



January/February/March 2012

HORSESHOE PITCHERS' Ringer Digest



Charter Member

www.MinnesotaHorseshoes.com

Affiliated with the NHPA

Previewing the 2012 State Tournament

Committee anticipates additional shifts, changes to banquet, more in Genola

*by Ron Mead, Minnesota State
Tournament Director*

The new year is here and our state tournament committee is already hard at work trying to make this year's state tournament bigger and better than last year.

At the state board meeting on Saturday, December 10, the board provided a lot of tournament feedback. Based on that feedback, as well as what we've heard and been mulling over, we've got a few changes in store for the 2012 tourney.

We heard from the State Board that many in the Elders division would like to start their class play earlier in the day. So, we're anticipating a first shift of the tournament for Elders on early afternoon on Friday of Labor Day weekend. This would allow them to finish before 6 p.m., which would provide enough time to schedule another shift on Friday night. That would mean that if you're a lower average men's pitcher, you would most likely be pitching Friday night as well.

In order to accommodate additional entries, we may also have a late shift (maybe 8 p.m.) on Saturday night. This may also serve to free up the Monday schedule, so that only championship rounds are played that day. This would allow an earlier start time for that round and also solidify the championship class move-ups by the end of Sunday.

Banquet Changes

In the spirit of change, the annual banquet will look a little different as well. We are planning on having a pig roast at the Pierz Golf Course and neighboring park/campground.



There's a picnic shelter that will be great as a home base, but folks can get in a quick round of golf, play volleyball, horseshoes, and the kids can play on the playground equipment.



We anticipate kicking off the afternoon and evening events immediately following the state meeting. More specific times, details and more will be available as we get closer to the tournament. Stay tuned.

In the meantime, mark your calendars for the 2012 Minnesota State Tournament in Genola on Labor Day weekend, August 31 - September 3. It's sure to be a good time.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2012 MINNESOTA STATE TOURNAMENT
Friday - Monday, August 31 - September 3

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



by Rick Wright, MGSHPA President

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and are feeling the itch to pitch. We have a tournament for that. Check out the 2012 tournament schedule in this issue.

couraged league pitchers to check out a tournament or two. I have seen a lot of new faces at some of the tournaments.

Remember, if you are going to play any winter tournaments, be sure to get your 2012 membership card from Bonnie Holland. A membership form is included on Page 14 for your convenience. Just complete it and send it with your payment as directed.



Just a reminder: you need to have participated in four sanctioned events by the middle of May in order to qualify for the 2012 World Tournament in Knoxville, Tennessee. See the registration form within this digest.

Good luck! Pitch often, but most of all have fun!

See you on the courts!

We had a very successful 2011 tournament season. Thank you to our members who have en-

CHARTER CHATTER

by Jerry LaBrosse

Online Schedules Are Here

As I'm sure you all have heard by now, many of the tournament directors in our great charter have decided to begin posting their tournament schedules on our state website. This practice began this year, and now we want to make it permanent.

On our state website there is a row of buttons on the left side of the page. Near the bottom of the row, there is a button that reads "FORMS/SCHEDULES." Check out this new feature at MinnesotaHorseshoes.com. The schedules of all tournaments will be posted there as soon as I get them from the tournament director. So all tournament directors, get your schedule to me as soon as you can for posting.

Members, please do not expect the schedules to be posted any earlier than one week before the tournament. For those of you who do

not have internet access, you have two options: 1) you can access our website at your local library, or have a friend access it for you; 2) when you register for the event, you can request that a printed copy of the schedule be mailed to you. You also could simply call the tournament director and ask him/her for the shift time you're scheduled to play.

By not having to mail out schedules, the tourney director has fewer burdens, and also more money for the prize fund from saved postage.

Please note that the tournament schedules will likely be sent out to our statewide email list as well as being

posted on the website. If you are on the statewide list, you will get the schedule delivered right to your inbox. If you are not on our statewide email list, you should be. Get yourself "in the loop" by emailing me at Jlabro6186@aol.com



with your name and a request to be placed on the list.

World Tournament News

This year's world tournament is going to be held July 30 through August 11 in Knoxville, Tennessee. The Knoxville Convention Center is huge and we will be setting up 50 courts all under one roof. There will also be 10 practice courts set up within the same building, identical to the tournament courts. The entire tournament will be done using electronic scoring. Bleachers on both sides of the arena will provide plenty of seating for the spectators.

It is shaping up to be another great world tournament, so I hope you can make the journey. To be qualified to enter the World Tournament, you need four sanctioned events registered in NATSTATS between May 2011 and May 2012. The Upsala winter tournaments are a great way to get those qualifying events. Make sure you enter early because they fill up very quickly.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Sara Otto, NHPA Regional Director

Happy New Year, MGSHPA!

There are a few things from the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA) that might spark your attention:

Ringers on Rocky Top

First, the premier horseshoe pitching event ... the World Tournament 2012. Plan to attend. Dates are July 30 – August 11 in Knoxville, Tennessee.



For those who haven't been there previously, you can expect to pitch 15 games (for a full, 16-person class) over a three-day round-robin tournament. You're seeded against pitchers of your own average, so it's some good and challenging competition. It's fun to meet pitchers from across the nation and beyond, as well as keep track of how other Minnesota pitchers are doing.

Remember that you need four sanctioned events prior to the middle of May in order to qualify. The entry form should be available soon.

The NHPA website has a link to Knoxville hotel information. So, you can start planning your trip to the Great Smoky Mountain area now. If you don't have web access and would like this information, simply contact me.

NHPA Hall of Fame

The NHPA is also looking for candidates for the NHPA Hall of Fame. Candidates for this prestigious award must have a minimum of 10 years membership and qualify based on either their distinguished performances in World Tournament Championship play or as a person who has made significant and beneficial contributions to the NHPA. Nomination forms

are available on the NHPA website (horseshoepitching.com) or contact me. Nominations are due by January 31.

