



WISCONSIN HORSESHOES



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June 2020

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You need to understand that life isn't what you are given;
It's what you create, what you overcome, and what
You achieve that makes it beautiful.

Jennifer Wagner

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THANK YOU!!

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Submissions deadline for our next issue is

July 10

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You can now renew your membership online, go to www.WHPAhorseshoes.com and click on the Eshoe icon. You can enter your name or member number and your information will come up. Click on renew and pay with pay pal, credit or debit card. There will be a 30 cent fee added. You know longer need a printed card but if you want one, click on print to print an updated card. If you are a new member, changing pitching divisions or would rather renew on paper, fill out the membership form and mail with payment to WHPA sec/treas John Secord.

2020 NHPA/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 2020, \$2 is added to dues

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

(Note: If you want a printed membership card you can go to www.NHPA-eShoe.com to print

I would like to update our email dodo list, we currently have 126 members in our group but I'm not sure that all of the email addresses are up to date. If you have recently received an email from me via WHPA <WHPA@emaildodo.com> you are up to date. If you haven't or if you are new and would like to receive informational horseshoe emails. Please send your email address to davevolz@hotmail.com.



WHNL Renewal Form
 \$15 Black / White copy per year
 Mail the subscription fee to
 WHNL
 1483 180th Ave,
 Balsam Lake, 54810

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____

The WHML is also available at no cost on our Web Page:
<http://WHPAhorseshoes.com>

If you have any questions regarding membership, feel free to contact Fred Lane by phone at 715-347-2507 or please email at fred-lane@live.com.

For more information on Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitching visit us online at www.WHPAhorseshoes.com and "LIKE" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/

Date	Tournament	Location	Max	Entry	Jr Class	Deadline	Contact
June 7	Eau Claire Open	Eau Claire	64	\$20	Yes	May 30	Paul Wiese
June 6-7	Eagle River Open	Eagle River	32	\$18	Yes	May 30	Cliff Erickson
June 13-14	Spring Fling	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Canceled	Dan Newkirk
June 13	Phil Wahl Open	Holman	28	\$20	No	June 6	Colleen Brophy
June 20	Sylvia & Dan David	Marshfield		\$20	Yes	June 13	Mel Cook
June 20	Muskego Open	Muskego	48	\$20	Yes	June 13	Tom Steinke
June 27-28	Ken Kosky Memorial	Mosinee	48	\$20	No	June 20	Kent Frailing
June 27-28	Ken Lovaas Memorial	Beloit	72	\$20	No	June 17	Dan Newkirk
July 11	Arkdale Open	Arkdale	32	\$18	Yes	July 4	Ray Groskinsky
July 13-25	World Tournament	Monroe, LA				June 1	
July 18-19	Stevens Point Open	Stevens Point	72	\$20	Yes	July 11	Fred Lane
July 25	Kickapoo Valley Open	Gays Mills	36	\$20	No	July 18	Russ Brockway
July 25	Pioneer Days	Butternut	28	\$15	No	July 18	Jer Wegner
July 31	Wisconsin State Singles Tournament	Entry Deadline					
Aug 1-2	Mosinee Open	Mosinee	48	\$20	No	July 25	Kent Frailing
Aug 8	Lox Classic	Combined Locks		\$18	No	Aug 1	Dave Volz
Aug 8-9	Summer Shindig	Rozellville		\$15		Aug 1	Mel Cook
Aug 15	Fond du Lac Open	Fond du Lac	32	\$20	Yes	Aug 8	John Meyer
Aug 22	State Walking Doubles	Beloit		\$40		July 31	John Secord
Aug 29	Goldendale Open	Germantown	36	\$15	Yes	Aug 24	Terry Sternberg
Sept 5-6	State Singles Tourn	Beloit		\$25	Yes	July 31	John Secord
Sept 12-13	Wet n Wild	Centuria		\$15	No	Sept 2	Toni Sloper
Sept 19	Arkdale Doubles	Arkdale	32	\$22	No	Sept 12	James Wicklander
Sept 26	Earl Paulson Classic	Beloit	54	\$20	No	Sept 16	Dan Newkirk
Sept 27	Don Goldsmith Dbls	Beloit		\$22	No	Sept 16	Dan Newkirk
Oct 3	Junction City Singles	Junction City	24	\$20	Yes	Sept 26	James Wicklander
Oct 3-4	Oct Fall Singles	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Sept 23	Dan Newkirk
Oct 10	Summit Ridge Fall Singles	Wonewoc	18	\$11	No	Oct 3	Dave Volz
Oct 17	WHPA Fall Meeting	Delton Sportsmen's Club					
Oct 24-25	Deansville Singles	Deansville	40	\$20	No	Oct 17	Gary Volz
Nov 7-8	Doubles at the Barrell	Deansville	32			Oct 31	Gary Volz
Nov 14-15	Autumn Harvest	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Nov 4	Dan Newkirk
Dec 5-6	Deansville Open	Deansville	40	\$20	No	Nov 28	Gary Volz
Dec 12-13	Snowflake	Beloit	72	\$20	No	Dec 2	Dan Newkirk

