



1995
WISCONSIN HORSESHOE HALL OF FAME
RICK PRITZLAFF

Rick Pritzlaff started pitching horseshoes in 1972 at the age of 14. At that time there were no junior classes so he pitched at the 40 foot distance in the men's classes. Rick's grandfather, Ed Wing, the person responsible for getting him interested in horseshoes, taught him the game and took him to tournaments throughout the state. His parents, Ron and Susie, also helped Rick in the early years. Ralph Maylahn took Rick to tournaments in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and traveled to Keene, New Hampshire in 1974 where Rick participated in his first NHPA World Tournament. Rick qualified for Class B with 72%.

Rick won his first tournament in 1972 at Combined Locks in Class G. He went on to win Class F at the State Tournament that year in Green Bay. In 1973 he won Class B at State and in 1974 he qualified for the State Tournament Championship Class. Rick won the Wisconsin State Championship in 1977 at Mountain with an average of 64.4%. Rick also tied for second place in State Championships several times. His Class A titles throughout the years occurred at Waukesha, West Bend, Filmore, Sheboygan with Goldendale his favorite being his home club. He was a member of the Goldendale Club team that captured the first State Club Team Tournament at the Pitchin' Place in 1985. Rick also had the privilege of being a member on the Wisconsin Team in the Team World Tournaments at the Pitchin' Palace several times. His high tournament ringer percent was 67.7 at La Crosse in 1974 and his high game was 86% at Newport, IN, also 1974.

Rick was the first secretary/treasurer of the Goldendale Horseshoe Club and served as secretary of the leagues numerous times. He served as tournament director for the Goldendale Open for over 20 years from 1972 to 1993. Rick was elected president of the Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association at the Spring Meeting in 1978. He served as president through the following 9 State Tournaments. The purchase of a computer which enabled John Secord, as secretary, to maintain ringer percentages on all players in the state was one of the more important accomplishments during his decade as president of the Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

Rick is also an accomplished bowler and has maintained a 200 average for the past 18 years. He has bowled two 300 games, was a member of the 1987 State Scratch Team Champions and won a tournament to represent Wisconsin in the PBA U.S. Open at Edmond, OK in 1989.

Rick is married to Camille and has four children, Brad 9, Jenna 7, Mandy 2, and Samantha 8 months.

Rick Pritzlaff is the third member of his family to be inducted into the WHPA Hall of Fame and the youngest WHPA member ever considered. Now just 37 years old, Rick has been an outstanding and honored WHPA member both as a player and promoter most of his life.