

## TEAM WORLD LINEUP



A record eighteen teams will hit the courts February 10, 11, and 12 at the Pitchin' Palace. It's Team World Tournament time again. Formerly called the Can-Am, this tourney of teams has featured a number of pitchers considered of world class caliber. Most often we hear of their individual exploits. Now they are coming as four person teams. Each team represents a State or Province. For three days these mixed teams, guys and gals, will play each other, one on one, in four game matches. Each team will play seventeen matches. The twelve courts at the Palace are going to be busy, early to late. Forty shoe games, it is hoped, will help keep court times on schedule.

The teams registered include last years winner, Illinois with Cliff Baker and company and the fourth place team of Mike Knop, the Illinois number two team.

Minnesota's main man is out with an injury but his dad, Len Lipovsky, will pitch with Phyllis Negarrd, Dave Hughes, and State Champ, Bev Nathe. Historically, Minnesota has been the most productive team.

Joe Dolter of Iowa has booked the "music makers", Glen Red Henton and Ronnie Burgess. Their other function will be to help Harold Darnold and Loras Grant pitch a winner. Dolter wants to ensure a proper audience and has paid entries for four Iowa teams.

Indiana will have Three entries. Sue Snyder and Ruth Ory at last contact were looking for two more gals. The premiere team is five players. LeRoy Rowe must be the coach. His team is the Seibold's, Mark, Bonnie, and Curly plus Clarence Bellman for anchor. The Hoosier's minor league team with major

ideas is Greg Rathburn, Darrell Taulbee, Ron Parrish, and Mike Blankenship.

Charley Kilgore likes this team tournament and his Missouri team includes Sam Carter, Elwin Cooper, and Alan Francis. Getting better.

Kevin McLachlin will escort Canada's first lady, Sandy McLachlin, Tom Stroh, and Steve Hohl. Looks like they're serious about this one.

At the other end of Canada, Saskatchewan, it appears that our old friend Al Ross has conned the charter to sponser two teams this year. His parting words last time promised more guns this year.

Ohio, with all their horseshoe giants, is going to have their own team with former competitors Oscar Manns and Elden Sarbaugh leading the pack.

Wisconsin's personnel is the big mystery. Jane Smith is interviewing for two teams. Ralph Maylahn is the only other known team member.

The Pitchin' Palace regulars will have another chance to improve their ninth place finish of last year. Good luck to Grant Hintz, Gerri Meistad, Dick Hansen, and Lloyd Johnson. There will be three more teams to overcome this time.

Tom Roanhouse has asked Ralph Dykes to run the board and Lenny Meistad, Mr. Microphone, has scheduled all 310 matches-1240 games. A cash prize raffle will pay for all that scorekeeping. Tickets are on sale now and at the tournament. Scorekeeping is worth one dollar per game: same price as a raffle ticket. No need to be a class A pitcher to keep score and you can buy some tickets to win some more. Hope to see lots lots of Wisconsin spectators at the Team World.

**SECORD ANSWERS OLD HAT**

At the State Meeting in Marshfield last Fall, a member asked, "Just why should we join the NHPA, what do we get?" John Secord, state secretary, fielded the question this way...

"Actually, by joining, we're trying to support the game of horseshoes and our parent organization which is The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

We are using NHPA methods, NHPA sanctioned shoes, and NHPA rules. We're doing whatever we can to promote horseshoes our way. Therefore, if we are going to promote the game, we have to be a member of the organization.

It's like the people who are members of the State Association only. They feel they are supporting, at least, the State if not the National organization. If they feel they don't want to go to any State Tournaments or World Tournaments or become a member of the National, then they are State members only. We do have some who are just State or WHPA members.

As far as what you get in-hand for being an NHPA member, other than the card and the fact that you are now covered by the NHPA insurance, there is really nothing other than the prestige of being a member of the National Association.

The people who join, the NHPA, join for the same reason I join the NHPA and everyone else joins the NHPA. Number one, I like to support Horseshoes. Therefore I belong to the National. I want to pitch in the State Tournament so I have to be a member. If I want to pitch in a sanctioned tournament, I have to be a member. It used to be people thought they had to "buy" the card in order to pitch in the State Tournament. If there are now more sanctioned tournaments, you get the card to pitch in those tournaments. Now your card is not just good for the State Tournament. It's good for any tournament.

