NHPA

NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2026 ADMIN DIGEST

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

Doubles Entries Down but Membership Stable in 2026!

NHPA PRESIDENT
BEN WEBB

As we begin wrapping up another year, our sights are firmly focused on what comes next for the NHPA, and there is plenty to be excited about as we head toward 2027!

At the same time, there is still plenty of work to do. Entries for the 2027 World Doubles Championships in Wentzville, Missouri are currently down, and participation from our local Missouri pitchers has been especially low. The World Doubles gives us another opportunity to bring pitchers together outside of the traditional World Tournament, but its continued success depends entirely on members supporting the event, hopefully we see an increase in participation in 2027.

One of the most encouraging things as we look toward 2027 is our membership. For several years we have talked about reversing the decline in NHPA membership, and we are getting closer to that breakpoint. In 2025, we were able to reduce the percentage of members we were losing, and in 2026 that decline has essentially flatlined. While staying even may not sound exciting on the surface, after years of declining numbers it represents an important step in the right direction. Our efforts are working! If we continue bringing former pitchers back into the game, recruit new members and give our existing members reasons to stay involved, 2027 could finally be the year we turn the corner and see membership growth again.

That growth isn't going to come from one program, one officer or one tournament. It will come from our charters, clubs and individual members continuing to introduce people to horseshoes. Invite someone to league night, bring a friend to a tournament, reach out to someone who hasn't pitched in a few years or take a few minutes to introduce a new pitcher to the NHPA. Small efforts happening across dozens of charters can make a major difference nationally, and we are now close enough that every new or returning member matters more greatly than ever!

We also want to thank everyone who continues to read and support the NHPA Digest, and especially thank you for your patience as there have been some growing pains along the way, but the goal remains to make communication from the NHPA continually more consistent, informative and enjoyable for our members. The Digest is also your publication! If you have tournament stories, charter news, member accomplishments, historical pieces, photographs or other articles you would like to see included in a future issue, submissions can be sent to bwebb5155@gmail.com.

Finally, with the holiday season quickly approaching we wish everyone safe travels and fun times with your families and maybe even find a little time to throw a few shoes along the way! There is plenty ahead for the NHPA, and with World Doubles, the 2027 World Tournament and the possibility of membership growth on the horizon, there is a lot to look forward to in 2027!

2026 NHPA WORLD DOUBLES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10 - ROUND ROBIN CLASS SCHEDULE

A Class — 2:00 p.m.

# Team	Avg.
1. Mar Ray / Lachelle Cook	84.39%
2. Jenny Gegg / Penny Steinke	81.25%
3. Virgle McCown / Michael Bowman	74.29%
4. Brandy Morehead / Helga Hewlett	68.05%
5. Austin Bailey / Josh Olson	67.79%
6. Don Epps / Ed Hildreth	66.71%
7. Dan Watson / Helen Hawkinson	65.02%
8. Blanca Hettinga / Cindy Claussen	64.53%
9. Kevin James / Glen Briley	63.62%
10. James Muller / Shelly Martinez	60.19%
11. Paul Littlefield / Gary Wiederhold	59.63%
12. Gary Boots / Lance Van Wyhe	58.76%

B Class — 2:00 p.m.

# Team	Avg.
1. Don Gillette / Dan Atwood	56.87%
2. Anna Johnson / Marcia Meyer	53.81%
3. Eddy Falls / Roy Brockman	50.33%
4. Ralph Thurman / Edward Griffith	49.97%
5. Randy Senciboy / Lester Powell	47.59%
6. Glenn Burton / Amy Mauk	45.80%
7. JD Bush / Mark Humphrey	45.68%
8. Jim Spidle Jr / Danny Freeman	45.61%
9. Kevin Wilke / Leon Wolken	44.82%
10. Dan Broeckling / Allan Moallankamp Jr	44.08%
11. Steve Strickland / Addison Ashton	42.32%
12. Open Spot	40.90%-47%

C Class — 9:00 a.m.

