

NHIPA ADMIN DIGEST

March 2026

*Hall of Fame
Announcement Inside*



NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

March 2026



Promotion in 2026



**NHPA PRESIDENT
BEN WEBB**

As we've rounded the corner on another winter and spring seems to be on the horizon, now is the time to be making travel plans for the upcoming season. One of the most exciting times of the year is the beginning of the spring season, for those that don't pitch in the winter this is the first time we see many of our friends in the sport following the previous fall. I'm planning to make the trip to ABQ in early April for our regional event. From there Newberry follows shortly after and then the annual Hall of Fame invitational the first weekend in May. Between Newberry and Wentzville though, our Kentucky season kicks off, similar to most charters getting going in the spring. As we enter into the 2026 outdoor season, it'd be good for us all to think about how to grow our leagues and tournaments in 2026.

Social media is the most powerful tool we have today, if used effectively. I see very few charters and clubs with their own Facebook pages, and it looks like we're leaving a useful tool on the table. I would encourage the person overseeing promotion in each charter to utilize these free tools. One thing I do every year is go on our local news channel for an interview to try to build up our local club and events, this has been successful in the past. Newspapers, local news websites, forums and radio stations, as well as simple fliers in local businesses all prove to be effective tools for promotion locally. The local clubs and individual charters are the lifeblood of the NHPA, and we need to spark growth locally to grow our overall membership numbers.

One thing that is good to keep in mind is the reach of social media. Constructive criticism of the NHPA council can be productive, but it's very disappointing to see this happen on public forums. Keep in mind as you post, everything on horseshoe related pages can be seen by both members and those considering membership. If someone sees a lot of negativity on a page, would they really want to join the association? My guess would be that this would have a negative effect. This isn't to say that criticism can't yield positive results, we always want to hear from you! I would encourage anyone that has this type of feedback though to send it to me directly at bwebb5155@gmail.com, let's keep our pages and groups positive in 2026, building each other up as we pursue membership growth in 2026!

We are actively searching for a promotions director, as well as a historian, anyone interested in either of these roles please contact me directly. Another important reminder is the deadline for candidates. This year, the 2nd Vice President, 4th Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer are up for election and have all submitted their letter of intent by their deadlines, respectively. Any other candidates for any of these roles must submit their candidacy by April 1st to get on the 2026 ballot.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on the courts soon, and wish everyone safe travels as we get rolling this season!

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Spring Season Starting Soon!

I hope everyone is doing well during this time of year. I know that there has been quite a bit of sickness going around and I hope everyone is staying healthy and will be ready for the Spring Season to start here soon. The Sponsorship Committee is looking for anyone who would be willing to sponsor a court at the World Tournament this year your name will be hung below each court number. It's a great way to do a small sponsorship. Ben and I will be putting out a sponsorship form for this soon. Before we know it May will be here and we have 2 big tournaments in the Month of May. The Hall of Fame Invitational and Team World both tournaments are both worth attending either as a participant or a spectator. I will be attending both so hopefully I will see you at either one of those tournaments.



1ST VICE PRESIDENT
AUSTIN BAILEY



2ND VICE PRESIDENT
DALTON RAKESTRAW

As I sit here and write this article of the Admin Digest, I have been facing Blizzard Calvin in the Northeast! My flight home was cancelled so I got to spend an extra day here in the Arctic Tundra of Connecticut. Burrrrr... I was fortunate enough to make it to the Central Connecticut Horseshoe Club in East Hartford for the Ray Bedard Open. Thankfully I was able to take 3rd place behind some stiff competition. Congrats to Dan Molineaux from Rhode Island for winning the tournament and Randy Smith Jr, of Connecticut for taking 2nd ! Always a pleasure to

have Karen Graham and Ken Fraser come over from New York to pitch. Also, the 85-year-old 40-footer Gale Greene was in the mix and the upcoming Lizy Jordan. This was a stacked tournament from the start!