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

Patriot Tournament Cancelled

Kevin Brekke

Because of the Virus and to many unknowns, I have made the decision to cancel this year's 2020 Patriot tournament. It was going to be in Beloit for the first time this year and I wanted to do "special" things like shirts, hats, etc, and need time to get everything together. There are just to many unknowns with being safe that I felt it best to cancel this year, and plan on July 4th, 2021 to be our 11th year at the Beloit Club. Looking forward in seeing most of you at the courts later in the year.



Blast From the Past

Jane Smith

A challenge: this was taken at a World Tournament. Can you name the site, year and very interesting characters in the picture?

If you have pictures, bits of trivia, or memories of horse-shoe events to tickle out minds, please share with us.

Of course, I need the full story to share in time:-)

Be Safe. Hope to be pitching ringers soon:-)

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What's New?

Jane Smith

Thank you to Jim and Amy Larson for our beautiful cover page pictures. Amy is the photographer; Jim is the creator builder of the Wishing Well. What a team!!



Thank you also to Gloria Smith for meeting me for lunch and Catholic Adoration. We had a very nice visit and she told me of Penny Steinke's end of year surprises which can be found on page 7.

We also are welcoming to our staff Justin Kern. More information can be found on page 13. Check it out.

According to John Secord we have had no new WHPA members



since our last issue. Not surprising since we are "grounded" and social distancing.

A special Thank You to Gary Volz who helps me thru some techie issues for our WHNL.

Karla Brekke has also been helping



proof and improve the overall appearance of our WHNL. She and Kevin work well together in proofing before I send to others for the final proof. We are blessed with and amazing, dedicated staff.

Not to forget Jimmy Paulson and his siter Julie who print and mail our 30-40 issues to those requesting paper copies. I am needing pictures of these two behind the scenes wizards.

Still sending prayers and positive vibes to those facing health challenges.





When I sent my article to Jane in March, we were knee deep in the Covid-19 scare. Now it is May and we are still dealing with this virus. So many questions out there. First and foremost is likely “when will things get back to normal?” This may be the beginning of a new “normal” in our Country, but let’s hope that the new normal includes more than handwashing skills. Let’s make the new normal, appreciation. Appreciation for our lives, our health, and the safety of those we love. Let us never take for granted again the simple pleasure of sharing a meal with a friend, the joy of a hug or a handshake, and the pure delight we will all feel when we can walk back onto a horseshoe pit and play with our friends.

There are as many horseshoe related questions aren’t there. Walking Doubles? Will there be a World Tournament in Louisiana? Can we have the State Tournament? In this issue you will get answers to many of these questions. It’s been hard hasn’t it? Not being able to pitch in our leagues (for the most part) and just having nothing in our lives seem the same. But, I promise you this; it WILL get better. We will all have time together and we will all laugh and hug again.

What do you miss most? Some of the things I miss most are Kevin Brekke’s hugs and Rich Conrad’s laugh. I miss Tammy Newkirk’s infectious smile and Cliff Shave’s jokes. It’s hard to miss our friends isn’t it? But, we will see each other soon. Until then, good pitching, love you and miss you all.

Welcome, Justin Kern Jane Smith

Justin send an email to us offering his talents as a WHPA member and professional writer. Of course, we wasted no time in accepting him to our staff. In his e-mail he shared his hope to help us with a possible recurring column.

To quote him, “ My hope is that I can add some additional humor and a somewhat of an outsider’s voice to the newsletter. Horseshoes provides me with a wonderful and fun connection to fiends and family, as well as the chance to focus on a peaceful outdoors activity.”

See Justin’s first Column on page 13– The Cruel Shoes, Volume 1: “ Hand in Glove.”

Welcome to our WHPA horseshoe family Justin!



