



# The Ringer Report



Informative - Educational - Entertaining

October 2023

## Congratulations! MHPA State Champions



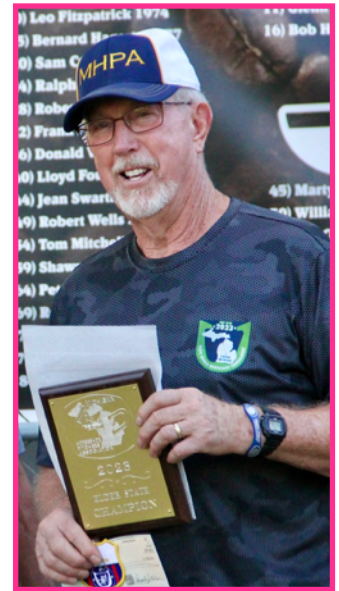
**Cadet**  
Bryce VanCleave



**Men**  
Andy Adams



**Women**  
Denise Daly



**Elder**  
JD Drake

The distinctive clang of metal horseshoes hitting the stakes and one another punctuated the other sounds during the 2023 MHPA State Tournament. It was a beautiful weekend in Jackson and a great tournament. Congratulations to all the state and class champions, and award winners.

**Denise Daly**, was crowned the second-time women's champion, after a three year hiatus. Challengers Lisa Smith, Brandy Morehead, and Helga Hewlett finished in that order.

**Andy Adams** was crowned first-time men's champion, over defending Champion James Dunlap, and challengers Quincy Johnson, Keith Schafer, Narone Parker and Greg Burke.

**JD Drake** continued his string of Elder's championships followed by Clip Connin, Danny Markley, Dennis Soldan, Douglas Bailey and Paul Bachelor. It was JD's 11th consecutive championship.

**Bryce VanCleave** is the Boy's champion.

A big thank you to the Tournament Committee of Josh Lull, President/Tournament Director; Brandy Morehead, 1st Vice-President; Zachary Spanke, 2nd Vice-President; Pam Nelson, Secretary/Treasurer and Tournament Statisticians Keith Schafer and Josh Lull. And to Shift Directors: Brandy Morehead/Keith Schafer and Josh Lull/Zachary Spanke.

Also, to the Jackson County Horseshoe Club for all their hard work in putting on such a great event. With a multitude of great volunteers and scorekeepers, we were able to cover all shifts.

No one was inducted into the MHPA Hall of Fame this year.

## President's Report

Josh Lull



Well my first year is almost in the books. Time sure has gone by fast. I would like to thank all of my fellow officers and our membership for all of their help and grace as I've navigated my first year.

I will continue to encourage all of our members or even possibly new members to share thoughts, ideas, concerns with me or my fellow officers. Everyone should have the chance to be heard and we all share the same goal. Continue to grow and share this great game with future generations.

I was bit surprised at the lower than expected participation at our 100th state tournament. Thanks to the hard work of many and some generous donations we nearly gave out double in cash and prizes compared to years past.

I want to again thank the Jackson Horseshoe Club as well as anyone else that had a hand in running a successful state tournament this past year.

For those that were not in attendance or maybe have not heard there were also some rule changes that will go into effect starting January 1.

Just a note, we are continuing to work on filling dates for the 2024 schedule. We will have that out very soon. As well as the outcome for the rule change proposals that were voted upon at the State Tournament Meeting.

Here is to another great year in 2024!

We are looking to fill the position of Secretary-Treasurer, immediately.

If you might know of someone interested let Josh know and he will be glad to contact them or even have them call him.

"Even someone that we feel would make a good candidate I'd really like to talk to them." —Josh

Anyone looking to buy a membership or renew in the near future should do so on the web.

The link is below:

<https://www.horseshoepitching.com/membership/>

## The Ringer Report

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Michigan Division of the NHPA - Established 1935

Issues published whenever necessary - Advertising Rate: \$40 for a 1 column x 2 inch ad, per year

Dean Schmitz, Editor - (989) 615-4064 - horseshoe48043@gmail.com

Emails to the Editor and news items are encouraged.