From your fourteen dollar fee, five dollars goes to the State Association. Seven dollars plus two dollars insurance, nine dollars total, goes to the National. After May thirty-first the State does get two dollars additional as a late fee. There were fifty-five late fees this year.

As far as what you receive physically for being an NHPA member..., you can't really put that much in your hand. But, as we said earlier, there is always prestige in being a member of The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association."

**WHAT'S NEW**

Debby Bestul, Eau Claire, has been voted the 1988 Eau Claire Leader-Telegram's 1988 Female Athlete of the year. Her horseshoe pitching accomplishments has earned her that honor, Wisconsin Junior Girls State Championships since 1982 (7 titles) and 4 World Junior Girls titles. Debby polled 49 of a possible 50 points, taking first on 4 of 5 ballots. Debby will be pitching for Wisconsin at the World Team Tournament at the Pitchin' Palace Feb. 10-12.

\*\*\*\*\*

Rick Pritzlaff, Germantown, won the U.S. Open Qualifying Bowling Tournament at Madison recently. He bested a field of 57 men. Rick will go to the national finals in Edmond, Oklahoma on March 26th to be in competition with other state representatives and professional bowlers.

\*\*\*\*\*

Pitching at the World Team Tournament at the Pitchin' Palace for Wisconsin, #1 Team, Jane Smith, Balsam Lake, Don Kangas, Menasha, Ralph Maylahn, Genesee Depot and John Udelhofen, Madison. Number 2 team, Sid Anderson, Janesville, Dan Bloom, Janesville, Edith McKinney, Luck and as reported, Debby Bestul.

\*\*\*\*\*

Another horseshoe pitching facility at Mountain has added their name to the list of state sanctioned tournaments for 1989.

**WI NHPA SANCTIONED  
TOURNEYS FOR 1989**

**WORLD ENTRY**

APRIL 29-30

Send entry fee of \$2.50 and NHPA card # to: Jane Smith, R.R. Box 17, Balsam Lake, WI, 54810. (No prizes will be awarded.)

SATURDAY MAY 13th

The Eau Claire Earlybird Tournament will be a NHPA sanctioned, conducted by the Eau Claire Horseshoe Club. It is an additional tournament and will not take the place of the "EAU CLAIRE OPEN" which will be held June 10th & 11th.

The schedule is tentative based on the number of entries. All games will be 30 shoes with 8 pitchers per class. Plans call for the first round to start at 10:00A.M. & the second round at 12:30 P.M.. Classes may be mixed, again depending on the number of entries.

Entry fee will be \$2.00 and there will be no trophies or awards. Entry deadline is April 29th. Send \$2.00, 1989 NHPA card # and last year's average to: Curt Bestul, 1412 Sherwin Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701 715-832-3603

MAY 6 OR MAYBE MAY 13

Bun Carley will conduct an NHPA sanctioned tournament. This Janesville Moose World Tournament qualifier is taylor made for pitchers with Spearfish on their mind.

The maybe date has something to do with the availability of turkey permits. "?" Ask Bun Carley, 608-884-3961

**NEW NHPA PUBLICATION**

The NHPA NEWSLINE is the new National Horseshoe Pitchers Association magazine. This is what we have been waiting for. A refreshing new outlook for our sport, a publication that will bring us into the 90's with a 8½" by 11" magazine format.

The "Newsline" will be sent to subscribers in February. Over the years we have heard people say that they were disappointed with the NHPA Digest and had discontinued subscribing. We urge these people to subscribe to the NHPA Newsline, give encouragement and support to our National Officers in their current endeavor. In the coming months we will see many additional features in this new publication.

To subscribe to the NHPA Newsline, send \$11.00, NHPA Member, (\$12.00, Non-Member) to: WHPA Sec/Treas, John Secord, W6868 Brown Road, Fon du Lac, WI 54935.

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**TOURNEY TIME**

BY PAUL NEUMANN

Its up at 6:AM and off I go  
 For its an hours drive to Antigo  
 I will arrive by 7:AM I hope  
 To check out the pits and practice throw

I arrive in ample time, to plan  
 For our first game is scheduled at 8:AM  
 The pits are a cool gray clay, with white stakes  
 The morning sun is warm, with clear skies.

After a few warm-up piches  
 I pick up my round robin to see,  
 which pits I will play on today.  
 They are 5,6, 7, and 8 in rotation

Its Stanley Stake on pit 8 in game 1  
 He's a ringer and 4 points ahead in 30 shoes  
 I make a comeback and he falters  
 At 50 shoes, I ringer to win 32 to 29.