Words from Justin Kern

This is my first column for you all. It’s my intent to provide some amateur levity, possible encouragement for other newbies and maybe even lure a cat to a few outsiders to our sport. I grew up pitching shoes with family on the rusted shores of Lake Erie in Dunkirk, N.Y. I’m a member of the Wisconsin Horseshoe Pitchers Association but I’m mostly solo in my time in the pits in southeast Wisconsin, as a sort of Zen exercise. I’s a former daily news reporter and editor, with a book published last year (“The Milwaukee Anthology” - Belt Publishing) and a current full time job as a communications person with the American Red Cross. I live in Milwaukee with my wife and three cats. More at justinallankern.com.

Intent to run: Dave Volz

I would like to announce to WHPA President Dobie Gutweiler and the WHPA membership my intent to run again for WHPA 1st Vice President. It’s been an honor and pleasure serving in this position and working with the executive board for the past 2 years. I appreciate your support and if re-elected I will continue to promote organized horseshoe pitching and the WHPA

Intent to run: Sonia Cook

To WHPA President Dobie Gutweiler and WHPA Membership:

I am honored to serve as your 3rd VP managing the Jr Awards. My intent is to run again for this same position. Please re-elect me! I will keep our WHPA top notch and the best across country. (& World)

Behind the Mask . . . With NHPA Chaplain Ken Heinritz



So we all got a taste of a world without Horseshoe Pitching . . . not very fun, is it? In fact for many, downright scary. Normally, the months of April & May are bustling with some great tournaments but this year, crickets. Some refer to this period of time as a year from hell. Don't say that as we cannot comprehend the depths of pain that that place will bring. To be honest, I believe that the God of heaven is trying to get this world's attention so that we don't end up in that dreadful place. When we by-&-large seek to live our lives totally void of any dependence on Him, sometimes he gives us a wake-up call. Make no mistake though, He does this in love.

Without an attention grabber, we merrily

coast along life's road until it's too late. He wants to bless all horseshoe pitchers with something much greater than even this sport offers. New life through His Son, Jesus Christ & a home (heaven) that is truly out of this world. Let's not hit the snooze button on this alarm. The time has come to wake up. Life may get back to something like we're used to, but it might not. Regardless, the best thing that can come out of this corona virus pandemic is truly the best thing of all, your faith.



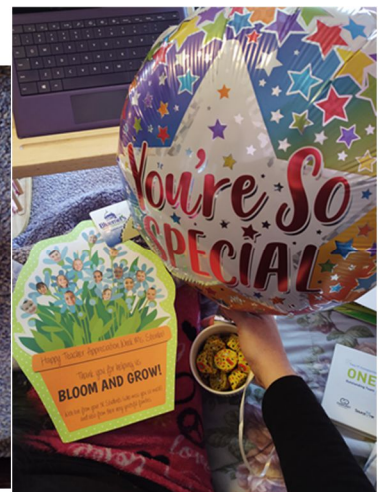
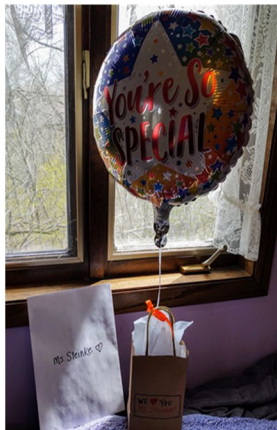
"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16 and "Today if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." Heb. 4:7



Penny Steinke, a Master Teacher, was surprised by her students, their parents and her Administration. She received a balloon, flower card and a gift card from her "room Mom" while on line with her students. Penny's quote "That was so sweet!" The Administration placed the appreciation yard sign by their house. Penny was excited to see it and "felt appreciated!"



Also, in this group of pictures is the end of year gift Penny made for her students. It was a customized mug with a class picture, the student name and year. Students also received little awards.





2020 WHPA Spring Newsletter, HOF, EXEC Council Meeting

Sunday April 19, 2020
Virtual meeting via Zoom
Started 3:16pm
Kevin Brekke

In attendance was Dobie Gutweiler, Fred Lane, John Secord, Jeff Secord, Dave Volz, Ray Groskinsky, Kevin Brekke, Jane Smith, Sonia Cook. The meeting did not follow the normal spring meeting format, and was basically by topic, and all attendees contributed.

HOF – Jeff Secord mentioned that the HOF meeting would be different this year. He would need to have a zoom meeting with the committee to talk about the nominees, and then would email the ballots. The committee would then email their votes back, and he would tally them, and if a second ballot was necessary, would be another zoom meeting to talk about them, and then another email vote. Jeff mentioned that usually there would be two people counting, and the membership decided it was ok for him to be the only one counting.