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## Tournament Results

State Elder A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. J.D. Drake	62.72	10-0	251	400	62.75
2. Clip Connin	56.37	7-3	201	364	55.22
3. Danny Markley	50.56	5-5	162	356	45.51
4. Douglas Bailey	47.99	4-6	178	416	42.79
5. Larry McArthur	47.32	2-8	155	370	41.89
6. Ken Kuss	45.60	2-8	126	358	35.20

State Elder B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Paul Bachelor	41.93	9-1	168	396	42.42
2. Dennis Soldan	43.58	6-4	202	452	44.69
3. Steve Florek	42.47	6-4	184	460	40.00
4. Paul Howard	34.81	4-6	178	478	37.24
5. Roger Higgins	39.37	3-7	112	390	28.72
6. George Parsons	44.21	2-8	166	420	39.52

State Elder C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Lawrence Hinton	20.98	6-2	57	380	15.00
2. Dan Kofflin	20.20	5-3	66	334	19.76
3. Roland Block	21.86	4-4	60	374	16.04
4. Randy Sheffer	23.49	3-5	78	378	20.63
5. Larry Majerski	17.24	2-6	37	342	10.82

State Men A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Andrew Adams	72.94	10-0	270	384	70.31
2. James Dunlap	66.15	6-4	253	442	57.24
3. Quincy Johnson	53.07	5-5	226	428	52.80
4. Greg Burke	48.13	4-6	226	456	49.56
5. Keith Schafer	44.92	4-6	201	410	49.02
6. Narone Parker	40.16	1-9	154	388	39.69

State Men B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Kevin Bastian	39.76	9-2	178	482	36.93
2. John Cousins	32.36	8-3	197	528	37.31
3. John Banks	36.23	5-5	146	466	31.33
4. Wayne Friesmuth	36.59	4-6	149	462	32.25
5. Johnnie Smith	33.39	3-7	124	452	27.43
6. Mark Burns	38.61	2-8	153	478	32.01

State Men C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Joe Hettrick	29.78	9-1	160	450	35.56
2. Darrell Harris	29.95	6-4	138	498	27.71
3. Chad Fleisher	28.38	5-5	118	450	26.22
4. Rich Hare	29.92	5-5	115	500	23.00
5. James Belfiori	31.72	4-6	106	472	22.46
6. Dan Mendham	29.15	1-9	79	442	17.87

State Men D	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. James Toth	26.44	10-0	137	426	32.16
2. Darwin Adams	27.99	7-3	100	454	22.03
3. Mitchel Powers Jr.	21.68	5-5	119	492	24.19
4. Chuck Osborn	28.30	4-6	112	428	26.17
5. Kevin Gladstone	24.10	4-6	86	474	18.14
6. John McCracken	21.90	0-10	45	418	10.77

State Men E	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Matt Skrzypek	20.06	10-3	143	512	27.93
2. Chris Nyenhuis	18.66	9-4	90	518	17.37
3. Greg Lambert	21.55	7-5	105	528	19.89
4. Roger Keyes	20.66	6-6	98	468	20.94
5. Myrick EL	20.91	4-8	100	494	20.24
6. Jim Benjamin	20.25	4-8	78	508	15.35
7. Matthew Thomas	19.12	3-9	77	460	16.74

State Men F	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Martin Quillen	13.07	10-2	109	488	22.34
2. Kary Christiansen	18.48	8-4	81	586	13.82
3. James Robinson	16.25	7-5	100	504	19.84
4. Frank Quillen	17.31	6-6	104	536	19.40
5. Joe Kristoff	15.92	4-8	88	540	16.30
6. Robert Kudla	14.20	4-8	88	606	14.52
7. Zachary Spanke	16.47	3-9	81	572	14.16

State Women A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Denise Daly	70.51	9-0	247	348	70.98
2. Brandy Morehead	57.08	5-4	225	370	60.81
3. Lisa Smith	59.45	2-7	170	346	49.13
4. Helga Hewlett	53.14	2-7	148	324	45.68

