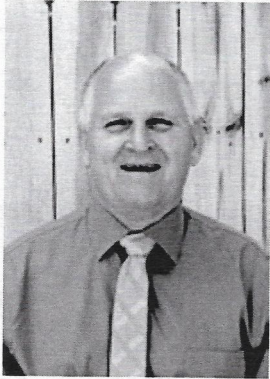


2018 Hall of Fame Inductee—Kevin Brekke



I started pitching bar leagues in Rosholt at the age of 16. My mentor was Harold Bestul, who took me to tournaments, had me as a partner, and we would go to the Spring and Fall state meetings. I went to my first State Tournament, which was my first sanctioned tournament, in 1983 at Eau Claire.

In the 1980's I pitched at the Pitching Palace, and in the early 90's, I pitched at Royalwood in Plover. And of course, I pitched in the State Tournament each Labor Day Weekend. Going to tournaments in the 80's, I met some lifelong friend pitchers, that would help me, and practice with me, and we would go to tournaments together. People like Brian Repinski, Randy Rein, Bill Hilldebrand (Horseshoe Hill), Cliff and Galdys Lila, Chet Ogiba, Gus Schram, and so many others. We would go to tournaments, like the Loyal Cornfest, to Plum Lake on the 4th of July, the Rosholt Fair, and many more. I did the same horseshoe routine each year, until 1995, when my back went out, and I did not think I would pitch again.

The year now is 1997, and in November I made a job change, and moved the family to Green Bay in 1999. I joined the Green Bay Horseshoe Club, and started to pitch again. I started running the Green Bay Open and was its Tournament Director for two years.

I left Green Bay in spring of 2002, and moved to the Madison area, until I settled in Edgerton in 2005, where I live currently.

I met John Garvan from Edgerton in 2005 and started mentoring him. We spent hours together perfecting our games and competing in over 25 tournaments a year, until John could no longer pitch. Jane Smith, who nominated me said, "I nominated Kevin because of his passion for this sport and his willingness to do everything possible to promote it. He is a caring individual, and everyone is important to him."

World Tournament Highlights

1987 – Eau Claire – placed 3rd
2003 – Eau Claire – kept score for over 150 games
2009 – Springfield – placed 6th
2010 – Cedar Rapids – placed 10th, high avg. – 32 percent
2012 – Knoxville – placed 10th, with 50 percent game
2015 – Topeka – placed 8th, there 3 weeks, helped with set up, kept score for over 100 games

State Tournament Highlights

1st place - 2000 - Arena; numerous 2nd and 3rd places
Scorekeeping since 1983
In charge of scorekeepers since 2010
Part of the chapel service each year
Part of electronic scoring team since 2010

Team World Highlights

Part of the chapel service each year
In charge of scorekeepers since 2006
Part of Barbershop Chorus and Quartet that sang the National Anthem

Sanctioned League Tournament - At Hall of Fame, Wentzville, MO

I organized one or two teams from the Beloit Club to represent Wisconsin since the tournament started in 2007. I have pitched and kept score. I bought my brick the first year there. It reads, "Kevin Brekke – Wisconsin, Pitcher, Scorekeeper, Coach, Friend."

State Offices

Hall of Fame nominating committee since 2006
2nd Vice President since 2015

State Awards –

State Scorekeeper of the year - 2004
President's Award - 2011
POY Award - 2007 - Division C
POY Award - 2012 - Division B
HOF Award - 2018

Pitching Highlights

State Doubles class winner with John Garvan – 2007, 2008
Best year – 2012– Averaged 37 percent
Mike Rousseau and I won the Beloit doubles sanctioned league. I had my first 60 percent game. I also pitched a non-sanctioned league and had a high game of 35 points in 16 shoes, 10 ringers and 5 points.

Tournament Director

Green Bay Open – 2000, 2001 (sanctioned)
I started running a non-sanctioned tournament called "The Patriot", in 2010 in Edgerton on the 4th of July. It has since grown from 16 to 48 each year.

Club Affiliations

1987 - Marshfield
1999 - 2002 - Green Bay
2003 - 2005 - Deansville
2005 - present – Beloit