to know that the young girl that would go on to win the World Title would do so by pitching in her bare feet.

Amy Monday from Virginia would be the first junior girl to eclipse the 60% mark for a complete tournament. To this point, there had only been four girls who exceeded 50 percent for an entire tournament.

Amy's only loss came at the hands of Tari Carpenter from Illinois in the fifth round. It was a classic 70 shoe affair that was a lot closer than the 50-31 score might indicate. At the 54-shoe mark, Monday had just finished tossing 11 ringers in 12 shoes to score nine straight points to creep back into the game as the score stood 31-35 in favor of Carpenter. Then over the next and final 16 shoes, Tari had 13 ringers and Amy never scored another point. Tari finished the game with 50 ringers out of 70 shoes for a 71.43% game which was the event's high game honor. Amy had pitched 45 ringers for a 64.29% game.

The biggest game came in the final round between Tari and the 1975 Defending World Champion, Kelly O'Brien from Washington. Kelly was sitting on a 5-1 record and Tari was 6-0. A win by O'Brien would throw the class into a three-way tie for first place, assuming that Monday would also win her game. Kelly opened the game with 14 ringers in the first 16 shoes and jumped out to a lead of 12-4. The score stayed extremely close throughout the game, at 42 shoes it was all tied up 22 all. And was again tied up at 41 points each at 68 shoes. Each player taking opportunities to grab the lead as the score continued to see-saw in the process. O'Brien held on to the lead at 86 shoes with a score of 49-48, on her next pitch leaving an open stake with only one ringer Tari took that opening and delivered a three-ringers-three winning the World Title with a score of 51-49 in a 88 shoe marathon.

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



Tari became the first woman to have won a Junior Girl's World Championship and also win a Women's World Title known to many as Tari Powell.

	W-L	RIN	SH	PCT.
1st Place – Tari Carpenter – Illinois	7-0	258	450	57.34%
2nd Place – Amy Monday – Virginia	6-1	220	358	61.46%
3rd Place – Kelly O'Brien – Washington	5-2	233	400	58.25%
4th Place – Rose Mary Gibson – Illinois	4-3	176	412	42.72%
5th Place – Linda Pateneau – Maine	2-5	144	378	38.10%
6th Place – Janice Domey – Massachusetts	2-5	151	402	37.57%
7th Place – Barbara Domey – Massachusetts	2-5	134	366	36.62%
8th Place – Sheila Roberts – Ohio	0-7	129	394	32.75%

The NHPA Hall of Fame was only into its eleventh year of existence with four individuals being inducted that year in 1976.

NHPA Hall of Fame Inductee

Bert Snart
Manitoba, Canada



Bert from Dauphin, Manitoba got his start in the game back in 1935. He promoted horseshoes in the Canadian Armed Forces for four years starting in 1943.

He served as President for the Manitoba Horseshoe Pitchers Association for thirty years, 1948-1978 and was Dauphin Horseshoe Club President for 32 years.

Bert did not lack pitching skills either, he was Manitoba Champion 15 times between 1938 and 1965.

"It is infinitely better to have a few good men, than many indifferent ones."

*George Washington
Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army*

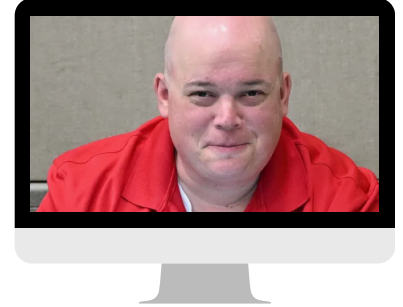
NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



The Busiest Time of the Year

May is here and I honestly don't think there is a busier month than May when it comes to horseshoe pitching. At home we will have had our Horseshoe League meeting for the summer, and hopefully we will have a week of play on the books as well. Not to mention the annual Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament will have concluded down in Wentzville. Did I mention it was a busy month of horseshoes? Team World in Beloit is over the halfway point for May, and around the time entries are due for the World Tournament in Wisconsin. The NHPA will also be running another 3-day weekend to end the month in Hutchinson Kansas for the Regional events. Talk about a busy month for the sport of horseshoes. And I didn't even talk about all the weekend warriors and everyone who will be pitching to support local tournaments. Speaking of the World Tournament, as I am putting this article together, we are at 676 entries let's keep pushing those entries until the deadline this month!



NHPA 5TH VICE PRESIDENT
JOSH OLSON

Submission and Publication Deadlines

Anyone who has anything they'd like to submit for the digest please send in your articles no later than 1 week prior to the end of the month for consideration. Although we may at times hold the digest beyond its intended release (the first of the month), for various reasons such as to include certain event information, anything received after this is often difficult to fit in because of the way we have to format the digest. Submissions can be sent to bwebb5155@gmail.com





National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
2026 World Horseshoe Pitching Championship
 July 13 - 26, 2026 Wausau, Wisconsin



2026

NAME: _____ NHPA Card # _____
First (Please Print Legibly) Last (or Canadian #)

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____ Birth Date: _____

Email: _____

Circle One >>>>>>> I will Print My schedule Email my schedule Mail my schedule

Circle the Division you are Entering: (You may enter only one Division) (See notes at bottom on page)

Open Men 40 ft	Sr Men 40 ft	Elder Men 30 ft	Open Women 30 ft	Sr Women 30 ft	Elder Women 20 ft	Jr Boys 30 ft	Jr Girls 30 ft	Cadet Boys 20 ft	Cadet Girls 20 ft
	Note #2	Note #1		Note #2		Note #3			

All application information above is required. Form will be returned if not signed below or is incomplete. **ENTRY DEADLINE MAY 18, 2026**

NO REFUNDS will be made after June 1, 2026. NOTE: A processing fee of \$15 will be deducted from all refunds.

PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA), all officers, employee's, agents and the servants of the NHPA, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. The NHPA and it's legal representatives (NHPA Officers) assigns, and retains the right and permissions to publish, without charge, photographs taken during the 2026 World Tournament. These photos or videos may be used in any publication, or in audio-visual presentations including "Live" interviews, promotional literature, advertising, sponsorships, or in other similar ways that the NHPA sees fit to use on behalf to represent and promote the NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament and the sport.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

* Mail top half only *

Entry Fees Adults -- \$150 before Jan 1, 2026 -- \$170 Jan 1 to May 18, 2026
 All Juniors/Cadets -- \$25 All Fund must be US Currency
Canadian Entries must use a Money Order if sending payment Entry Fee includes Scorekeeping Fee

Mail to: NHPA Telephone & Email inquires to:
 2660 S Fairway Drive Phone: 208 201-3326
 Pocatello, ID 83201 Email: sec.treas@horseshoepitching.com

All Entries must be on this signed form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 18, 2026. You may enter anytime prior to May 18, 2026 using this form or on our website link. Entries received with a postmark after May 18, 2026 shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the World Tournament only as spaces are available. All Adults must have pitched in a minimum of four (4) US/Canadian sanctioned events in the twelve (12) months prior to May 18, 2026 in the same division you are entering. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors/Cadets. Exceptions for US Armed Forces members and family and Foreign competitors (other than Canadians) are outlined in Rule 11, Sec D.1 of the RGS Book. Contact NHPA for more information regarding qualifying exceptions. All Averages used will be the average on record in NHPA-eShoe as of May 18, 2026. Anyone qualifying under an exception must have those scores recorded by the same date. All NHPA and any special tournament rules apply. Please see note regarding refunds.

READ CAREFULLY: Any Adult male pitching from the full distance platform may enter the OPEN Men's Division regardless of age, just as any Adult Female may enter the OPEN Women's Division. To enter the Senior Division, you must be 60 years of age or older before the end of 2026. Any Man/Women that turns 85 years of age in 2026, or has an approved Medical exemption may enter the Elders Division. Entrants in the Jr Boys and Jr Girls Division eighteen (18) years old or younger for the entire calendar year OR through September 30th of the year of completing high School - not to exceed 19 years of age. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Division entrants must be 12 years old or younger for the entire 2026 calendar year.

NOTE #1: 30 ft Men with a Medical Exemption must be in NHPA eShoe as "Exempt" to pitch in this Division. A copy of the Exemption Form must be sent with this application.
NOTE #2: For Prelim Class play, a minimum of 48 pitchers must enter Sr Division's or it may be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Division if canceled.
NOTE #3: Junior Boys & Junior Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play.

The pitching schedule will be finalized by May 31, 2026 and published on the NHPA website www.horseshoepitching.com. If you indicate above to receive the schedule by mail, it will be mailed to the address you have listed above during the 2nd week in June. Please write address clearly & readable.

Please note: The NHPA reserves the right to disallow your participation for any of the following reasons: Any errors on this form, if your records don't appear in NHPA eShoe or any false or misleading information on this form, cannot validate Medical Exemption, or for any other reason by majority vote of the NHPA Council. The NHPA also reserves the right to add qualified entrants and to make class participant changes after the above deadline. No pitcher will be moved from a class or pitching time, without notification, after the final schedule has been published.

PRINT AND MAIL IN TODAY OR ENTER ONLINE!

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

May 2026



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[HORSESHOEPITCHING.COM!](http://HORSESHOEPITCHING.COM)



2026 U.S. NATIONALS CHAMPIONSHIP HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

MAY 29-31

- ◆ **FRIDAY: VISIT HUTCH CHAMPIONSHIPS**
- ◆ **SATURDAY: US NATIONALS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**
- ◆ **SUNDAY: JIM'S RICE PARK RINGERS OPEN**

- ✔ Entry Fee: \$50 per tournament or **\$125** for all three. Scorekeeping included.
- ✔ 8 person classes, 40 shoe games
- ✔ Classes for Saturday's regional tournament will **NOT** be **handicapped**. Friday and Sunday could be if spread is more than 15%.
- ✔ Cash prizes and plaques to **top three of each class**

Rice Park

2040 Hendricks St, Hutchinson, KS. 67502

DEADLINE TO ENTER MAY 25TH