State Women B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Michele Burns	39.47	8-1	151	354	42.66
2. Aprile Friesmuth	34.11	6-3	113	366	30.87
3. Cathy Ardelean	34.77	4-5	116	400	29.00
4. Krystle Price	34.18	0-9	116	404	28.71

State Women C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Jacqueline Quillen	23.48	7-1	61	272	22.43
2. Jennifer Hess	27.33	6-2	70	268	26.12
3. Tina Payne	15.13	4-4	44	340	12.94
4. Bryce Vancleave	13.94	2-6	25	304	8.22
5. Rosemarie Nowacki	10.84	1-7	23	328	7.01

Continued on next page

## Tournament Results

### Kalamazoo - Friday, August 11, 2023

<b>Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. John Cousins	31.01	4-0	53	152	34.87
2. Joe Hettrick	29.78	2-2	43	152	28.29
3. Chuck Osborn	28.30	0-4	32	160	20.00

<b>Class B</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Dan Mendham	27.27	3-1	48	148	32.43
2. Jennifer Hess	27.33	2-2	35	188	18.62
3. Roger Keyes	20.09	1-3	28	168	16.67

<b>Class C</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Matt Skrzypek	19.68	4-0	38	192	19.79
2. Kary Christiansen	17.99	2-2	36	200	18.00
3. Roland Block	18.75	2-2	8	180	15.56
4. Bryce Vancleave	13.94	1-3	22	186	11.83
5. Larry Majerski	17.24	1-3	15	186	8.06

<b>Class D</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Jackson Vancleave	10.76	3-1	17	200	8.50
2. Kris VanCleave	2.00	2-2	3	200	1.50
3. Audrey Hetrick	2.00	1-3	2	200	1.00

### Lake Orion - Saturday, August 12, 2023

<b>Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Lisa Smith	59.26	5-0	105	182	57.69
2. J.D. Drake	62.72	4-1	122	210	58.10
3. Danny Markley	50.56	2-3	108	230	46.96
4. Douglas Bailey	47.99	2-3	71	180	39.44
5. George Parsons	44.21	1-4	82	206	39.81
6. Carl Nordquist	51.33	1-4	35	100	35.00

<b>Class B</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Ken Kuss	44.18	5-0	81	174	46.55
2. Dennis Soldan	43.58	4-1	72	186	38.71
3. Wayne Friesmuth	36.48	2-3	73	202	36.14
4. Cathy Ardelean	34.30	2-3	68	208	32.69
5. Krystle Price	38.26	2-3	63	224	28.13
6. Joe Kristoff	15.92	0-5	14	154	9.09

<b>Class C</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. James Belfiori	31.72	5-0	65	250	26.00
2. Johnnie Smith	33.39	4-1	68	218	31.19
3. Jacqueline Quillen	23.07	3-2	62	238	26.05
4. Matthew Thomas	19.12	2-3	41	226	18.14
5. Frank Quillen	17.66	1-4	33	230	14.35
6. Rosemarie Nowacki	10.77	0-5	21	222	9.46

### Mecosta - Saturday, August 19, 2023

<b>Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Helga Hewett	53.14	6-0	101	242	41.74
2. Roland Block	17.86	4-2	73	268	27.24
3. John McCracken	21.90	2-4	65	252	25.79
4. Robert Kudla	14.20	0-6	38	226	16.81

### Lansing (Seniors) - Sunday, August 20, 2023

<b>Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Clip Connin	51.96	4-0	117	190	61.58
2. Bob Peek	48.04	2-2	82	174	47.13
3. Keith Schafer	44.46	0-4	164	45.73	

<b>Class B</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Paul Howard	33.88	3-1	65	186	34.95
2. Michael McDaniel	34.81	1-3	46	186	24.73

<b>Class C</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Lawrence Hinton	22.18	3-0	21	124	16.94
2. Ron Nelson	27.50	0-3	10	124	8.06