# Team	Avg.
1. Jeremiah DeMello / Lucas Cantone	40.89%
2. Mike Davault / Danny Williams	40.84%
3. Barry Schilling / Tom Lashinski	40.80%
4. Dwight Gibson / Kenny Parrish	39.00%
5. Jacqueline Gleissner / Ashley Carter	37.99%
6. Jim Newboles / Bob Bales	37.62%
7. David King / Larry Brown	37.16%
8. Steven Miller / Justin Bell	36.69%
9. Robert / Amanda Dennis	35.17%
10. Paul Spell / Paul Roth	34.54%
11. Dustin / Jaime Womack	33.63%
12. Mark Neubauer / Doug Harju	31.77%

D Class — 9:00 a.m.

# Team	Avg.
1. Dow Buford / Larry Davis	30.32%
2. Gary Duncan / Dwight McGrath	29.71%
3. Rick Weaver / Jim Kramp	28.58%
4. Alvin Agcopra / Terry Johnston	28.51%
5. Doreen Rehurek / Helen Wolters	28.26%
6. Debbie Phillips / Mark Kiser	27.92%
7. John DeMello / John DeMello Jr	27.03%
8. Norval Johnson / Dan Peterson	25.45%
9. Bob Descher / Chuck Swan	25.10%
10. Robbie / Robert Donjon	25.03%
11. Farrell Meyer / Gary Kuehn	24.09%
12. Jeff Simpson / David Genet	18.30%

PAYOUTS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
	$1,000	$450	$350	$150

LOCATION: National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame & Museum - 100 Bluestem Way, Wentzville, MO 63385
ARRIVAL: All teams must be on site no less than 30 minutes before their scheduled class start time.

Team averages shown are the posted NHPA eShoe Team% values for Event 1926045, checked September 30, 2026.

SATURDAY - ROUND ROBIN

Class Start Times

C Class - 9:00 a.m. D Class - 9:00 a.m.
A Class - 2:00 p.m. B Class - 2:00 p.m.

Round-Robin Format

All teams play shoe games within their assigned class on Saturday. Saturday results are used to determine seeding for Sunday's double-elimination brack

SUNDAY - DOUBLE ELIMINATION

Bracket Format

Each round is a best 2-out-of-3 series. Games are played to 21 points. A team must lose two rounds - a minimum of four games - to be eliminated.

Championship Round

The final round accounts for the loss record entering the championship. If the unbeaten team loses the first best-of-3 series, a second best-of-3 series is played to determine the champion, giving both finalists an equal number of losses.

Sunday Seeding

Seeding is determined by Saturday's qualifying averages.

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

NHPA
2ND ANNUAL
WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS
WENTZVILLE, MISSOURI
OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

COST:
$30
/PERSON

DATE:
FRIDAY
OCT 9TH

SIGN UP STARTS:
12PM

PLAY BEGINS:
2PM

EVENT WILL BE PLAYED AT:
THE HOF
(QUAIL RIDGE
HORSESHOE CLUB COURTS)

RANDOM DRAW FOR PARTNER
STANDING DOUBLES
TOURNAMENT

LIMITED TO
FIRST 64
PAID ENTRIES.

NO PRE-REGISTRATION ALLOWED.
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE.

A GREAT WARM UP BEFORE THE
WORLD DOUBLES!

★ TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR – JOSH OLSON (218-639-4641)

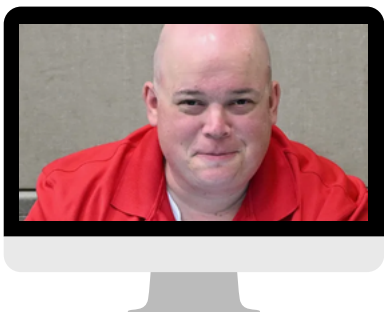
NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

eShoe Scoring For Weekend Tournaments!