World Tournament sites and dates

2020 – Monroe, La – July 13-25

2021 – Winnemucca, Nevada July 19-31. It beat out Mobile Alabama – by exec council of NHPA

2020 – Lansing, Michigan July 18 to 30. It beat out Stevens Point, WI. Fred Lane mentioned that Stevens Point might bid again, but it would be at least two years before this would happen

Team World Canceled, but on schedule for 2021. History from Jeff Secord. Jeff has all but 1985, 1986, and part of 1987 results. Asked for help in getting those results. This year Jeff had Washington and Massachusetts coming, and was excited about having a team from both

“The Cruel Shoes”

Volume 1: Glove in Hand continued from Page 13.

A few days later, when temperatures were back up and the April showers had decided to drop on someone else's flowers, I was back at the same pit. Except this time, I had a new fix in mind. Yep, I'd boost that average, with simplicity and in the awe of any drunk uncle in

coasts.

So far only Dobie Gutweiler and Dave Volz going to World from our officers. Will need two more delegates. Dobie will choose who the other two will be.

Sonia Cook mentioned she had raffle tickets for the Junior Scholarship fund. Contact her for tickets. She also mentioned there was a credit of \$50.00 from the Tony Scrima Fund, and a \$300.00 scholarship paid for Issac Wegner.

2021 State Tournament bid. At the 2019 fall meeting the Beloit Club took the bid because there were no other bids. Since then the Beloit Club has withdrawn their bid, and the Eau Claire Club has bid and the Executive Committee has accepted their bid. So, the 2021 State Tournament will be in Eau Claire. 2022 State Tournament bid – This bid will be presented at the Fall meeting in October.

Walking Doubles – Because of the unavailability of Telfer Park this May, the Walking Doubles has been moved to August 22. It will be hosted by the Beloit Horseshoe Club. John Secord will put together a flyer for the newsletter. It was decided only one tournament needed and deadline would be July 31. The Beloit Club would get \$3.00 per pitcher

This year's State Tournament hosted by the Beloit Club is a go, and the requirement of 3 events has been lowered to 2 events, with the deadline the same, July 31.

Fred Lane will be putting something in the newsletter or group email on membership renewals. John Secord mentioned only around 150 so far this year; last year at this time around 215.

Dobie will call the next meeting at a later date to be determined. Looking at early June. Will review the decision made at this meeting going forward.

We encourage pitchers at this time to reach out to other pitchers and connect, and maybe plan on pitching together when you can.

Stay safe...

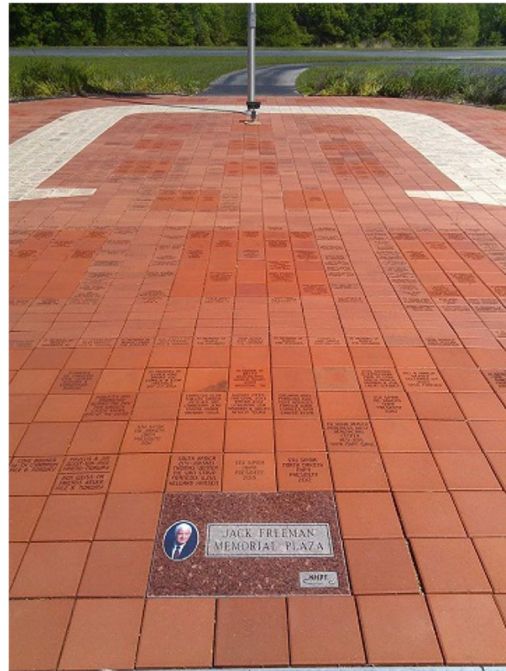
view.

The big idea? No gloves. That's right, nothing between me and the shoe, and, ostensibly, my toss and the pole for three points. Back to basics. The raw essence of the sport. The dream of ringers in sight.

I left the deteriorating gloves in my horseshoe bag and started pitching.

Kevin Brekke Suggestion to support Horseshoes

I was thinking about what I could do to support horseshoes during this time. I decided to buy another brick at the Hall of Fame in Wentzville Missouri. I did this when it opened in 2007, and noticed they have a \$100.00, \$200.00 and 3 for \$250.00 options. I decided to go in for the 3 for 250.00 with two other pitchers, John Garvan and Fred Lane. You might want to do the same, especially with the government stimulus monies coming for most of us if you are able. It is a great way to support horseshoes at the national level and put on a brick words that mean a lot to you. The picture to the right is of the bricks outside the entrance. Wisconsin has a section at the base of the flagpole.