### Lansing (30/40) - Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023

<b>30 foot Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Clip Connin	57.59	4-0	96	150	64.00
2. Ken Kuss	45.60	1-3	92	170	54.12
3. Bob Peek	48.17	1-3	70	160	43.75

<b>30 foot Class B</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Lawrence Hinton	21.21	3-1	66	186	35.48
2. Becky Sullivan (FL)	33.30	2-2	62	194	31.96
3. Cathy Ardelean	34.77	1-3	71	220	32.27

<b>40 foot Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Keith Schafer	46.57	6-0	75	184	40.76

<b>40 foot Class B</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. Chris Nyenhuis	19.22	3-3	45	228	19.74
2. Joe Kristoff	16.59	2-4	42	252	16.67
3. Rod Bashore	18.49	1-5	32	244	13.11

### Jackson - Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023

<b>Class A</b>	<u>Entry%</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Rgrs</u>	<u>Sh</u>	<u>R%</u>
1. J.D. Drake	69.68	4-1	109	194	56.19
2. James Dunlap	66.15	3-2	132	208	63.46
3. Quincy Johnson	52.96	3-2	102	182	56.04
4. Brandy Morehead	57.08	3-2	108	214	50.47
5. Bobby Mumford Sr.	40.83	2-3	105	212	49.53
6. Roland Block	18.38	0-5	17	122	13.93



## Tournament Results

### State Singles Championship

Elder	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. J.D. Drake	62.75	5-0	156	234	66.67
2. Clip Connin	55.22	3-2	122	232	52.59
3. Danny Markley	45.51	3-2	109	240	45.42
4. Dennis Soldan	44.69	3-2	102	240	42.50
5. Douglas Bailey	42.79	1-4	79	222	35.59
6. Paul Bachelor	42.42	0-5	82	244	33.61

### State Singles Championship

Men	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Andrew Adams	70.31	5-0	139	202	68.81
2. James Dunlap	57.24	4-1	151	270	55.93
3. Quincy Johnson	52.80	3-2	135	256	52.73
4. Keith Schafer	49.02	2-3	104	250	41.60
5. Narone Parker	39.69	1-4	103	244	42.21
6. Greg Burke	49.56	0-5	110	266	41.35

### State Singles Championship

Women	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Denise Daly	70.98	6-0	195	282	69.15
2. Lisa Smith	49.13	3-3	148	274	54.01
3. Brandy Morehead	60.81	3-3	151	298	50.67
4. Helga Hewlett	45.51	0-6	164	326	50.31

### Lake Orion - Saturday, October 14, 2023

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. J.D. Drake	65.65	4-0	97	164	59.15
2. Danny Markley	48.20	3-1	83	190	43.68
3. Bob Peek	48.17	2-2	67	160	41.88
4. George Parsons	44.21	1-3	71	186	38.17
5. Ken Kuss	48.28	0-4	58	148	39.19

Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Wayne Friesmuth	36.59	4-0	73	178	41.01
2. Cathy Ardelean	34.77	2-2	47	156	30.13
3. Krystle Price	33.13	0-4	44	166	26.51

Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Lawrence Hinton	24.65	4-0	38	166	22.89
2. Chris Judson (IN)	16.90	3-1	43	186	23.12
3. Matthew Thomas	19.12	2-2	37	194	19.07
4. Dan Kofflin	20.49	1-3	25	182	13.74
5. Roland Block	21.86	0-4	24	172	13.95

## RD/Statistician Report

Keith Schafer



As you now know, I will relinquish the positions of Regional Director, acting Publicity chair and Statistician on December 31, but will remain as the Historian for a while until those files are ready to be handed over. Zach Spanke has stepped up to fill the Regional Director position and will take over for me. Thanks, Zach! Don't worry, Zach can always reach out to me or Josh for any issues he needs help with as he gets up to speed. The Statistician position has been streamlined somewhat with the use of HSMaster and the token process, and downloadable reports from Eshoe. The statistics for 1992 forward have been taken from the old individual sheets and will be available on the "Hall of Fame computer". There are some gaps in the old sheets, especially some missing from 1999, but I will continue to look for old results to fill those gaps, and in the 1991 and prior data, let me know if you have anything laying around to help build a fuller database. That includes the information from the Upper Peninsula charter that began in the year 1970 and continued into the early 1980s, which will be forwarded once that is more complete. Josh Lull will be building reports to get information from this data, and the data is being set up in the same set-up as the Eshoe reports for ease in updating. It has been an experience getting all of this put in there, but also fun to see the changes that have happened in the past 30 plus years.