The US Open Regionals in Albuquerque, New Mexico entries are now open! Don't delay on this wonderful opportunity. The ABQ Sports Commission is putting up a lot to host this event for us. We have had several entries and looking for many more! Don't delay, be sure to enter quick, as there are a limited number of spots available each day. We want to show our support to this local club as they are receiving some great benefits from the Sports Commission, like updated courts, and elevated community knowledge and involvement. The entry form and flier are in this issue of the Digest!

The World Tournament in Wausau, Wisconsin, is shaping up to be a great event! We are getting closer to the entry deadline each month. Hoping to see 900+ entries. The event will take place at the Greenheck Turner Community Center. The NHPA Council was able to go and attend last January our

Regional Tournament in ABQ this April!

winter meeting, and the facility and venue are going to be top notch! I am looking forward to seeing how this year unfolds and how great this year is shaping up to be! My next sports conference will be in Las Vegas, Nevada, from April 21-24! I am excited to be reaching out to more venues in hopes to find that perfect spot for the 2030 World Tournament. The appointments portal opened this week, and I am proud to say there is still much interest in our event around the world. There are several destinations that are reaching out but we are still just a little too early to start securing those bids. So, we keep reaching out and talking with everyone.

Until the next issue of the digest, I wish everyone the best on the courts!

2026 Rules Committee Reviewing Submissions

A brief update on activity within the rules committee. We have received a handful of proposals that the committee is now working on. There are times when I will reach out to the submitter to discuss possible wording adjustments, but not so much the intent of their proposal. If the proposal does not pass through the committee, I will also contact the submitter to inform them of that, along with comments if appropriate. I will give brief updates monthly.



NHPA 3RD VICE PRESIDENT
JERRY LABROSSE



NHPA CHAPLAIN
KEN HEINRITZ

How can a person be blessed beyond measure? Is it possible for a horseshoe pitcher to struggle dearly with getting ringers & yet be blessed beyond measure? Absolutely! These blessings are beyond human comprehension, in fact not to be gained by anything this earth has to offer. Oh yes, winning tournaments or pitching a great tournament brings happiness, though temporary. But I'm talking about something that LASTS!

It begins only by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. You see, it's an adoption into His family. It's being cared for by the Lord of Glory and experiencing spiritual riches over material gain. It's receiving God's unmerited favor & love when we know that we don't deserve it. We are united in a Vine (Jesus) that results in a constant, overflowing supply of spiritual strength & peace.

We have a purpose for living that extends beyond this life. So, whether you are pitching well or not, a Christian is still BLESSED BEYOND MEASURE!! Don't forget that!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." Ephesians 1:3

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2026 U.S. Open

MARIPOSA BASIN PARK

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

April 10-12

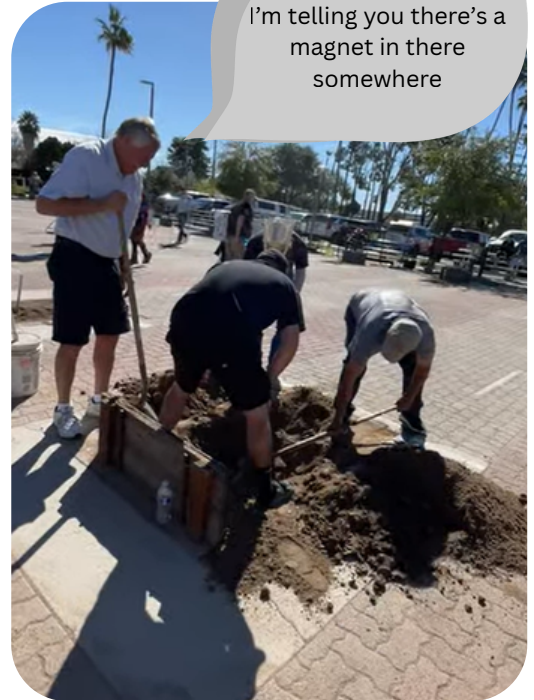


Host hotels:

Hotel Rate Quotes and Availability:

The hotels have worked hard to offer your group favorable rates.