Regional Directors Report

By: Dave Volz

If you are planning on attending the World Tournament in Monroe, Louisiana this year, you need to get your entry in by the June 1st deadline, if not entered by then it's too late. The NHPA council will be looking at the number of entries and are working closely with the city of Monroe in making decisions on this year's tournament. If it becomes necessary to cancel your entry fee will be refunded. If you are concerned about health and safety issues, they will be working with the Civic Center, the city of Monroe and the State of Louisiana to make sure this tournament is run as safe as possible. There will most likely be some social distancing and other changes made in how this year's tournament is run compared to tournaments in the past. If you have health concerns of your own or still don't feel comfortable with it, I would pass on this year.

With a lot of tournaments being canceled this year, the NHPA has decided that mail in tournaments will be allowed to count toward your Natstats average until June 1st. This might be extended for a longer period of time. Tournament Directors would receive the scoresheets from the games you pitched on your courts and enter them into the HSMaster tournament that they created. You can pitch your games on

your own non-sanctioned backyard court. If you pitch them on a non-sanctioned court, you must send a picture of your court to your Regional Director and you will be given a temporary conditional waiver for your court. All of this is being done on the honor system. Fred Lane has stepped up and is running a mail in tournament just for Wisconsin pitchers. Details are elsewhere in this publication. It is a good opportunity for those of you having issues getting qualifying tournaments in. The WHPA Executive Board has decided to re-schedule the WHPA State Walking Doubles tournament to August 22nd at the Beloit Horseshoe Club the same location as the WHPA State Singles tournament to be held on September 5th and 6th. The entry deadline for both events will be July 31st. The number of tournaments required for adult pitchers in the State Singles tournament has been changed to two events. More details about these events will be on the entry forms posted in the newsletter and on the WHPA website. The Executive Board is planning on moving forward with these events as scheduled and if it becomes necessary to cancel or make changes, they will be posted on the WHPA website as well as emails through email dodo. As far as other WHPA sanctioned tournaments that are coming up on our schedule, they will be updated on the website as I am notified by the tournament directors. If you have a printed a copy of the schedule and tournament contacts, please print an updated one because some changes have been made. Thank you and stay safe!

Don Kangas – Where is he now?

Kevin Brekke

Don was born in 1955 and raised in Gwinn Michigan. Don Kangas was a horseshoe prodigy. His dad Eino started him early on the court in their yard. By the time he was seven years old, he was pitching at 30 feet, with his 1 ¾ reverse. Don told me in the spring, they still would get a lot of snow, and it would come off the roof, and settle in between the stakes, and had to pitch over the hill of snow, and walk around it. By the time Don was fourteen, he was able to pitch at 40 feet, and compete in the area bar leagues. He pitched in the junior's class up to age 16, and never lost a game in juniors. Don worked in the area mines, and was president of the area horseshoe league, and would draft teams each year, and try and make them fair and competitive. He regularly would take others with him to tournaments. Back then there would 15 courts which Don and his dad had a hand in forming. They had over 80 pitchers in their league, and Don tried to make it fun for all that came. During those years the work in the mine started to dry up, and Don found work in Wisconsin, and moved to Colgate in the late 80's. I remember Don coming down to the big tournament in Mountain with his dad, and renting a cabin, and making it a fun weekend. Don always competed in the top class, and the top pitchers from Wisconsin and the Upper Michigan area would compete.

Don moved back to Upper Michigan to where he currently lives around 2006.

Don had one son, Daniel, who was born in 1993. I found out that Don is going to be a first-time grandpa this year and is looking forward to holding his grandchild. But Don's life had some down times with the tragic loss of his wife years ago, and last year losing his Dad and best friend. Don went through cancer treatments and is now cancer free. He is a recovered alcoholic and does not drink anymore.

Currently Don is living by himself in Rock, Michigan. It was a contact from Russ Brockway that stirred something in Don to want to pitch again and connect with new and old friends in horseshoes.

Don has had scores of highlights from his pitching career that starting 58 years ago. But the one that stood out to me was the one year Walter Ray Williams Jr came to Green Bay for a bowling tournament. And as he does often, he would pitch against a few area pitchers. That year Don was able to pitch against him three games, ringers only. The first two were 50 shoe games. Don had 43 to WR 41. The next game Don had 33 to WR 45. Because of time, the third game was 20 shoes. Don had 18 to WR 20.