Tina and I will be spending 7 or more months in Florida each year, and I think that someone up here will do fine in keeping our association running. I will miss the work but will also enjoy just going to tournaments and only worrying about pitching.

See you at a future tournament!

Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association  
August 26, 2023  
Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Josh Lull at 7:20 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance, led by Brandy Morehead, said by all.

4/30/2023 Board Meeting Minutes read by the Sec/Treas. and approved by all.

Financial and Membership reports read by Pam Nelson, Sec/Treas. and approved by all.

**Reports of Officers**

Josh Lull, President

We would also take this opportunity to congratulate and thank Helga and Jim Hewlett for expanding the visibility to the MHPA.

The board would also like to thank Tina Payne for her promotion of horseshoes.

The board also posthumously recognized Jay McCanham for his contribution and promotion to the game of horseshoes in the state of Michigan.

Both Tina and Jay (family or significant other) will be given a plaque to commemorate the recognition.

Welcome all. Hope you are all enjoying the State Tournament. The World Tournament was a great success. The NHPA congratulated the MHPA for a job well done and for hosting the tournament this year. The NHPA would also like to thank Lansing for the excellent job of hosting the tournament.

1st VP, Brandy Morehead - see attached by-law update from Brandy.

2nd VP, Zach Spanke - nothing to report.

Reports from Standing Committees

**Hall of Fame** - Danny Markley

No new nominations this year. The committee had trouble getting members together.

**Finance** - Bob Wells

The books are in great condition. Pam Nelson is keeping the book in excellent condition.

Publicity - Keith Schafer

\$495.00 Donation to St, Jude in 2023.

Also, Keith is retiring from his position as Statistician. Would like volunteers to help with all he is involved in.

**New Business**

Brandy Morehead resigned as 1st VP. Nominations were taken with Tina Payne nominated. Tina ran unopposed. So let's all welcome Tina as our new 1st VP.

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Pam Nelson was elected for another 2 year term.

Proposed By-Law changes - see attached from Brandy

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM



Photo by Anthony Belfiori

### St. Clair Shores - 2023 Woody Cup Challenge Champions

Carmen Wedyke, Lisa Smith, Kevin Bastian, Jim Belfiori, Tina Payne, Johnnie Smith, Wayne Friesmuth, April Friesmuth, Joe Kristoff, Larry Heier, Paula LaBadie, Austin Belfiori, Andrea Olewnik, Brandon Tremlett, Tom Wedyke and John Banks.

## The Woody Cup Challenge

It was a sporting showdown unlike any ever before seen. The St. Clair Shores Horseshoe Club finally won back the cup. It was their first win since 2009. Hosted by the Lake Orion Horseshoe Club in the 20th season with only 2020 being skipped due to Covid. The event started at 11 a.m., Sept 16, 2023 with everyone helping themselves to a delectable lunch, signing up with their team captains, paying the entry fee and donating to the MHPA designated charity, St Jude.

Thirty-six competitors, plus guests, gathered for "The Woody Cup Challenge" tournament with competitors of all abilities gracefully throwing horseshoes. There was plenty of good-natured trash-talking. This 20th annual charity horseshoe tournament featured three clubs: Lansing, Lake Orion and St. Clair Shores.

It was close scoring until the end of the event. SCS with 29 points, LO with 25 and Lansing with 18.

This year \$1611 was raised (a record) which brought the total to over \$11,000. The winners have their names placed on the traveling cup that emulates the Stanley Cup in hockey.