NHPA Achievement Award

Our own MGSHPA President Rick Wright earned this award last year. The NHPA Council is looking for nominations of individuals who have made significant achievements in the sport or contributions to the sport. A nomination form is also on the NHPA site or available through me. Deadline for submissions is March 1.

NHPA Junior Scholarship

Plan ahead. The NHPA offers scholarships to juniors who pitch in a sanctioned league. Deadline for that application is November. So, juniors, keep that in mind and plan ahead.

Court Sanctioning

I'm still waiting on a few clubs for court sanctioning information. If you've submitted the necessary paperwork, your club should have received their sanction certificate. If you still need to complete this or haven't received your certificate, please contact me immediately.



MGSHPA Tournament Schedule

The MGSHPA tournament schedule is still in development. This issue of the Ringer Digest contains the schedule as of deadline. A more complete schedule will be found in the next issue. In the meantime, watch the MGSHPA website.

If you're looking to secure a tourney date, please contact me immediately so we can assure your preferred date is available and so we can publicize it.

Ringer Digest

MGSHPA's *Ringer Digest* is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers' Association. The annual subscription dues are included with state membership. The non-member subscription rate is \$10 per year. All subscriptions, renewals, payments, and changes of address must be sent directly to the MGSHPA Sec/Treas/Membership Director:

Bonnie Holland
8730 Hastings Street N.E.
Blaine, MN 55449

Four quarterly issues are published annually covering:

January, February, March
April, May, June
July, August, September
October, November, December

All submissions subject to editing, available space, and must be received by the 10th of the month preceding the date of issue.

FROM THE EAST METRO VP

by Cathy Ziemann, East Metro Vice President

I would just like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you all. My name is Cathy Ziemann and I was elected as the East Metro Vice President at the state meeting in September. I am a member of the Fridley Horseshoe Club and currently live in Coon Rapids.

I am from a family of six children and we grew up in the St. Paul area and moved to Coon Rapids when I was 12. I attended Coon Rapids High School and went to college at Mankato State University (now known as Minnesota State University, Mankato) with a degree in communications. I have been employed at Hennepin County Medical Center for the past 19 years. I am currently working in the Security/Parking/Photo ID Department. I grew up

around horseshoes, but not the structured clubs/ leagues like we have in the MGSHPA. My grandfather Sam Stromberg was an avid horseshoe pitcher and at family reunions there was always a game of horseshoes. This evolved into the annual "Greb-morts" (that is Stromberg spelled backwards) Horseshoe Tournament! We just celebrated our 40th tournament in 2011.

I joined the Fridley Horseshoe Club in 2005 (I think) and was amazed at all of the sanctioned clubs and tournaments. I have family who are members of the Montgomery Club – Cyndi Stepka, Colleen Szabo, and Richard Stromberg; and a cousin – Cheri Newcombe – who plays in the Fridley Club with me.

One thing that stands out to me about horseshoe pitchers is the camaraderie and fun they all have together. I have met some outstanding people who

have become some of my best friends and "family." I am so blessed to consider Bonnie Holland and Jan Frank as my mentors, sharing their knowledge and encouraging me.



Cathy Ziemann

I have met many of you at some local, state and world tournaments and hope you will contact me if you have any ideas, issues or concerns you would like me to bring to the MGSHPA board. My contact information is on the back of the *Ringer Digest* and on the website. For the East Metro clubs, if you let me know the dates of your Spring meeting, I will try to attend so I can meet the club members.

Good luck this upcoming horseshoe season! See you on the courts.



STATE NEWS

MGSHPA Board Meeting Minutes

MGSHPA President Rick Wright called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. on Saturday, December 10 at the Forest Lake VFW. Officers present at the meeting were Jerry Werk, Gene Gross, Tera Schusted, Cathy Ziemann, Sara Otto, Rick Wright, Marlys Timm, Bonnie Holland, Gordon Schmidt and Jim Holland. Visitors present Marv Timm, Ron Mead, Joe Mueller and Jerry LaBrosse.

Jerry Werk made a motion to accept the minutes of the Fall MGSHPA Membership Meeting, Gene Gross seconded, and the motion passed.

Secretary/Treasurer/Membership Director Bonnie Holland gave the financial report, citing \$164 in the state prize fund. Our current account balance is \$4,492.06.

Jerry LaBrosse asked Bonnie about the new dollar per tournament participant requirement for the prize fund and whether or not it was being paid and on time by tournaments. Bonnie said there are a few directors who have not sent in the entries yet, but that reminders were going to be sent.

Rick reported the amount of money in the trailer fund is \$2,300 and said that we need another \$2,500 to purchase trailer and cover. Rick thanked the Rockford Club for their \$200 donation and Daren Chambers for donating his MGSHPA salary to the trailer fund as well. Gene moved to accept the financial report, Sara seconded it, motion passed.

Constitution and Bylaws Director Gordon Schmidt reported the constitution and bylaws are current on the website.

"MGSHPA Board Meeting Minutes" continued Page 5

Gene Gross made a suggestion regarding elections of vice presidents, suggesting that only members of that particular district should vote. For instance, with this past fall election for East Metro Vice President, only members in the East Metro district should have voted. Rick said all members should vote as they represent the entire association. The board further discussed the issue, but agreed to not make a change.

Gene also suggested a ballot in the *Ringer Digest* to vote on the state doubles tournament location. Rick said we have a good majority of the membership present at the state meeting to accomplish this. Rick also said he would like to see the host of the state doubles have the tournament for two years, like the state tournament. The board agreed. This proposal will be presented for membership vote at the spring meeting in Forest Lake.