Once things open-up, Don will be coming to tournaments again in Wisconsin. It will be good to see Don again, and watch him pitch, especially for those newer pitchers that have not see him pitch. Don was one of the truly gifted horseshoe pitchers that have pitched in Wisconsin over the years and will hopefully someday be in our Wisconsin Hall of Fame. According to Don, it is all about having fun with the horseshoe family and doing to promote the game we all love.

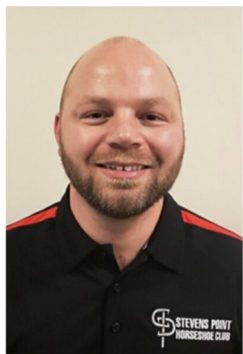
Here are some remarks from Ken Heinritz who pitched with Don in the Colgate area. Back in 1997 at my first State Tournament, Don Kangas immediately caught my attention with that 1 3/4 reverse. I never saw anything like it. The combination of his unusual style & incredible accuracy mixed in with tremendous confidence made this guy one to be feared on the courts. When I moved to tiny Colgate, Donny first reached out to me and we shared many good times on various courts. Don is certainly one of the best horseshoe pitchers I have ever known. In fact, I believe he is deserving of being in Wisconsin's Hall of Fame.

Below is Don's contact info:

Don Kangas
906-356-6009

Mailing address
P O Box 231
Rock, MI 49880

Location
13768 State HWY M-35
Rock, MI 49880



WHPA Publicity / Promotion

Fred Lane

Greetings WHPA pitchers,

I'm glad to share some great news from our Regional Director, Dave Volz.

The NHPA has been trying to adjust to the times of Covid-19 restrictions and get pitchers qualified for the World and State Tournaments.

With this being said, they have decided to allow "mail in tournaments."

Competitors can pitch their games and submit the score sheets or picture of the score sheet to the Tournament Director to record the results for NatStats. Yes, the "honor system" is part of this new rule. Please be honest. Cooking the books will only hurt you when you

have to compete in a regular tournament.

In addition, if a pitcher can't use sanctioned courts, there is a good chance you can pitch your games from your own backyard. The NHPA is allowing temporary sanctioning of backyard courts. In order to receive your temporary court sanction, text or email a picture of your court to Wisconsin Regional Director – Dave Volz and he will reach out to you for approval. Dave can be reached at his cell 608-547-2769 or email davevolz@hotmail.com

Attached you will find the entry for the Wisconsin Mail-In, entry deadline is May 30th. You must have current membership paid for 2020

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Dave Volz or myself and we would be glad to explain. Have a great day.

Wisconsin Mail-In

NHPA Sanction Tournament (28-20-009)

Tournament Director – Fred Lane

Must be an active NHPA member. Youth or Adult

FREE Entry – Patch Awarded to Class Winner

*****Pitch in your own backyard*****

In order to pitch on a non-sanctioned court, email or text a picture of your court to Dave Volz for temporary court sanction approval. Dave's info is below.

6 person classes

Pitch 5 – 40 shoe games – "Count All" Scoring

Tournament will be ran with HS Master

Games are won based on who has the most points

Entry deadline will be May 30

Games must be submitted together by 9pm, June 6th

Score your games on a scoresheet keeping track of total points and # of ringers each game. If you do not have a score sheet, I can email you some to print off. You are welcome to Mail, E-Mail or text a picture of your score sheets to me. Please send all 5 games together.

Tournament Director

Fred Lane

541 2nd St N.

Stevens Point, WI 54481

fred-lane@live.com

WI – Regional Director

Dave Volz

608-547-2769

davevolz@hotmail.com 715-347-2507

Each One Reach One Contest

We have started another Each One Reach One contest again this year. For each new member you refer you get an entry into a drawing for 6 \$25 prizes. A new member is anyone who has not been a WHPA member for the past 2 years. The contest runs from Oct 1st 2019 through Sept 20th 2020. The drawing will be held at the fall meeting. Submit this entry form or information to any officer.



Message from Fred Lane
Promotion /
Publicity Director

I'm sure many of you are just like me and are very eager to get back on the courts for some friendly competition.

Covid-19 didn't win the battle over competitive horseshoe pitching as there's a new wave of competitive horseshoe pitching and you can do it right from your own backyard. If you haven't heard about it, it's called "**Horseshoe Pitching Online**". Where competitors stream their games live on Facebook for all to see.