Hotel	Dates	Rates	Distance to Mariposa Park
Spark by Hilton Albuquerque North I-25	April 8-12, 2026	\$129.00	5.6 miles
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites North I-25	April 8-12, 2026	\$139.00	6.8 miles
Hampton Inn & Suites North	April 8-12, 2026	\$147.00	6.9 miles
Comfort Suites Hotel	April 8-12, 2026	\$119.00	8 miles



2026 U.S. Open

MARIPOSA BASIN PARK

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

April 10-12



Three tournaments to enter!

One each day!

\$50/day or

\$125 for all three!



Sponsored by:

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SPORTS COMMISSION

— A Division of Visit Albuquerque —

Sign up online today!
Only a set amount of entries
accepted each day!

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[HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/FORMS/D/1BDW6TDQ29R5ZGIZ2ELMPSUV7PDEVFDFIISZZJEGGTEK/EDIT?TS=698FB321&PLI=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BDW6TDQ29R5ZGIZ2ELMPSUV7PDEVFDFIISZZJEGGTEK/EDIT?TS=698FB321&PLI=1)

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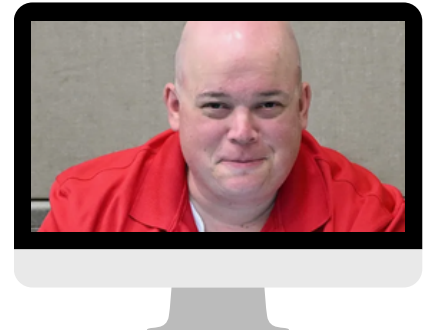
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Did you check if it was plugged in?

Hello IT, have you turned it off and on again?

In today's world, electronic stuff just keeps going, like all time, we never give the device(s) a break. Phones, laptop, tablet, and even those smart home gadgets, they're just left on for days, sometimes weeks. Maybe it's easy, I guess, but if you just restart your device now and then, it's like, good for it and helps it work better, you know? We started doing this last year with all the new computers we use for keeping score with, it's a little thing that just helps. When you restart, lot of old files and all those things running in background, they get closed out. Stuff builds up, makes things slow, or app just freezes there and doesn't do anything. If you just turn it off and back on, it's like, things get reset, so your device starts fresh and can work faster, better.



NHPA 5TH VICE PRESIDENT
JOSH OLSON

Restarting occasionally, it makes devices more trustable too. Updates and stuff, them patches and new app, sometimes they don't really get finished until you restart it. If you don't do that, you maybe get old updates still there, or things not working right which can make your phone or whatever glitch out or be less safe.

R E S T A R T

Also, restarting sometimes fixes weird stuff before it's a big problem. If Wi-Fi keeps dropping, or app just sit there and won't do anything, or battery goes down too fast, lot of time it's just software messed up for a bit and one quick restart fixes up good. It is funny in the world of IT how much a simple "restart" can fix a problem that you might be having with a electronic device. So don't forget to restart your laptop your phone/tablet occasionally when you are using it for that next horseshoe tournament.

You never know when that device might start to get sluggish or suddenly crash on you out of nowhere.

2026 Hall of Fame Inductees!

The NHPA Hall of Fame Committee has conducted their annual voting, we will be inducting three new members into the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame this summer in Wausau, WI!



Player

David Holmes



Historic Player

Frances Carnahan

Promoter/Organizer

Stan Griggs



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Valley of the Sun Tournament Results!



**NHPA 4TH VICE PRESIDENT
BARBARA CARSON**

Well, here we are already in March. Tournaments are in full swing and hopefully warmer days are ahead. I am going to do something a bit different for the digest. Each month I would like to feature different tournaments. 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.