Rick and the board welcomed Cathy Ziemann as the new East Metro VP.

Statistician Tera Schusted mentioned that people were sending the year-end stats to her and not to Lorraine. It was suggested that Tera put an article in the fall Digest to remind people where to send them.

Joe Mueller mentioned that Bayport may be putting up an indoor horseshoe facility. He will keep Cathy and the board informed of any additional news on this matter.

News Media Director Gene Gross mentioned that he sent articles to the St. Paul Press, but they did not get published. He also said that Emily, Minnesota has a traveling horseshoe league and that we should let Jim

Rebrovich know so that we might approach them regarding sanctioning.

Sara Otto, the NHPA Regional Director, said that the Bertha Club is now sanctioned. Rick said he went there to help sanction the courts and that they will be having a summer tournament. The board recognized that Josh and Paul Olson are doing a good job organizing the club.

Sara said the court sanctioning is going well but there are a few clubs that still need to touch base with her.

Ron Mead said that he emailed everyone with the pitching schedule for his recent tournament, but did have to mail to a few people. Rick said this is the way of the future, citing that it saves time and money for the directors. Webmaster Jerry LaBrosse said this is why it is important to include your email address with your registration or simply sign up to be added to the MGSHPA master list.

Rick stated that our newsletter printer went out of business, so Rick and Sara have been getting quotes from other possible printers. The board decided to let Sara choose the printer as long as the cost was the same or better than now. Rick said we will stay with four issues per year.

Bonnie read all suggestions from the state tournament suggestion box. There was discussion regarding these comments and members may see a few changes in the next tournament. State Tournament Director Ron Mead talked about the 2012 tournament and mentioned that we are thinking about a pig roast for the banquet. The board agreed with the suggested change.

Rick asked the board about the format of the state tournament. There was

discussion, lots of ideas shared and it came down to the way we currently run it was best. It was decided to start the elders earlier on Friday, allowing another shift on Friday evening, to help alleviate schedule problems, which would likely be the men with the lowest ringer percentages.

West Metro Vice President Marlys Timm gave a report on the feedback she received from West Metro members in the informal survey she conducted regarding state tournament move-ups and preference for 40- or 50-shoe games. The majority wanted 50 shoes and move-ups. A lot of discussion followed, but it was decided the system we have should stay in place.

Ron stated that the Junior Director Bridget Klein would like more direction and Rick said he would call her.

Doubles Tournament Director Sylvia Burggraff was not present for the tournament report, but more information should be seen in the Digest.

In new business, Rick appointed Joe Mueller as our new Nominations Director and the board approved. Rick thanked Jim Holland for his years of service and the board applauded. Rick also appointed Ron Mead as Fundraising Director with the board approval.

Marlys Timm is currently our First Vice President and was approved to remain so this upcoming year. She also announced she will not be seeking another term as West Metro VP.

Rick brought up a new position, Minnesota Charter Historian. After no interest from others, Jerry LaBrosse volunteered to do this and the board approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. Thanks, Marlys, for taking minutes.



FROM THE NOMINATIONS DIRECTOR

by Joe Mueller, Nominations Director

I was recently appointed to be your new Nominations Director, as Jim Holland has stepped down. I would like to thank Jim for all his hard work and dedication.



I invite you, the membership, to submit names of individuals you think highly of, to be in our Hall of Fame. Let me remind you that I also receive the nominations for Scholarships, Achievements, Officer Elections, and Rookie of the Year. If you need any assistance in the nomination process for any of these awards, please contact me.

Make sure you note that they have to have the following requirements:

Hall of Fame Pitcher Category Requirements:

- Qualified for Championship class in the State Tournament for a minimum of three years and must have maintained a minimum of a 60 percent average for those years
- Must have been a member in good standing, with unblemished character, integrity, and sportsmanship
- Must have been a member of the MGSHPA for a minimum of 15 years

Hall of Fame Promoter Category Requirements:

- Held a position on the MGSHPA Board of Directors for a minimum of three years
- Directed sanctioned tournaments for a minimum of five years
- Directed sanctioned leagues for a minimum of five years
- Must have been a member in good standing, with unblemished character, integrity, and sportsmanship
- Must have been a member of the MGSHPA for a minimum of 15 years

Junior Honor Roll Requirements:

Many juniors within the MGSHPA have displayed outstanding horseshoe pitching abilities along with dedication for the development of our sport. With proper documentation, these individuals may qualify in the Junior Honor Roll category.

Scholarship Awards Requirements:

- Each applicant will be asked to fill out an application that includes a statement of need, previous education, intended courses, as well as goals and objectives in terms of certificates or degrees they hope to attain
- Recipients shall receive one scholarship award only
- The funds will be held in trust until the individual graduates

Rookie of the Year Requirements:

- Must be a brand new member or second-year pitcher
- Someone who attends a lot of tournaments and who might have been awarded high honors
- Someone who may have raised their average considerably
- Someone who is very enthusiastic about our sport and shows great sportsmanship

The Hall of Fame nomination form is found on Page 15 of this issue, but is also available on the MGSHPA website or can be obtained through me:

Joe Mueller
2057 152nd Lane NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
612-718-0921 or jmueller0822@msn.com

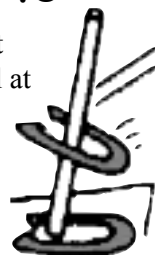
All applications need to be completed and submitted to me by May 1. Scholarship application is due June 15.

AROUND THE STATE

Bloomington Spring Meeting April 18

The Bloomington Horseshoe Club spring meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18 at the Bloomington KC Hall at 1114 American Boulevard West. Please invite any new prospects.

Agenda items will include election of officers, league and rule changes. You can call Gene Gross at 612-801-7326 with any questions.