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
AUSTIN BAILEY

Greetings from Illinois as I type this, I think fall has finally arrived for us here in Illinois. We have had an unbelievably hot September. I am ready for some cooler weather that's for sure. For those charters that had their state tournaments over Labor Day weekend I hope that everyone had a fantastic time and pitched well. Our State tournament in Illinois was held in Moline, IL this year and boy was it a hot one on Friday Night and Saturday. Thankfully Sunday was much nicer than the other two days. I am pleased to announce that here in Illinois we ran our state tournament for the first time every using Eshoe and electronic scoring was a huge success. As with anything we have a few things that we have learned for next year but all in all it was very smooth and we had no issues with it at all. If you have not expanded into electronic scoring I highly recommend it. It takes so much work off the state tournament director. I am looking forward to many more tournaments using Eshoe now as well. Well now let's talk about our next exciting Tournament coming up World Doubles being held at the Hall of Fame in Wentzville, MO I am very excited about this tournament I had so much fun at last years tournament and this will be a tournament I go to every year now as well. I was able to get 1 sponsor for this tournament Hot Shots Bar & Grill that is across the street from the host hotel. They are also part of another restaurant that they have asked us to patronize while we are in the area for the weekend and that is Stone Summit Steak House, which is also next door to Hot Shots as well. I am strongly encouraging all of us to go eat at these locations while we are in town for the tournament. If you have not signed up for the Doubles Tournament, I encourage you to do so. I look forward to seeing everyone in October in Wentzville.



NHPA 5TH VICE PRESIDENT
JOSH OLSON

Do you use the traditional pen/pencil with scoresheets and clipboards with the old fashion paper leader board? Do you use paper with a computer to enter scores and have a scrolling leaderboard? Are you 100% electronic and no paper? We are slowly starting to see more tournaments start to use eShoe scoring in place of HSMaster/Scorekeeper. Having the equipment to run tournaments completely paper free is not cheap, but is it worth the hassle to go through? I would say, if you have someone that can help ensure the electronics are set up appropriately and you have an internet source like a hotspot or Wi-Fi available, going to eShoe is worth it. Some tournaments are used to have scorekeepers and at some tournaments you go to the players are always keeping score. With eShoe it can be done both ways as well. You can use a mobile device to keep score on that court and take the device back and forth, eliminating the need for a dedicated scorekeeper. You can also have a scorekeeper handle the scorekeeping. For all the Tournaments I run or help run in Minnesota, we use the eShoe scoring on computers. It uses the Scorekeeper program that is updated and can send scores directly to eShoe. Once the Tournament starts, the tournament basically runs itself with electronic scoring. Don't worry about entering scores in or updating the leaderboard. If eShoe scoring is something you would like more information on, please reach out to me and I can help answer any questions you may have. You do need a eShoe login if you are going to setup tournaments to run on eShoe, if you don't already have a login, you will want

to reach out to me and then I can get with Jim Kinney to get you setup, otherwise you can reach out to Jim directly and go from there. Keep an eye out on eShoe for the next featured event, the World Doubles will be using eShoe for sure on Saturday of the World Doubles weekend.

2nd VP Updates - What is the World Tournament About?

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
DALTON RAKESTRAW

I apologize for my absence from the last issues of the Admin Digest. I have been swamped with numerous activities and home life since returning and just have not been able to slip away from the work. Thankfully, I can report back and get back on track. It's hard to believe that we are already a few months past the 2026 World Tournament in Wausau! After spending much of the year preparing for Worlds, visiting the community, working through contracts and logistics, communicating with our partners and answering countless questions from members, seeing everything finally come together at the Greenheck Turner Community Center was incredibly rewarding. More importantly, Wausau gave us another opportunity to see what the World Tournament can become as we continue looking toward the future of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Since missing the last issues, I want to say THANK YOU WAUSAU!!