Since I just returned from the Valley of the Sun Tournament in Mesa, Arizona, they are this month's featured tournament. I came in 3rd place in my class. What a wonderful tournament. Thank you Robert Chubinsky for your article for this month and for all your hard work on the Valley of the Sun 2026. Valley of the Sun Tournament Results Due to the large number of classes, a detailed report is not feasible. Notable achievements include: Ron Lipinski securing first in Men's Class C with a 9-3 win/loss record; Cody Williams took first in Class D 30 Mixed with a 7.5-1.5 record; Robert Chubinsky earned first in Class E 30 Mixed with a 7- 2 record; and Bill Phillips won Class H Mixed with a perfect 10-0 record. All first-place winners received \$240. Second-place accomplishments include Jeff Petrin (Class H Mixed, 6-4), Isaiah Lee (Class B Men, 8.5-3.5), and Hal Handelman (Class C 30, 7-3), each awarded \$140. Third place went to Jacob Fimbres (7-5) in A Men, Mike Massari (A 30 Mixed, 6-4), and Mary Fimbres (B 30 Mixed, 4-6), each receiving \$110. Barry Gentle claimed fourth in D 30 Mixed (5-4, \$80), and Brian Coxson placed fifth in D Men (6- 5, \$70). Congratulations to all Arizona members for their achievements.

In March, class and winner photos will be posted for each class. These images will be available on the ASHPA website at ashpa.club.

Special thanks to TD Russ Watkins for organizing scoring, managing data input, and handling payouts. Gratitude is extended to Mary Fimbres for arranging concessions with hamburgers and hot dogs, Gail Maher for bringing BBQ chicken sandwiches, Charlie Mullins for providing BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, and Jacob Fimbres for setting up the courts. Appreciation goes to the scorekeepers who ensured the tournament ran smoothly, those who assisted at the check-in table and with concessions, Patti Lopez- Cepero for taking around 1500 photos, and everyone who helped with equipment and replacing a broken stake. Special thanks to Carol Plumeau for thank you cards to our workers. If anyone has been omitted, please accept my apologies; it truly was a busy four days.

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

Valley of the Sun Photos

<https://ashpa.club/valley-of-the-sun-2021-tournament-results/>

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Support the Sport, Get Involved!

The NHPA is currently seeking several motivated individuals to join our team! We have openings on the sponsorship and marketing committees and are actively seeking a promotions director and Historian, anyone interested can reach out to NHPA President, Ben Webb, to apply or for more information!

ELECTIONS

We have 3 officers up for election: 2nd Vice President (incumbent - Dalton Rakestraw), 4th Vice President (Barbara Carson), and Secretary/Treasurer (Brian Poole), have all submitted their letters of intent to run for reelection. These will be published in the coming editions of the digest.

Anyone interested in running for one of these offices must submit their letter of intent no later than **April 1st** to get on the ballot for 2026!

New Product Alert

Amazon has recently added water bottles to our available NHPA branded merchandise shop, just in time for the spring season! Head over to the NHPA Amazon shopfront to purchase official NHPA merchandise and support the NHPA! Our Amazon shop is currently the only authorized vendor of NHPA branded merchandise, and a portion of each sale goes right back to the NHPA to support the association!

Membership Survey Winner!

Our participation was down this quarter on our membership survey but the Q1 survey has now closed. We gave away a \$25 gift card to one lucky winner for just completing the survey. Our Q1 gift card winner is: Steve Lopez of Arizona!

New! **NHPA**
Water Bottles
STAINLESS STEEL INSULATED
LEAK PROOF LID
PLASTIC DRINKING STRAW
Now Available on Amazon
7 Colors!
Get Yours Now!
Ships Free with Prime!



FOR BUSINESS

EXCLUSIVE FOR NHPA
ASSOCIATION MEMBERS



WELCOME TO SIXT, NHPA!

We're excited to welcome you to SIXT, where association members get more perks! With the newest cars, friendly service, and great rates, SIXT is here to help you get where you need to go.

100 years of expertise

In mobility solutions around the world

Skip the counter

With mobile check-in on your smartphone

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Including loyalty matching & special rates

HOW TO GET STARTED WITH SIXT

01 Register for a SIXT business profile to book at NHPA's preferred rates:

[Register now](#)

02 Scan the QR code with your phone to get verified and save time during pick-up:



03 Use the link below to book your rental with NHPA discount rates automatically applied:

[Book your rental now](#)

STATUS MATCH

Already have elite status with another car rental company? SIXT will match it to the corresponding SIXT status, giving you immediate access to member-only offers and premium perks.