West Saint Paul Spring Meeting Slated for April 4

The West Saint Paul Horseshoe Club will hold its Spring Meeting on Wednesday, April 4, at 7 p.m. in the Library at 199 Wentworth Avenue in West Saint Paul. Please remind all your friends to come to this important meeting.

AROUND THE STATE

Alexandria Year-End Wrap-Up and Look-Ahead

by Janet Larson

I missed the last *Ringer Digest*, so I am past due on letting everyone know that the winners of our league playoff tournament this year were the Corral Supper Club team of Phil Swenson and Dave Beyer. They were seeded ninth out of 12 teams, won their first round and stayed in the winners' bracket the rest of the way. Congratulations to them on a job well done.

Thomas-Lauren Co. team of Gary Boots and Joe Hoff were runners-up.

In regular season play, a playoff game was required to decide first and second places with the Lake Region Healthcare's team of Alan and Janet Larson beating out the Ron's Warehouse team of Harley Anderson and Mike Edwards for first and second respectively. The Corner Market team of Josh and Cody Olson rounded out the top three.

We had four classes in our singles' tournament with the winners being:

Class A: Alan Larson, first; Josh Olson, second

Class B: Jerry Zastrow, first; Gary Boots, second

Class C: Brian Hoppe, first; Harley Anderson, second

Class D: Al Bettermann, first; Mike Wegener, second



Winners of our individual awards were: Ralph Losee and Tim Lais, most improved; Alan Larson, high ringer average and high game; Rick Branson, high game over average; Josh Olson, rookie of the year; and Gary Boots, sportsmanship.



Alexandria League Playoff Tournament Winners Dave Beyer and Phil Swenson, the Corral Supper Club team

Our league held its first ever open tournament last Memorial weekend. We'd like to thank everyone who attended and please mark your calendars for that again in 2012.

We also continue on our quest for new courts and we aspire to put in a state tournament bid in the near future. It is good to plan ahead. We will hold our spring meeting in April and in the meantime, we hope to see many of you who are brave enough to endure Minnesota winters at some of the Upsala and Dakota Magic tournaments. We were blessed with beautiful fall weather so hopefully the winter won't seem so long this year.

State Raffle Fundraiser will be Back in 2012

by Ron Mead, Fundraising Director

The MGSHPA will be hosting a state raffle again this year. In the past this has been a big hit and has raised good money. Money raised is going toward the trailer we need to house all of our portable courts, which is about \$3,000 and could be accomplished this year.



The cost for the tickets will be the same as last year: \$5 each or five for \$20. There will be five main prizes with the grand prize once again being a TV.

I am hoping to have raffle tickets at all Minnesota tournaments. The raffle sales will go through Sunday of our State Tournament. The drawing will be at the state banquet.

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FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Mike Littell

4363 Shoreline Drive, Spring Park, MN 55384

612-327-6350, mikeshorseshoes@yahoo.com



AROUND THE STATE

Pitcher of the Year Award is Up for Grabs

With another year upon us, for new members and old, here's a recap of how the Pitcher of the Year Program works. You're all eligible! Competition started in August, but there's still a chance! Get pitching!

The Pitcher of the Year awards shall be given to NHPA sanctioned pitchers who participate in NHPA sanctioned tournaments and accumulate points for entering and placing in the top three spots in eight-person classes and the top two spots in classes less than eight players.

Points shall be accumulated between August 1 and July 31 of each year. One point is awarded to each tournament participant for entering. Seven additional points are awarded for a first place finish; five points for a second place finish; and three points for third place.

League play, league tournaments, club only, junior only and any other "closed" tournaments are also excluded.

The top point-getter in the state will receive the "Frank Stinson Memorial Award." The top 10 point getters in the state will be eligible for a Pitcher of the Year Award. If a region of the state does not have a member in the top ten, then the top point getter in that region will also be eligible for an award. Awards will be presented at the MGSHPA annual awards banquet.

The current top 25 standings, and top 10 for juniors, will be printed regularly in the *Ringer Digest*. (See page 10 in this issue.)

This program is designed to promote participation in sanctioned tournaments, providing fair recognition to pitchers of all skill levels.

OBITUARY



Ken Howe

January 22, 1945 – October 3, 2011

Ken Howe of Stewartville passed away from complications following a surgical procedure. Ken is survived by his wife Liz; two daughters, Jeshila (Kevin) McGovern of Savage and Elsa (Tyler) Maas of Rochester; and four grandchildren, Zachary, Grace, Payton and Parker. He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Gladys (Kopperud) Howe.

Ken was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church in Stewartville where he served on numerous committees, as Sunday school coordinator and taught Sunday and Thursday school. He was a member of the Stewartville Morning Lions and Stewartville Chamber of Commerce. He was a past president of the Stewartville Jaycees and served on the Planning and Zoning Board and

EDA for the city of Stewartville. He was a past member of the Rochester Homebuilders Association, Rochester Small Business Group and served on the Rochester Planning and Zoning and on the Olmsted County Park Board Advisory Committee. Ken enjoyed politics and, as a member of the Republican Party, was active in local GOP caucuses and campaigns.

Ken had many hobbies including golf, bowling, restoring and refinishing furniture, drawing and painting, playing guitar, horseshoes, collecting toys, following the Twins and hunting turkey on the family farm. Ken recently restored a 1948 Ford tractor that was used on his parents' farm in Rushford. Ken especially enjoyed spending time with his family.

Ken was a member of the Rochester Horseshoe Club and served as a Board member for many years. He was a

member of the MGSHPA and NHPA. Ken was very involved in the planning and organization of past state tournaments which were held in Rochester. He formerly served as a Southeast Vice President for the MGSHPA.