First, I want to again thank everyone that helped make the World Tournament possible. From the local club to the Wisconsin State Association. To the locals in Wausau, DMO, Aaron and his team at Greenheck Turner! An event of this size does not happen because of one person or one organization. It takes the NHPA Executive Council, tournament staff, volunteers, scorekeepers, setup crews, local organizers, community partners, and most importantly the pitchers who travel from across the world to participate! Our partners in the Wausau area and the team at Greenheck Turner welcomed our horseshoe family and worked alongside us throughout the planning process. We also continued expanding the reach of the World Tournament through our broadcast partnership with Go Live Sports Cast. Giving people who cannot make the trip an opportunity to follow the World Tournament, remains an important part of showcasing our athletes and introducing our sport to a larger audience. Every world tournament teaches us something. There are things that work extremely well, things we can improve and new ideas that come from simply watching thousands of games and interactions take place throughout the event. That information is valuable as planning begins for the next one.

THE WORLD TOURNAMENT IS MORE THAN A TOURNAMENT!
One thing I hope we never lose is, losing sight of what the WT represents. Of course, we go there to compete. World Championships are earned, class champions are crowned and pitchers have

an opportunity to compete against people they may see only once a year. But worlds, is also our annual reunion. It is where friendships from different states reconnect. It is where a junior pitcher can stand a few courts away from someone who has been competing for decades. It is where first-time World Tournament participants become part of traditions that have existed for generations. That experience is something we need to protect while continuing to modernize the event. We should always be asking ourselves: What makes someone want to come to their first World Tournament, and what make them want to come back for their 20 th ? Those are two different questions and quite frankly, both matter.

Taking Horseshoe Pitching Outside of Our Own Circle

Another important part of my work this year has been continuing to build relationships within the sports tourism industry. Our sport cannot grow if the only people hearing about horseshoe pitching are already horseshoe pitchers. Relationships with destination marketing organizations, convention and visitors bureaus, sports commissions, facilities and other event-rights holders give us opportunities to introduce the NHPA to communities that may never have considered hosting a major horseshoe event. During the world tournament, we also had the opportunity to continue conversations with professionals from the sports-event and destination industries. Those relationships are important because site selection is about much more than finding a building large enough for courts. We have to consider hotel availability and rates, transportation, facility costs, community support, local partnerships, accessibility, attractions for families and the overall experience our members will have when they arrive. That is why developing relationships with potential destinations long before an official bis is submitted is so valuable.

Start Thinking About 2027 Now!

By the time this issue has been released the council will be deciding the locations from the bidders for the 2027 US Open and 2027 US Nationals! Stay tuned for more information. You won't want to miss them! That is about all I have for now. I will be attending the TEAMS Sports Conference in late October in Birmingham, Alabama! I am looking forward to continuing to provide great updates for our World Tournament. As it stands now there are two confirmed bidders for 2030 so far: Lubbock, Texas and Davenport, Iowa! I believe I will see more bids start to come in really soon! Stay tuned.

Get Qualified Early!

Now the summer horseshoe season has ended, and I'm assuming all charters have held their state tournaments for 2026. Many of our members will just hang it up till spring. Many charters have the luxury of indoor pitching facilities. We have two wonderful facilities in Minnesota and many of our members play in leagues and tournaments throughout the winter months. So maybe this year would be a good year for you to participate in winter horseshoe activities in your charter. Perhaps get a new member interested and get them started over the winter. It's also a great way to get qualifying events for next year's world tournament.

NHPA 3RD VICE PRESIDENT
JERRY LABROSSE

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

Updates from the 4th VP!

NHPA 4TH VICE PRESIDENT
BARBARA CARSON

Well I can't believe we are already in October. Tournaments are winding down as well as Summer and Fall Leagues. I would like to wish everyone who is pitching in their State Tournaments Good Luck 2026. Most importantly, have fun and enjoy your wonderful horseshoe families. Congratulations to all of the winners who have already pitched in your State Tournaments.