In game 2, its Freddie Flip on pit 6  
 We battle nip and tuck for 25  
 Then I pull away with 3 doubles  
 In 50 as you guessed, its me by 15.

Clem Clay on pit 5 in game 3  
 We end up even in 35 shoes  
 Then he takes the lead by 5  
 But the outcome in the end, its me 40 to 35.

Next its Terry Turn on pit 7  
 I take an early lead by 9  
 He comes back to trail by 2  
 Again its over at 50, me 37 to 28.

My next opponent is Pete Pitts on pit 6  
 We both struggle to tie at 25  
 He starts to click and gains on me  
 I finally find stake and win game 5.

Its back to pit 7 and Charlie Court  
 We shuffle the lead, back and forth  
 Its still tooth and nail at 40 shoes  
 I arrive on time to clip him by 9.

Last is Rich Ringer on pit 8 again  
 This guy hasn't lost a game either  
 A lead I do not let him gain  
 And beat him easily without strain.

Its over now, and trophy time  
 Plus prize money which I pocket  
 I could not possibly lose today, for  
 My name is Horseshoes Horace, you see.

**QUESTION**

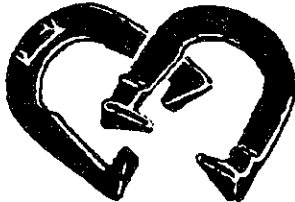
Can I throw in a sanctioned tournament in another state and use that as one of my three qualifying events? And does this state and other states honor membership from one another or do you have to join each state?

A Wisconsin resident can pitch in other state NHPA sanctioned tournaments with their Wisconsin membership card. These tournament averages will also be honored as one or all of the three required tournaments for World Tournament entry.

**1989 NHPA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS IN WISCONSIN**

- #28-89-001 WORLD TEAM Feb. 10-12
- #28-89-002 JANE SMITH APRIL 29-30
- #28-89-003 SPRING OPEN PITCHIN' PALACE MARCH 4-5
- #28-89-004 EARLYBIRD EAU CLAIRE MAY 13
- #28-89-005 Club Team PITCHIN' PALACE MARCH 18
- #28-89-006 EAU CLAIRE OPEN JUNE 10-11
- #28-89-007 JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP APRIL 22-23
- #28-89-008 CLOSE DOESN'T COUNT JANE SMITH
- #28-89-009 GOLDENDALE OPEN JUNE 23-24-25
- #28-89-011 STATE TOURNAMENT PITCHIN' PALACE LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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MARK  
STEVENS

Mark Stevens, of Marengo, Wisconsin is the reigning State Champion and has been for the past three years. We all know his name now but some are still asking "where did he come from?"

Stevens started pitching in the early seventys when he was sixteen years old. After a couple of years as a flipper, he got serious enough to switch to his present three-quarter turn. Even at the onset he was a near fifty percent pitcher. In the mid-seventys he pitched in a few open tournaments in Minnesota and the Upper Peninsula but it was 1984 before Stevens entered the Wisconsin State Tournament. The record shows that he won ten of eleven games in that dismal rainy weather winning class "B" pitching 53.3%. Mark says he likes the outdoors and hunting; 1984 at Marshfield was ideal duck hunting weather.

At Green Bay in 1985, Stevens placed second in class "B" but registered the highest percentage of all entrants including the twelve man "A" class! That's the time we began to notice the man from Marengo.

That highest percentage of 1985 all but qualified him for class "A" the following year. The rest is well known history. 1986, Mark Stevens became State Champ and repeated in '87 and '88.

Thirty-four years old, single and a security supervisor at the Louisiana Pacific mill, Stevens has always lived in Marengo on the family farm. As a spectator, he likes to follow baseball, football and bowling but his preference for the outdoors makes him an active hunter.

Every horseshoe season for sixteen weeks, in the Range Horseshoe League, Stevens pitches for the Gile team at Gifa center. The twelve team league has but two teams from Wisconsin, the rest from the U.P.. Ray Hill of Wakefield,

Michigan, "being one of the best at the game of horseshoes, provides good competition in [the same] league and tourneys." says Stevens.