Ken competed in numerous local, state and world tournaments, taking second in his class at the World Championships in Bismarck, North Dakota, and most recently placing third in his class at the State Tournament. Ken volunteered with Rochester Park and Rec in the organization of the Star of the North horseshoe tournaments. Ken was enthusiastic about introducing young people to the sport of horseshoe pitching and encouraged them to join the Rochester Club and the MGSHPA.

Ken will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege to know him and especially by his friends in the Rochester Horseshoe Club.

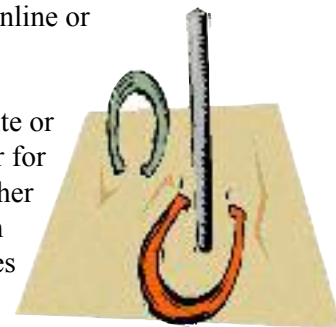
2012 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The 2012 Minnesota Tournament Schedule is still in development. The tournaments and dates below are what was available at the time of publication. Further tournament information will be available in the next issue.

Tournament directors, if your tournament is incorrect or is not listed here, please contact NHPA Regional Director Sara Otto at 952-544-1613 or slotto77@gmail.com with the details of your event. Your date must be secured and

sanctioned in order to appear online or in the Digest.

Please see the MGSHPA website or contact the tournament director for registration information and other details. Further details on each will be available in future issues of the *Ringer Digest* too.



Tournament	Date	Director	Deadline
NHPF Benefit	Jan. 28	Jerry LaBrosse	Jan. 18
Blizzard Open	Feb. 18	Rick Wright	Feb. 8
March Madness	March 10	Rob Hagman	Feb.29
Upsala Spring	April 14	Mel & Joyce Larson	April 4
Alexandria Open	May 26	Gary Boots	May 16
West St. Paul Open	June 2	Patti Oakes	May 25
Bud Nelson Open	June 3	Rick Wright	May 24
Santiago Open	June 9	Jim Aleckson	May 30
Allard Open	June 16	Sandra Carlson	June 7
Fridley Open	June 23	Joe Mueller/Tera Schusted	June 17

Tournament	Date	Director	Deadline
Bertha Open	June 30	Josh and Paul Olson	June 20
Minneapolis Open	July 14	Bill Orman	July 3
Northwest Open	Aug. 18	Dick Dvorak	Aug. 8
Isanti Open	Aug. 25	Shawn Warnemunde	Aug. 15
Donnelly Threshing Bee	Aug. 25-26	Jerry Werk	Aug. 19
MN State Tournament	Aug.31-Sept.3	Bonnie Holland	Aug. 2
MN State Doubles	Sept. 15(-16)	Sylvia Burggraff	August 31
Upsala Fall	Oct. 6	Mel & Joyce Larson	Sept. 26
Holiday Tournament	Dec. 1	Ron & Paula Mead	Nov. 17



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NHPA *Newsline* is the official magazine of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

Years	Rate	Canadian Rate (in US \$)
1 year	\$12	\$20
2 years	\$22	\$38
3 years	\$30	\$54

For First Class Mail add \$8 per year.

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Franksville, WI 53126

Expiration dates are printed on mailing labels. (i.e. "10-01-04" indicates that issue is your last) Limited copies of back issues are available at \$3 each. (World Tournament Issues are \$5 each) ONLY from Newsline Editor at PO Box 536, Webberville, MI 48892-0536.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS & RECAPS

Leprechaun Open

#23-11-019

August 13-14, 2011

Class A

Dale Hustad	Roseville	5	0	58.70%
Jim Holland	Blaine	4	1	52.00%
Gerald Stangland	Bowstring	2	3	57.70%
Alan Larson	Evansville	2	3	54.00%
Bob Knudtson	Columbia Heights	2	3	53.90%
Melvin Larson	Upsala	0	5	42.30%

Class B

Henry Greenwaldt	Bertha	5	0	54.80%
Dick Dvorak	St. Paul	4	1	53.60%
Boots Skelton	Clearwater	3	2	47.60%
Myron Vanderweyst	Rice	1	4	40.80%
Ray Volkers	Maplewood	1	4	40.40%
Phil Swenson	Alexandria	1	4	37.60%

Class C

Beth Deppa	Foley	4	1	52.80%
Gary Boots	Barrett	3	2	47.60%
Thomas Prokop	St. Paul	3	2	40.80%
Lloyd Wolf	St. Cloud	2	3	42.00%
Deanna Foss	Rice	2	3	35.60%
Stanley Barney	Clara City	1	4	36.00%

Class D

Jerry Werk	Herman	5	0	41.60%
Brian Wipper	St. Cloud	4	1	44.00%
Richard Giese	Holloway	2	3	37.60%
Ginger O'Brien	Rice	2	3	37.60%
Bonnie Holland	Blaine	1	4	32.80%
Norman Greenwaldt	Sartell	1	4	27.60%

Class E

Jerry Zastrow	Alexandria	4	1	35.60%
Kathy Stueve	St. Cloud	3	2	41.60%
Sherm Anderson	Princeton	3	2	39.60%
Kathy Welle	Albany	3	2	39.20%
Fr. Peter Vanderweyst	Chokio	1.5	3.5	31.60%
Steve Ziegler	Sartell	0.5	4.5	34.80%

Class F

Jim Volkers	Avon	4	1	40.40%
Jerry Rajkowski	Foley	4	1	30.00%
Tom Lashinski	Rice	2	3	36.00%
Dennis Foss	Rice	2	3	36.00%
Paul Anderson	Fargo, ND	2	3	26.80%
Randy Danzl	Rice	1	4	24.80%