To request a status match, email sixtcard-us@sixt.com with proof of your current status.

CONTACT

Have questions about setting up your SIXT profile, making a booking, or how any of our services work? Reach out to our customer service team at:

[SIXT help center](#)

[SIXT rental info](#)

Phone: [+1-754-301-4238](tel:+1-754-301-4238)

Email: corporate-us@sixt.com

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The Importance of Youth Sports and the Role of Our Horseshoe Community

Youth sports matter. They shape character, build confidence, and provide young people with a structured environment where effort, discipline, and perseverance are rewarded. In an age where many youth face increasing academic pressures and digital distractions, sports offer something essential: connection, purpose, and belonging. Research consistently shows that youth involved in athletics develop stronger leadership skills, improved emotional regulation, better time management, and greater resilience. They learn how to win with humility and lose with grace. They learn accountability.



YOUTH DIRECTOR
ALEENA LEPAK

They learn to set goals and work steadily toward them. These are not just athletic skills – they are life skills. Horseshoe pitching is uniquely positioned to contribute to this development. Unlike many youth sports, horseshoes is multi-generational. Young pitchers compete alongside adults, seniors, and even world champions. These dynamics foster mentorship, respect, and meaningful relationships that are increasingly rare in today's youth activities. Our sport teaches patience, focus, and composure. It rewards consistency over flash and character over ego. But youth development does not happen automatically. It requires intentional effort from all of us.

What Our Horseshoe Community Can Do:

1. Be Visible Mentors

Youth watch everything. Demonstrating strong sportsmanship, rule adherence, and court etiquette sets the standard. A simple word of encouragement or post-game handshake can make a lasting impact.

2. Create Welcoming Environments

First impressions matter. When new youth and families arrive at a club or tournament, greeting them warmly and helping them feel included increases the likelihood they will return.

3. Offer Structured Learning Opportunities

Youth clinics, beginner divisions, and coaching support make the sport less intimidating. Clear instruction accelerates confidence and retention.

4. Encourage Leadership Roles

Allow older youth to assist with scorekeeping, court preparation, youth events, or mentoring younger pitchers. Leadership builds ownership and long-term commitment.

5. Promote Scholarships and Pathways

Highlighting scholarship opportunities and continued involvement beyond age 18 reinforces that horseshoe pitching is not just a childhood activity – it is a lifelong community.

6. Celebrate Effort, Not Just Wins

Recognition of improvement, perseverance, and positive attitude strengthens intrinsic motivation. Championships are important – but character development is paramount. Our responsibility as an association is not only to preserve the sport but to cultivate the next generation who will carry it forward. When we invest in youth, we invest in the future of the NHPA.

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Every conversation, every tournament, every moment of encouragement matters. Together, we can ensure that horseshoe pitching continues to be more than a game – it remains a community where young people grow into confident, respectful, and resilient adults.

- Aleena Lepak

NHPA Hall of Fame Spotlight

by Stan Griggs

Sue Gillespie Indiana

Sue Gillespie won three Women's World Championships, the first in 1962 at the age of fifteen, the youngest to ever win the women's championship. She repeated as champion in 1964 and then again in 1965. She married three-time Men's Champion Danny Kuchinski and formed a traveling exhibition act that toured all the U.S. and Canada and performed on several television shows including the Johnny Carson Show.



Membership Survey Feedback!

We wanted to go ahead and include a few notable things from our membership survey in Q1 in this edition of the digest. We saw a slight decline in participation with only 407 responses this time around:

94 % of respondents were current NHPA Members, 7% were from Missouri

66% disagreed with a tiered membership model and almost the same percentage disagreed with term limits

Interestingly, the same 66% agreed with a mid-market one price membership nationwide, consistent state-to-state

Respondents were more open to the "pick your distance" question with 40% supporting this idea

57% believed this idea would negatively impact 40 ft participation

Only 57% of respondents correctly selected the winners of the inaugural doubles championship from 2025

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



NHPA STATISTICIAN
STAN GRIGGS

250TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION PART 2



Moving on to Part II of our 250th Anniversary Edition which we are highlighting the 1976 World Tournament which was played in Levittown, Pennsylvania.