I would like to welcome Joe Rossi as the new Regional Director in Colorado. I know you will do a fantastic job. Welcome to the team. On a personal note, I have sold my home in N. Olmsted, OH and have moved to a new town. Here is my new address: Barbara Carson - 6122 Cedarwood Rd, Mentor, OH 44060. My email address and phone number have not changed.

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.
Just to keep everyone informed of what is happening in and around the NHPA, I would to share some great news with you. We have completed working on an enhancement to HS Master that will allow the League Directors who use HS Master for your League Results to automatically upload the results directly to eshoe the same way as tournaments are sent currently, You will no longer have to send the results to me to manually enter them into eshoe, Your Charter RD will set up your League Event and send you the Event Sanction Number and Token Number, More details and training materials will be sent to the League Directors and Regional Directors when the enhancement is ready to be released on our new website. Just remember that when it is released, you will have to download the update for HS Master in order for you to utilize the new functionality.

I would like to ask everyone who sends me their league results and patch orders a huge favor. Please DO NOT take a picture of the forms and send them to me as a text. I cannot print from my phone and if I forward them to my email, they are dark and unreadable. Please send them as an attachment to my email. That will ensure the ability to print them and for me to enter the results into eshoe. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Thank You to all of you for everything you do to support our sport and you also make my job easier. Have a warm and safe winter. See you at the Pits in the Spring!

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NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

Finances and 2027 WT Information!

SECRETARY/TREASURER
BRIAN POOLE

Well horseshoe pitchers we have made it through another year. We had some great things happen that have helped us out financially. We had two great Regional tournaments that were well attended by our members. One in Albuquerque, NM and the other in Hutchinson, Kansas. We are planning two more next year and hope you will try and make it to one of them. They are 3 separate tournaments on Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, so it makes it worth traveling to attend them. It is such a fun time to put these on for you! I also found new insurance for the HOF building that reduced our cost by $20 K. That helped us stay on our budget. I am getting the accounts reconciled from the World Tournament and also hope you have deposited your check if you got one.

I would like to talk to all Sec-Treasures about signing pitchers up. If pitchers move to another State they dont need a new number. We just need to move their Charter location. Please don't make a new number. Make sure that when you are renewing that you use the renew button and not the Join button. The NHPA has gotten approval at the delegate meeting to increase our dues by $5 for a total of $30. We know increasing dues is not something we take likely but due to increased costs in software and subscriptions we needed an increase. With this increase we are taking $2 of it and increasing the World Tournament amount to $5 per member for next year's tournament. Also I need to know if you have any change to your Charter dues or Charter Council members. Here is a link to and update form

Charter Officer Update Form Link
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JAYHYQRGb_U09iYVvyPWUOaFD4eOjv_h/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=116572266164971455254&rtpof=true&sd=true

Which brings me to announce next year's World Tournament will be in Kennewick, Washington on July 19-24, 2027. Yes this will be a one week World tournament as a result of an agreement between us and the host following low 2024 entries. The link to apply online is open on October 1, 2026.

I have added a new change that I am allowing two entries if you want. You can just do one if that is all you need. There is also an early bird discount from Oct - Dec of $150, then it will increase to $175 until April 1 then it will increase to $200 from April to May. Here is the link to the mail in form if that is how you want to fill it out and mail to me.

I am also working on finding a new insurance carrier if you have someone that I could talk to for a quote let me know.

I hope you can enter the Holiday Season and spend time with your family. Be safe and we will see you on the courts.

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

What is a "True Friend" w/ Ken Heinritz

CHAPLAIN
KEN HEINRITZ

At our most recent World Tournament in Wausau, I have noticed that we are an organization of people that show a lot of love. Hugs & handshakes are freely given & it is a beautiful sight. Arms reaching out to another person is commonplace. We see this happen because we get along, we are delighted to see friends again! We often see hugging immediately after games, win or lose. And of course, more hugging going on when we part ways. It's truly refreshing & an indication of who we are. Perhaps 1000's of hugs take place in the span of our two-week WT. I love it!!!