Class G

Jeannie Rajkowski	Foley	4	1	33.20%
Al Blumer	Princeton	4	1	30.40%
LeRoy Kieke	Sauk Rapids	4	1	23.60%
Garry Loidolt	Rice	2	3	30.40%
Gerry Schmidt	Little Falls	1	4	26.40%
Mark Ludwig	Rice	0	5	14.40%

Class H

Brian Christle	Rice	5	0	23.50%
Lu Cave	Sartell	3	2	21.50%
Dana O'Brien	Rice	3	2	16.00%
Daniel Schardin	Minneapolis	3	2	15.00%
Colton Williams	Princeton	1	4	10.00%

Pitcher of the Year

Top 25 as of December 12

Name	District	Div	Total
Bob Knudtson	EM	30	48
Frank Johnson	EM	30	34
William Creighton	NE	M	26
Jim Woods	EM	M	24
Daniel Schardin	EM	M	24
Henry Greenwaldt	NW	30	23
Joe Mueller	EM	M	23
Jeannie Rajkowski	NE	W	22
April Lynch	EM	W	22
Gary Boots	NW	M	22
Kayla Yaeger	WM	W	22
Dale Hustad	EM	30	22
Dick Dvorak	EM	M	20
Cindy Creighton	NE	W	20
Cliff Presler	EM	30	19
Ben LaCoursiere	EM	30	18
Jim Volkers	NW	30	18
Mike DeMars	WM	M	17
Dave Anderson	EM	M	17
Tim Lais	NW	M	17
Joshua Olson	NW	M	17
Alan Larson	NW	M	16
Jerry Werk	NW	M	16
Beth Deppa	NE	W	16
Alan Coffin	NE	M	16



Junior Pitcher of the Year Points Top 10

as of December 12

Name	District	Total
Colton Williams	NE	10
Kayla Holland	WM	10
Keegan Warner	NE	9
Harry Kruse, Jr.	NE	8
Brady Beckstead	SW	8
Cody Olson	NW	7
Devin Stone		7
Daniel Miller	NE	6
Mark Thompson		6
Kyle Holland	WM	2
Coleman Bumgarner	NE	2

www.minnesotahorseshoes.com

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- ◆ Tournament Results
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TOURNAMENT RESULTS & RECAPS

Uspala Fall Tournament

#23-11-026

October 8, 2011

Class A

Henry Greenwaldt	Bertha	6	1	58.57%
Jerry Hokkala	South Haven	4	3	51.07%
Phil Swenson	Alexandria	4	3	41.43%
Bob Knudtson	Columbia Heights	3.5	3.5	59.64%
Beth Deppa	Foley	3	4	43.57%
Jim Aleckson	Princeton	3	4	52.86%
Dale Hustad	Roseville	2.5	4.5	45.36%
Gerald Stangland	Bowstring	2	5	63.21%

Class D

Jeannie Rajkowski	Foley	6	1	37.14%
Jerry Rajkowski	Foley	6	1	36.43%
William Nelson	Tamarack	4	3	27.50%
Larry Brabec	Browerville	4	3	24.29%
Ron Mead	Rogers	3	4	20.36%
Patti Oakes	Roseville	3	4	19.64%
Joe Raycraft	Two Harbors	2	5	22.50%
Joshua Olson	Bertha	0	7	18.93%

Class B

Joe Mueller	Ham Lake	6	1	46.07%
Sylvia Burggraff	Pierz	5	2	42.14%
Lloyd Wolf	St. Cloud	5	2	36.43%
Deanna Foss	Rice	4	3	43.21%
Gary Boots	Barrett	3	4	40.71%
Frank Johnson	Coon Rapids	3	4	36.07%
Roger Harp	Cromwell	2	5	37.14%
Ben LaCoursiere	Brooklyn Park	0	7	27.86%

Class E

Mary Denzin	Buffalo	7	0	30.71%
Gene Booker	Clarissa	5	2	30.00%
Rob Hagman	Anoka	3	4	19.64%
Cindy Creighton	Tamarack	3	4	18.21%
Marvin Timm	Loretto	3	4	12.50%
Butch Booker	Clarissa	3	4	9.64%
Mike Littell	Spring Park	2	5	11.07%
Daniel Schardin	Minneapolis	2	5	9.29%

Class C

Wallace Runia	Balaton	5	2	41.79%
Jim Volkers	Avon	5	2	35.71%
William Creighton	Tamarack	5	2	31.07%
Brian Wipper	St. Cloud	4	3	33.93%
Barrett Dahl	Plymouth	3	4	29.29%
Tim Lais	Hoffman	3	4	27.50%
Marv Burggraff	Pierz	2	5	25.36%
Norman Greenwaldt	Sartell	1	6	32.14%

Class F

Jim Woods	Forest Lake	6	1	18.57%
Larry Jensen	Forest Lake	6	1	16.43%
Doug Giese	Osage	4	3	15.00%
Don Ehrhardt	Le Center	3	4	15.36%
Glen Berglund	Buffalo	3	4	12.86%
Paul Olson	Bertha	2	5	10.36%
Robert Houfer	Forest Lake	2	5	9.29%
Lu Cave	Sartell	2	5	7.14%

Holiday Open

#23-11-027

December 3, 2011

Class A

James Sheehan	Plainview	5	2	47.86%
Bob Knudtson	Columbia Heights	5	2	60.00%
Jim Beyer	New Hope	5	2	42.14%
Roger Harp	Cromwell	4	3	45.36%
Wilbur Gabel	Valley City, ND	3	4	42.14%
Beth Deppa	Foley	3	4	40.36%
Joe Mueller	Ham Lake	3	4	35.71%
Gary Boots	Barrett	0	7	27.50%