Yes, and there are more good pitchers in the area that we, no doubt, have not heard of. Stevens and his mates on the four man doubles team have won it for the last six years. They play 35 point games. Although no stats are kept, Stevens believes that most are forty to fifty percent pitchers. Just one league and virtually no tournaments, forces Stevens to his own courts for practice a couple of nights each week.

The annual Ashland County Fair is a regular stop for Stevens. He is no stranger to the fairgoers making that tournament for the past eighteen years. He is defending champion and has been for nine years.

His personal challenge is to continue as State Champion for as many consecutive years as possible, perhaps to establish a new record. The present string of six is shared by Harvey Elmerson and Casey Jones. Mark Stevens in his quiet steadfast way is aware of that number.

The day after winning at Marshfield, Stevens, the big man from bear country, the quiet one, said in explanation, "I didn't let the wind pysque me out."

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## LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Thank you for sending a copy of your November 1988 "WISCONSIN HORSESHOE NEWSLETTER." I always enjoy reading your material. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,

NHPA Sec.-Treas., Donnie Roberts

Dear Sue;

Enclosed is a \$5.00 check for your NEWSLETTER, thanks for sending the Nov. issue, was real good, was nice to see the averages of your State pitchers.

As I am writing this letter we are having a real blizzard, nice to be home in weather like this.

It looks like I will pitch in that Team World event at the Pitchin' Palace again next month. Dale can't make it mainly on account he broke his pitching wrist about 3 weeks ago, it's still in a cast. Will look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee.

Yours in Horseshoes,

Len Lipovsky, Minnesota

Thank you Len. Sorry to hear about Dale, alot of his friends from Wisconsin will miss seeing him at the World Team Tournament.

To Editor:

I got a front page copy of your newsletter from Donny (Roberts). Thanks. MO is sending a team to Sturtevant this year. I had fun last year but we (Vicki) can't make it this time. I'd like a copy of the next issue to see who went and who won.

By the way, I'm the new Chairman of the Hall of Fame committee and we may be looking for some replacements as two recently passed away. (Frank Stinson, MN and Jim Weeks, CA) If you know someone interested in people's history, give me a name and I'll consider

them when a replacement is needed.

Thanks,

Earl Winston, NHPA First Vice-President  
Lamonte, MO

Dear Jim & Sue,

Here is a follow up on the indoor courts in Green Bay. The courts will be the winter home of the Green Bay Club. Tim Brunette, the proprietor, is very sports minded handling over 270 volleyball teams in his summer and winter leagues.

It was through the efforts of myself and a few other members that first approached Tim about outdoor courts about a year and a half ago. He saw the advantage of indoor courts and soon had plans for 5 courts above the bar. You have to see the set-up to appreciate how nice they are.

...Ringers to you,

Wally Srenaski, Green Bay

**CLUB TEAM TOURNAMENT**

sanc. #28-89-005

**SAT. MARCH 18**      **TEAM ENTRY \$64**  
Pitchin' Palace      Deadline Mar. 8

**CAST IN BRASS :**

- \* 75% of entry fees - prize money
- \* One year custody of trophy
- \* NHPA sanctioned - need cards
- \* All adult pitchers invited
- \* Four top pitchers per team
- \* One day tourney - starts early

**UP FOR GRABS :**

- ? Number of entries may be limited
- ? Amount of first place prize money
- ? Time of completion

**CONTACT :**

Jim Haupt, 5075 N. Elkhart Av.  
Milwaukee, Wi., 53217  
414-964-2735

## DOWN AND BACK

with Jim Haupt

January fifteenth we had another County Team tournament at the Pitchin' Place. No it wasn't on the schedule but developed by invitation. Walworth, Waukesha, Washington, and Rock Counties were scheduled. One entire County failed to show up. But the tournament director, Frank Look, took it in stride, rearranged his schedules and the three remaining teams waded through ten round robin games of forty shoes before a winner was determined.

Rock County won by the margin of just one game over Washington County. That's a slim victory when considering there were sixty games pitched by each County. Waukesha was third: Walworth lost by default.

T.D., Frank Look, was further impeded. His right hand man could not be there to help with the stats. All things considered, it went well. Surprisingly we saw lots of pitchers for the first time since the outdoor season. Must have been organized conscription. Sure, we're looking forward to more of the County contests. But with twelve man teams, why the handicap?

\*\*\*\*\*

Two teams have reserved a berth for the March 18th Club Team Tournament. Earl Paulson says Beloit wants in on the action and Mike McDonald said to save a spot for the Racine County League team. We expect the number of entries to be greater this year. Sign up early.