Now what does the Bible say about true friends? Well, you may be surprised because it says quite a bit about being a good friend! Read these & see how do you measure up?

- A true friend is ENCOURAGING. "Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up" I Thes. 5:11
- A true friend will SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE. "... speaking the truth in love ..." Eph. 4:15
- A true friend PRAYS FOR YOU "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making requests with joy." Philippians 1:3-4
- A true friend is THOUGHTFUL "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves. Philippians 2:3
- A true friend EMPATHIZES with you "Rejoice with them that do rejoice & weep with them that weep." Rom. 12:15
- A true friend is LOYAL "... but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24
- A true friend FORGIVES & DOES NOT HOLD GRUDGES "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone, forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13
- A true friend SHOWS LOVE no matter what. "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." Proverbs 17:17
- A true friend gives HEARTFELT ADVICE, bringing joy to the heart. "Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel." Proverbs 27:9
- A true friend REBUKES WHEN NECESSARY but the correction is done in love. "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; (flattery) are the kisses of an enemy." Proverbs 27:5-6
- A true friend INFLUENCES & SHARPENS. "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Prov. 27:17
- A true friend AVOIDS GOSSIP. "A dishonest man spreads strife and a whisperer separates close friends. Prov.16:28

"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you; Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you." - John 15:14-15

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

2026 WT Photos on Facebook

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR
MICHELLE FOARD

Happy Fall Everyone! I appreciate all of you who have shared your State and other tournaments. We love to see who is going to tournaments. Who wins awards. So please keep sharing your photos. As for us up here in Mn we have a couple indoor courts and will start tournaments again. If you are traveling to MN check out a tournament. . I finally finished posting my photos from the Worlds Tournament. All the pictures are under the album tab. I have albums according to date. You can find class photos, champion photos and solo shots. You are free to use any of my photos for your own personal use. If you would like the photo edited please let me know which one and I can try my best to improve it.

World Doubles Preview!

The 2026 World Doubles Championships are beginning to take shape, Marlene Ray and Lachelle Cook remain the clear #1 seed with an incredible 84.39% combined average, but 2025 & 2026 Women's World Champion Jennifer Gegg and 2024 Womens World Champions Penny Steinke have now paired up at 81.25%, giving us a neck & neck top 2 seeds in the tournament.

Ray is no stranger to success in this event. Marlene teamed with Maxine Griffith to capture the 2025 World Doubles Championship over Jegg and Meyer in the final game, but with Maxine currently sidelined by injury, Ray needed another partner capable of keeping her team at the top. She found exactly that in Missouri's Lachelle Cook. Ray enters at 85.40% with Cook at 83.38%, making them an incredibly balanced team with very little room for opponents to take advantage.

The addition of Gegg and Steinke changes the championship picture considerably. Gegg enters at 86.40%, the highest individual average among the current top teams, and is coming off another Women's World Championship in 2026. Steinke brings a strong 76.09%, giving the pairing an 81.25% combined average and putting two teams over the 80% mark at the top of the field.

From there the field gets extremely tight with McCown/Bowman at 74.29%, Brandy Morehead and Helga Hewlett sit at 68.05%, followed by Austin Bailey and Josh Olson at 67.79% and the extremely balanced combination of Don Epps and Ed Hildreth at 66.71%. Dan Watson and Helen Hawkinson sit at 65.02%, while Blanca Hettinga and former Senior Women's World Champion Cindy Clausen are right behind them at 64.53%.

Marlene has already won World Doubles once, while Gegg continues to establish herself at the top of the Women's game, we could be headed towards another Gegg/Ray final game before the end of the doubles weekend, the tournament will no doubt come down to who can adapt the best to the doubles format!