We covered the Men's Championship in Part I so let's bring the Ladies to the top of our list today. The Women's Championship Class consisted of eight of the top pitchers from the qualifying rounds. This was a World Tournament full of play-off games; at the conclusion of the round robin there were just two left standing with records of 6-1. Ironically enough they were both from the Empire State – New York. Ruth Hangen from New York defeated Lorraine Thomas from New York in the best two out of three play-off games going 2-1. Winning her 5th and final World Title. The Top five ladies all averaged over 70%:

W-L RIN SH PCT.

- 1st Place – Ruth Hangen – New York 8-2 502 664 75.61%
- 2nd Place – Lorraine Thomas – New York 7-3 573 760 75.40%
- 3rd Place – Vicki Winston – Missouri 5-2 331 442 74.89%
- 4th Place – Katherine Harrison – Ohio 4-3 353 488 72.34%
- 5th Place – Debby Michaud – Massachusetts 4-3 365 520 70.20%
- 6th Place – Juanita Phelps – Virginia 2-5 236 402 58.71%
- 7th Place – Mary Archer – Ontario 1-6 301 460 65.44%
- 8th Place – Gloria Vanderburg - Ontario 0-7 201 380 52.90%

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

If you have any questions regarding the World Tournament Stats or the NHPA Hall of Fame, you may email me at moshoe63@gmail.com .

“Liberty, once lost, is lost forever”

John Adams

A leading advocate for independence in the Continental Congress

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ONLINE SIGNUPS AND BANQUET TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

I hope you are surviving this unusual winter weather that is affecting some of us. The East Coast has been getting all the snow that the Rocky Mountains normally get. We have had a very warm winter and very little snow here in Idaho. We are at 591 entries for the World Tournament in Wausau and are on the way to get over 700. I encourage everyone to look at your schedule and try to work it in to come to Wausau, Wisconsin and participate in the World Tournament. The Greenheck-Turner Community Center will be a great place to hold this event.

Sign Up Online:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9_gu3g8vfkJe_68UciO3uyFANvE5UBqVgDm2ljDi-xeSFpA/viewform?usp=header



**SECRETARY/TREASURER
BRIAN POOLE**

Please go check your membership in eshoe to make sure you are current for 2026. If you have a number, make sure you use the renew link on your info page and don't join and create a new number in eshoe. You can check it here at NHPA-eshoe.com by typing your first name then find it in the dropdown list and click on it. A box will show up with your NHPA info and on the 2nd, line is your membership year, and a blue renew link on the right side if you need to renew. To renew just click on the link and follow the directions.

We have the Hall of Fame online ticket signup ready. They are \$40 until June 30 and \$50 after. We are only printing 175 tickets, so don't wait. Please come support those that we are recognizing with NHPA awards.

<https://forms.gle/BFHSNixekor969Nk8>

There are some fun and great regional tournaments coming up. The first one is in Albuquerque, NM on April 10,11, and 12. Three tournaments in one weekend. \$50 each or \$125 for all 3. Register at the link below.

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/mobile/folders/1FO4tOhGokIACrq0BMuhSjN28IXAVuH5G/1LLfcGUXr_Tslj6JJs-T98bmiCQpHaGey?pli=1&sort=13&direction=a



You boys gotta put more spin on that flip!





National Horseshoe Pitchers Association



2026 World Horseshoe Pitching Championship

July 13 - 25, 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 USD Currency
Canadian Entries must use a Money Order if mailing 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 65 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.

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**4TH VICE PRESIDENT
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**5TH VICE PRESIDENT
JOSH OLSON**

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(218) 639-4641



**SECRETARY/TREASURER
BRIAN POOLE**

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