\*\*\*\*\*

John Secord has a fresh supply of NHPA cards, many good numbers left, got yours?

\*\*\*\*\*

Some tournament results do not go into the WHPA computer. What does it take to qualify? You may well ask.

We all know that a "results" tournament must be on the state schedule. But did you know that in order to qualify for WHPA recorded results, a tournament must also be an "open" and played in the "singles" format?

That means even some of our NHPA sanctioned tournaments do not qualify for the computer. Although the Team World and the Club Team tournaments are both NHPA sanctioned, they are also both invitational and not "open" to all pitchers. In the same manner, the two doubles tournaments, Beloit, and The V.F.W. are on the state schedule but they do not fulfill the "singles" requirement.

For most pitchers the team tournaments are extra curricular activities and they do not depend on those results for further competition. It should be noted however, that any NHPA sanctioned tournament will count towards World entry requirements.

Doubles tournaments often report resulting percentages in the combined form of both partners. Even the computer can't break that code.



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The Pitchin' Palace, home of team horseshoes, will host two COUNTY TEAM tournaments this year. Interested players may contact the Pitchin' Palace for further details. Format will be determined by the number of teams entered. Open to all county teams.

For the benefit of World Tournament qualifiers, the next listed three tournaments will be NHPA SANCTIONED requiring the possession of a NHPA CARD. Card numbers are requested with entry fee. A limited number of non-cardholders will be allowed to enter on a one-time basis. Enter early to qualify.

There will be three traditional eight-person, round robin tournaments with scorekeepers provided. They are the HALL OF FAME tournament, the SPRING OPEN Tournament, and the JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT tournament. Entry fee for these tournaments will be \$15 per person. Deadline is ten days prior to the respective tournament. NHPA SANCTIONED

A RINGERS ONLY tournament is scheduled for early December. For eight person classes, awards will be \$30 for first, \$20 for second, and \$10 for third. The balance of the money will be put toward user fees. Entry fee in this keep your own score tournament will be \$10. Deadline is ten days prior.

Three HOMERS, the popular doubles tournaments, will be hosted this season. Homers are round robin, 80 percent handicap tournaments. Bring your own partner. Prizes are 40% of the entry fee for first, 20% for second, and 10% for third. Registration and deadline is 12:00 noon the same day.

Send entries to the Pitchin' Palace 14000 Leetsbir Rd., Sturtevant, WI, 53177 or for sanctioned tournaments to Tournament Director, Richard Hansen, 3085 S. 76th St., Franksville, WI, 53126.  
Dick's telephone number is 414-835-1321

### PITCHIN' PALACE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE 1988-89

- OCT. 15, SAT. A Homer Tournament Register; Noon  
OCT. 23, Sun. A County Team Tournament  
Open to your county team  
Nov. 5 & 6 Sat. & Sun. Hall of Fame Open  
Ceremony for Hall of Fame inductees Sunday  
afternoon. NHPA SANCTIONED \*\*\*\*\*  
Deadline 10 days prior  
Dec. 4, Sun. Ringers Only D/L 10 days prior  
Dec. 17 Sat. A Homer Tournament Register; Noon  
Jan. 21 Sat. A Homer Tournament Register; Noon  
Feb. 10, 11, 12, Fri., Sat. & Sun. NHPA SANCTIONED\*\*\*\*  
Pitchin' Palace Team World Tournament.  
Teams from the U.S. and Canada will compete for thousands of dollars in prize money. Hopefully the top pitchers in the World will compete  
Feb. 26, Sun. Another County Team Tournament  
Bring your county Team  
Mar. 4 & 5 Sat. & Sun. The Spring Open Singles  
\*\*\*\*\*NHPA SANCTIONED\*\*\*\*\*  
DEADLINE 10 DAYS PRIOR  
MAR. 18, Sat. The Club Team Tournament  
Wisconsin clubs bring their four top pitchers to the Palace for a daylong Shootout. Janesville is the defending Champion. \*\*\*\*\*NHPA SANCTIONED\*\*\*\*\*  
DEADLINE MARCH 4.  
APR. 21 & 22, SAT. & SUN. The Junior Scholarship Benefit Tournament, 8-man R.R., singles.  
\*\*\*\*\*NHPA SANCTIONED\*\*\*\*\*  
DEADLINE 10 DAYS PRIOR



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