Editor's Note: This preview was written on September 26, 2026 and reflects teams entered at that time. The entry deadline was extended through October 1, so additional teams entering before the extended deadline are not included.

National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation

Preserving the Past. Showcasing the Present. Building the Future.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF) is a **501(c)(3) nonprofit organization** supporting the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame & Museum.

The NHPF raises funds to build and maintain the Hall of Fame & Museum, preserve the history of horseshoe pitching, support educational programs, and honor the champions and leaders who shaped the game.

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HORSESHOE PITCHING

OUR HISTORY ★ OUR PEOPLE ★ A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

October 2026

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

250th Anniversary Edition – Part VI

It is now time for Part VI of our 250th Anniversary Edition which we are highlighting the 1976 World Tournament which was played in Levittown, Pennsylvania.

Our last Championship Division for the 1976 World Tournament is the ***Senior Men's Division.*** Frank Stinson from Minnesota established two new world records en route to a perfect 7-0 first place finish.

A high game of 84.2% with a 32 for 38 and an overall average of 74.3% ringers made this the most outstanding Senior's Championship yet.

Stan Manker from Ohio finished in 2nd place, losing only to Stinson in the very first game, 40-51 which was the longest game on the day. Fellow Ohioans Floyd Plumb and Herbet Cornelius came in third and fourth place.

	W-L	RIN	SH	PCT.
1st Place – Frank Stinson – Minnesota	7-0	305	412	74.03%
2nd Place – Stan Manker – Ohio	6-1	312	450	69.34%
3rd Place – Floyd Plumb – Ohio	4-3	267	440	60.69%
4th Place – Herbert Cornelius – Ohio	4-3	236	396	59.60%
5th Place – Dale Carson – Maryland	3-4	185	362	51.11%
6th Place – Art Holter – Minnesota	2-5	252	442	57.02%
7th Place – Walter Mrozak – Connecticut	1-6	237	442	53.62%
8th Place – Frank Kilinsky – Pennsylvania	1-6	230	440	52.28%

NHPA Hall of Fame Inductee - 1973

Frank Stinson

Frank Stinson was born in Illinois in 1910 when pitching shoes that had nail holes in them and were worn by horses. He has been an untiring horseshoe pitcher for sixty-three years and has established remarkable records, the envy of any old-timer and a challenge for newcomers to the game. Minneapolis, Minnesota was his home when he retired from Honeywell Corporation after a thirty-six-year commitment of responsibility.

There may be others who have pitched as many years as Frank, but have they won as many honors as possible over an uninterrupted span of sixty years? At age eleven he started pitching in the back yard; he doesn't remember the distance the stakes were set apart, but that didn't matter too much, then in 1923, at age 13 he won the Minnesota Junior Boys State Championship and in 1924 he won the Junior Boys World Championship with a ringer percentage of 47% pitching from forty feet while some of the opponents threw 30 feet. Knowing Frank as one who doesn't give up, he celebrated fifty-two years of pitching in 1976 by winning the Senior Men's World Title.

Frank was a pioneer, so to speak, in that he was willing to pitch against short-lived criticism, the new hooked horseshoes invented by Putt Mossman in 1927. In the 1927 World Tournament held in Duluth, Frank was the first Minnesota player to pitch these new Mossman shoes.

In reminiscing about the controversy over Mossman's newly designed pitching shoes with the innovative hooks, Frank expressed the current sentiment: "Other horseshoe manufacturers at a pre-tournament convention, tried to have Mossman's new so-called 'cheaters' barred from use. But after a vote of all the tournament players, it was decided to allow the new hooked shoes to be used.

The many years between Frank's championship winnings exemplify the resilience of a Champion: A lifetime filled with countless wins and trophies, among them Minnesota State Champion eight times (first in 1939 and last in 1971) and as the ultimate award, induction into the NHPA Hall of Fame in 1973.

"I know not what course others may take;
but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Patrick Henry
A leading voice for independence, Delegate from Virginia

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