The format is simple and fun with rules very similar to NHPA with a few small tweaks. You pitch 12 Shoe "count all" games, single points are measured with your horseshoe (outside to outside) and if you're lucky, a leaner is worth 2 points, but only on the 12th shoe pitched.

There are multiple tournaments weekly in various formats. Some are blind draw partner while others are singles - divided based on skill level. Entry fees range from 5-10 dollars a tournament with 100% payback.

The page has almost 2,000 members from all across



Fred Lane
Shares On line Event
Results

Youth at Home Online
Sanctioned Tourney Results
Dalton Rakestraw, NHPA 5th
VP and Jr Promotion Director,
held an online sanctioned tour-
ney for youth in early May fea-

aturing 52 youth pitchers from across the United States and Canada. We are proud of everyone that pitched but especially our Wisconsin Youth. Wisconsin had 7 youth competing and many did not go away empty handed. The tournament was free for youth with a drawing for many wonderful prizes that were donated. Below are the Wisconsin results as well as the drawing winners.

Results for Wisconsin Youth

Class A

the US and Canada so it's a great way to get to meet and chat with horseshoe family from all over. Online horseshoe pitching really gained popularity during the Covid-19 episode and many of the top horseshoe pitchers jumped in on the action. Some of the top pitchers include, Brian Simmons, Walter Ray Williams Jr., Tyler Howard, Stan Griggs, Don Davis, Brandon Tenijeth Sr. and Wisconsin's own, Sarah Chaffee. Speaking of Wisconsin pitchers, Ray Groskinsky pitched a perfect game and joined the 30 point club not long ago, ringing 12 out of 12 shoes. Heather Sowatzke and Fred Lane are also members of the 30 point club both hitting 10 out of 12 ringers.

The games are played through the Facebook page, "Horseshoe Pitching Online". If you search the name in Facebook it should easily come up. They have a list of rules on the page and a number of moderators to help run tournaments and answer questions. If you're interested in learning more about horseshoe pitching online make your way over to the page or feel free to reach out to me directly and I'd be glad to answer any questions or help you get started. See you on the courts OR pitching horseshoes online.

Sarah Chaffee - 3rd - 78%

Class C

Jedidiah Sowatzke - 3rd - 31%

Class D

Bradley Benzing - 1st - 35%

Lillyan Kildahl - 5th - 11%

Class E

Brandon Benzing - 3rd - 26%

Blake Benzing - 6th - 16%

Class F

Conner Kildahl - 4th - 9%

Prize Winners

Free pair of Horseshoes

Brandon Benzing

Lillyan Kildahl

All-In-One Measuring Tool

Bradley Benzing - High Game Over Average (14.82%
Over)

Blake Benzing

“The Cruel Shoes”
by Justin Kern
Volume I: “Hand in Glove”

It’s spring, a time for hope, even amid a pandemic, if not for one thing – the chance to be outside, pitching horseshoes.

This spring, I had told myself weeks before during the negative-degree days of Milwaukee’s winter, would be different. In spring 2020, I would bump up my beer-league respectable average of 12% into the astronomical 20s or 30s. A ringer nearly about every fourth throw, surely this would do in any drunk uncle who dared to hop into a game against me at the family barbecue.

How to make this change? I would do it, the internal dialogue had it, with one fix. Just like those website ads promise – one weird trick! I would become instantly better with ... gloves.

No more blistered fingers losing grip of the shoes between grains of sand. Gloves, I had assured myself and occasionally my understandably disinterested wife, were the one thing that had been holding me back from the edge of the edge of near greatness.

To start, I had to find what types of gloves the greats wear. What would Brian Simmons or Penny Steinke use, for ringer after ringer? The regular outlets like St. Pierre were conspicuously absent a full line of stylish yet yeoman horseshoe-specific gloves. Other sports seemed to have nudged their way in, purporting that softball or dressage could provide the same confidence in play with their gloves for our own horseshoe pitchers.

It turned out the lack of gloves may have been the product of a long-reframed psychic understanding of the need of gloves in horseshoes. In researching gloves, I came across a recent relic of the Internet – an Angelfire-style family history and humor website for the Keskinen family, with roots in Finland, New York and Minnesota.