Class D

Rob Hagman	Anoka	5	2	27.14%
Patrick Backhaus	St. Michael	5	2	25.71%
Joe Czeck	North Branch	5	2	25.00%
Marvin Akkerman	Mapleton	4	3	21.43%
Zack Holm	Zimmerman	3	4	24.29%
Robyn Holland	Dayton	3	4	20.71%
Debbie Czeck	North Branch	3	4	18.93%
Mike Littell	Spring Park	0	7	16.07%

Class B

Rosie Andrist	Zumbro Falls	5.5	1.5	33.21%
William Creighton	Tamarack	5	2	27.86%
David Andrist	Zumbro Falls	4	3	38.21%
Mary Ann Sheehan	Plainview	4	3	30.00%
Patti Oakes	Roseville	4	3	27.50%
Lloyd Wolf	St. Cloud	2.5	4.5	33.21%
Ben LaCoursiere	Brooklyn Park	2	5	31.79%
Tom Holland	Dayton	1	6	31.79%

Class E

Joshua Olson	Bertha	7	0	34.64%
Jim Woods	Forest Lake	6	1	18.57%
Daniel Schardin	Minneapolis	4	3	16.07%
Les Holland	McGregor	4	3	6.79%
Scott Warner	Cromwell	3	4	12.86%
Paul Olson	Bertha	2.5	4.5	8.93%
Glenn Skeie	Forest Lake	1.5	5.5	7.86%
Lu Cave	Sartell	0	7	4.29%

Class C

Mike DeMars	Zimmerman	6	1	30.36%
Rick Wright	Forest Lake	6	1	26.07%
Dan Chamberlin	Forest Lake	5	2	27.50%
William Nelson	Tamarack	4	3	28.21%
Al Blumer	Princeton	4	3	26.43%
Cindy Creighton	Tamarack	2	5	20.71%
Larry Brabec	Browerville	1	6	17.50%
Ron Mead	Rogers	0	7	23.57%

Juniors

Keegan Warner	Cromwell	6	1	20.00%
Mark Thompson		6	1	10.00%
Kayla Holland	Dayton	5	2	11.79%
Cameron Gabel	Valley City, ND	4.5	2.5	30.00%
Savanna Creighton	Tamarack	2	5	4.29%
Cody Olson	Bertha	2	5	3.93%
Noah Gabel	Valley City, ND	1.5	5.5	8.57%
Kyle Holland	Dayton	1	6	10.71%

Annual Holiday Tournament Recapped

by Ron Mead

The Holiday Tournament was held on December 3 and there were 48 pitchers. We ran three shifts starting at 9 a.m.



There was a three-way tie for first place in Class A with Jim Sheehan, Bob Knudtson and Jim Beyer all having five wins and two losses. Jim Sheehan took the top spot as tournament champ. He was very excited.

In Class B, Rosis Andrist took first. Class C was won by Mike DeMars, Class D by Rob Hagman, and Class E by Joshua Olson. The Junior Class champion was Keegan Warner. Congratulations to all of the class champs.

Joyce and Mel Larson also did a great job (as always) with getting the courts and concession stand ready for the day. I hope everyone had a good time!

This tournament filled up fast; we were full by October 25. There were 12 people on the waiting list and we sent their money back. So if you're looking for a tournament this winter, you may want to sign up early.

Just a reminder that when you play in a tournament ... it takes a lot of time and effort to run a tournament, so please help out the tournament director with clean up of the courts. If you play the last shifts, please turn the courts, water and cover them.

The last thing is that in 2012 this tournament and a lot of others will be sending out the tournament brackets by e-mail. If you wish to have a copy mailed out, please make sure the tournament director is informed.

Happy Pitching!

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

sanctioned tournaments and events only

NHPF Benefit Tournament

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

UPSALA RECREATION BUILDING

Limited to first 32 paid entries.

Classes may be handicapped.

Entry Fee: \$30 with \$5 to NHPF in the name of MGSHPA

Entry Deadline: January 18

Send entry payable to:

Jerry LaBrosse

8170 Fern Lane

Greenfield, MN 55357

763-498-7353

Jlabro6186@aol.com

Sanction #23-12-001

Upsala Spring Tournament

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

UPSALA RECREATION BUILDING

Limited to the first 48 paid entries.

Handicapped if necessary. Concessions on site.

Entry Fee: \$30

Entry Deadline: April 4

Send entry payable to:

Upsala Horseshoe League

c/o Mel and Joyce Larson

PO Box 245

Upsala, MN 56384

320-573-2371

meljoyce@sytekcom.com

Sanction #23-12-004

Blizzard Open

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

UPSALA RECREATION BUILDING

Limited to the first 48 paid entries.

Entry Fee: \$30

Entry Deadline: February 8

Send entry payable to:

Rick Wright

799 11th Avenue SW, #111

Forest Lake, MN 55025

651-491-2404

RWL1532@peoplepc.com

Sanction #23-12-002

MORE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION



COMPLETE 2012 TOURNAMENT
INFORMATION WILL SOON
BE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT

WWW.MINNESOTAHORSESHOES.COM

March Madness

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

UPSALA RECREATION BUILDING

Limited to the first 32 paid entries.

Class A: 40 points or 50 shoes, whichever first, no handicap; Classes B, C, & D: 40-shoe games, handicapped if over 10 percent spread. Scorekeepers paid by director; please check in a half hour before you pitch.

Entry Fee: \$30

Entry Deadline: February 29

Send entry payable to:

Rob Hagman

652 Cross Street

Anoka, MN 55303

612-600-3777

bratboy42@gmail.com

Sanction #23-12-003

MIKE'S HORSESHOES

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Littell

4363 Shoreline Drive

Spring Park, MN 55384

612-327-6350

mikeshorseshoes@yahoo.com



WORLD TOURNAMENT HOTEL INFO

The Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation (KTSC) has put together the following information in preparation for the 2012 World Tournament.

Combine Knoxville's location in the geographical center of the eastern United States with true southern hospitality and tradition and you have the perfect destination to host the NHPA World Tournament. Knoxville is conveniently located at the crossroads of two major interstates: I-75 and I-40, and is only 12 miles from McGhee Tyson Airport, the premier air facility serving East Tennessee.

HOTEL QUICK FACTS

Holiday Inn World's Fair Park

\$109, Rate Code: NHP

Phone: 865-522-2800

Located across from Knoxville Convention Center and on the historic World's Fair Park and steps from the South's Finest Chocolate, East Tennessee Veterans Memorial, Knoxville Museum of Art and connecting greenway to Volunteer Landing

Crowne Plaza Knoxville

\$89/\$99 Queen/King

Call directly to book: 865-522-2600

Located 1/4 mile from Knoxville Convention Center and across from the Market Square shopping/dining district

Hilton Knoxville

\$115.99, Rate Code NHPA

Phone: 865-523-2300

Located one block (covered walkway) from Knoxville Convention Center and two blocks from the Market Square shopping/dining district and historic Gay St.

Knoxville Marriott

\$119, Rate Code National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America

Phone: 800-228-9290

Located 1/2 mile from Knoxville Convention Center and steps from the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and Volunteer Landing on the Tennessee River

Four Points by Sheraton

\$125, Ask for National Horseshoe Rate

Phone: 888-627-8576 or 865-971-4663

One block from Knoxville Convention Center and on the historic World's Fair Park and steps from the South's Finest Chocolate, East Tennessee Veterans Memorial, Knoxville Museum of Art and connecting greenway to Volunteer Landing

NORTH KNOXVILLE HOTEL PROPERTIES

(4 miles from Convention Center)

MainStay Suites

1-6 nights: \$84 Single Queen, \$89 King, Doubles, \$109 Suites

7-14 nights: \$79 Single Queen, \$84 King, Doubles, \$99 Suites

Rate Code: National Horseshoe Pitchers

Phone 865-247-0222

All rooms have a fully equipped kitchen

Comfort Suites

\$84.99 Doubles, Rate Code: National Horseshoe Pitchers

Phone: 865-342-0373

Hampton Inn

\$104 Standard King or Double, Rate Code: National Horseshoe Pitchers

Phone: 865-689-1011

Days Inn

\$70 Single King, \$80 Double, Rate Code: National Horseshoe Pitchers

Phone: 865-687-5800



Knoxville Convention Center



Market Square



Volunteer Landing



Worlds Fair Park



Membership Application

MINNESOTA GOPHER STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

State and National Dues (January 1 thru December 31)

One applicant per form.

We, the horseshoe pitchers of Minnesota, invite you to join the Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers Association (MGSHPA). Our association is dedicated to promoting and developing the game of horseshoe pitching both as a competitive sport and a recreational pastime. The MGSHPA is a charter member of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA), which is the governing body of horseshoe pitching.

Please complete the form below; be sure to provide all information requested. You will be issued a membership card with a six-digit number, followed by a decimal and a seventh digit. The first two digits specify our NHPA region (Minnesota 23). The next four digits are your permanent member number. The seventh digit following the decimal represents the year of issue, and will change from year to year, as will the color of the card.

As an MGSHPA/NHPA member you will receive the *Ringer Digest*, the magazine of the MGSHPA. The *Ringer Digest* is published four times per year and includes league news, tournament schedules, tournament results, and articles of interest.

Complete this application form and send along with annual dues payable to the MGSHPA to:

Bonnie Holland

8730 Hastings St. NE

Blaine, MN 55449 * Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope *****

Dues are as follows:

Adult Members

\$17.00 NHPA Dues

\$13.00 MGSHPA Dues

(Additional adult household members \$8 MGSHPA dues)

\$30.00 (or \$25.00) TOTAL

Junior/Cadet Members

(Junior eligible thru year of 18th birthday)

(Cadet eligible thru year of 9th birthday)

NO CHARGE

Thank you and welcome to the fun of Horseshoe Pitching!

Many ringers to you from the officers and members of the MGSHPA!

Please cut along this line and send completed form to Secretary/Treasurer with dues payable to MGSHPA.
(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE ZIP CODE

PHONE NUMBER

CLUB AFFILIATION

DATE OF BIRTH

YEAR FIRST JOINED NHPA

SELECT ONE:

ADULT MALE

ELDER *(eligible upon card purchase for year of 70th birthday)*

ADULT FEMALE

CADET *(eligible as cadet thru year of 9th birthday)*

JUNIOR BOY

JUNIOR GIRL *(eligible as junior through year of 18th birthday)*

HOW DID YOU FIND THE MGSHPA?

FRIEND ADVERTISING I'M A PAST MEMBER

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MGSHPA HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

Please print; if additional space required, use attachments.

ABOUT THE HALL OF FAME NOMINEE:

Date _____ Nomination for: Pitcher _____ Promoter _____ Junior Honor Roll _____

Name _____ Telephone (_____) _____ - _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Birth Date _____ If deceased, date of death _____

Years member of MGSHPA (*minimum of 15 years required, except for juniors*) _____

Dates _____

Pitching achievements _____

Official Positions Held (league, state, national) and Dates _____

Other Contributions to the Sport _____

NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:

Name _____ Telephone (_____) _____ - _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please submit this completed form by May 1 to:

Joe Mueller, MGSHPA Nominations Director

2057 152nd Lane NE

Ham Lake, MN 55304

612 718- 0921 or jmueller0822@msn.com

Ringer Digest

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763-444-6387 smwarnemunde@msn.com

MGSHPA Membership dues are \$30.00
(\$17 National/\$13 State)

Send to Bonnie Holland, State Membership Director.

Visit our state website at:

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