This webpage, untouched for 12 years, included a nascent list of recommendations for the pastime of horseshoes by family patriarch Ervin Keskinen. And among that list, in a paragraph on gloves, an entry from the Aug. 30, 1977 issue of “The Miami News,” as follows: “... Horseshoe pitcher Ted Strzalka was playing in a doubles tournament and he had left his pitching gloves at home. The article says, ‘I need my glove. I left my horseshoes



pitching glove in Ohio,’ Strzalka said. ‘The difference between a horseshoe pitching glove and a golf glove is that you use a golf glove to play golf and a horseshoe pitching glove to pitch horseshoes.’”

All a state of mind, these gloves, which makes a perfect fit for my very personal – i.e. alone – style of play. With everything shut down from COVID-19, I stayed online for my glove shopping and found the least flashy yet modestly priced baseball gloves available from the good people at Dick’s.

Days later, left at my front step and briefly sprayed with an astringent – you can never be too careful these days – were my new baseball horseshoe gloves. Surely, this glove would solve all of my problems. Fix all my flaws. Settle all my unsettleables. Wrap up that cursed hand, the source of my sour deliveries, and spring ahead this season!

I strutted from my home to the venerable single pit at Humboldt Park in Milwaukee. Time to put these gloves to use. Strapped on, with a little fussing and re-configuration. (What would an aspect of shoes be without some ritual or neurosis?) Then, ready to toss.

First shoe ... well, would’ve notched one point, but certainly not a ringer. Next ... okay, still getting used to it. Third ... fourth ... fifth ... maybe re-tighten the Velcro, tug at the palm, wiggle my fingers once or twice. But, as the game went on, there was no discernable difference. In my frustration, I may have been getting worse, truth be told.

Insult to injury: halfway through my second, one-person game, the truth of it all came unraveled. Or should I say the pitching glove itself. My right index finger of the glove was already wearing to the skin. A seam along the middle finger had come loose. And the thumb ... don’t get me started on the thumb.

The gloves got worse from there as I finished the game. I even tried putting the left-hand glove backwards on my right hand, which turned out even stupider than it looked. Stomped back home, not only defeated, but denied imagined above-averageness.



24th Annual
Wisconsin State Walking Doubles Championships
Saturday, August 22, 2020

1. Those having a year-end NATSTAT average, as printed in the February 2020 newsletter and any pitcher have a current NATSTAT average may compete.

Entry fee is \$40 per doubles team.

2. Entry form and \$40 fee payable to the WHPA must be received by July 31, 2020

Send to: John Secord W6868 Brown Rd, Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

Current averages will be used to set all classes.

3. Pitchers combined average may not exceed 120% using year-end average.

4. Mixed distance pitchers will be allowed in all classes.

5. Cash awards to half of each class.

6. Class size and number of shoes pitched will be determined by the number of entries.

The plan is to maintain 6-team classes.

7. Players will keep their own score.

8. Start times will depend on number of entries.

The schedule will be posted online at http://WHPAhorseshoes.com.

You will only receive a schedule if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your entry.

• Competition to be held at 640 W Ravine Rd. Beloit, WI

NHPA-Sanctioned,

Sponsored & Run By the WHPA

Concessions by the Beloit Horseshoe Club

Please send your entry form and check, payable to the WHPA to:

John Secord W6868 Brown Rd, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

High % Pitcher: _____ NHPA # _____ Average _____

Low % Pitcher: _____ NHPA # _____ Average _____

Wisconsin State Horseshoe Tournament
Sept. 5- 6, 2020

Hosted by the Beloit Horseshoe Club

640 Ravine Dr.

Beloit, WI. 53511

Entry Deadline: July 31, 2020

Entry Fee: \$25 Adults Junior and Cadets Free

Send Entry form and entry fee payable to WHPA to:

John Secord W6868 Brown Rd. Fond du Lac, WI. 54937

All registrations must be received by July 31, 2020

You must have competed in a minimum of TWO NHPA sanctioned events between

August 1, 2019 and July 31, 2020.

Junior and Cadets are not required to meet the two event rule.

All eight person classes will pitch 40 shoe games. Six person classes 50 shoe games.

Adult Championship classes will pitch 40 point games. Junior Championship classes will pitch 40 points or 50 shoes, whichever occurs first. Cadets Championship classes will pitch 30 points or 30 shoes, whichever occurs first.

Pitching schedule will be posted on the WHPA web page.

Name: _____ NHPA # _____

Address: _____

City St Zip: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

You can pitch in only one division. Please circle the Division you are entering.

40 Ft Men 30 Ft Elders. Women. Jr. Boys. Jr. Girls. Cadet Boys Cadet Girl