Established in 2004 as the Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association league championship tournament and later to include non-sanctioned leagues. With the Woody Cup Challenge being open to all Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association Club Leagues, upwards of six clubs have been represented at the annual tournament. Berkley, Lake Orion, Lansing, Lincoln Park/Romulus, St. Clair Shores and Taylor have been participating teams.

Mike Ardelean (deceased) of the Lake Orion Club, the SCSHC, Juanita and Larry Woods, former owners of LDJ Trophies, created The Woody Cup Challenge. Mike is also credited with the tournament name. The purpose of this event is to



### Funds raised since the inception of "The Woody Cup Challenge"

2004	- \$180	- Friends of Horseshoes
2005	- \$132	- American Red Cross
2006	- \$176	- MHPA Junior Fund
2007	- \$383	- MHPA Junior Fund
2008	- \$315	- MHPA Junior Fund
2009	- \$245	- MHPA Junior Fund
2010	- \$260	- MHPA Junior Fund
2011	- \$215	- MHPA Junior Fund
2012	- \$500	- St. Jude
2013	- \$520	- St. Jude
2014	- \$557	- St. Jude
2015	- \$600	- St. Jude
2016	- \$700	- St. Jude
2017	- \$1000	- St. Jude
2018	- \$850	- St. Jude
2019	- \$1100	- St. Jude
2020	- No Tournament	- Covid
2021	- \$1000	- St. Jude
2022	- \$902	- St. Jude
2023	- \$1611	- St. Jude
<b>\$Total</b>		<b>- \$11,246</b>

raise money for a charity, to make the public aware of the fun of pitching horseshoes, meeting our friends, making new friends and enjoying the great game of horseshoe pitching.

This trophy is presented annually to the MHPA league champion to create an awareness of local clubs, MHPA, NHPA, promote youth participation, and encourage membership in organized horseshoe pitching. The Cup is to be displayed promoting local clubs and State Horseshoe Pitching.

The St. Clair Shores Horseshoe Club will host "The Woody Cup Challenge" next year on Sept. 14, 2024. We are looking for more teams to participate in this event.



## 2024 MHPA Tournament Schedule - Subject to Change

2024 MHPA Tournament Schedule				
			Revised: 10/03/23	
	Sanction No.		NOTES	2023 Date
				HOST CLUB
<b>WINTER INDOOR TOURNAMENTS AT THE JACKSON INDOOR COURTS</b>				
<b>January</b>				
	30-24-001	PRE-REGISTER	1/6/2024 - Sat	
			1/7/2024 - Sun	
		TO GUARANTEE	1/13/2024 - Sat	Lapeer
			1/14/2024 - Sun	
		YOUR SPOT FOR	1/20/2024 - Sat	
			1/21/2024 - Sun	Jackson
		WINTER	1/27/2024 - Sat	Kalamazoo
		TOURNAMENTS	1/28/2024 - Sun	
<b>February</b>				
		PRE-REGISTER	2/3/2024 - Sat	
			2/4/2024 - Sun	
		TO GUARANTEE	2/10/2024 - Sat	Lapper
			2/11/2024 - Sun	
		YOUR SPOT FOR	2/17/2024 - Sat	Mecosta
			2/18/2024 - Sun	
		WINTER	2/24/2024 - Sat	Brighton
		TOURNAMENTS	2/25/2024 - Sun	
<b>March</b>				
		PRE-REGISTER	3/2/2024 - Sat	Kalamazoo
			3/3/2024 - Sun	
		TO GUARANTEE	3/9/2024 - Sat	
			3/10/2024 - Sun	
		YOUR SPOT FOR	3/16/2024 - Sat	Mecosta
			3/17/2024 - Sun	
		WINTER	3/23/2024 - Sat	Lapeer
			3/24/2024 - Sun	
		TOURNAMENTS	3/30/2024 - Sat	
			3/31/2024 - Sun	Jackson
<b>April</b>				
		PRE-REGISTER	4/6/2024 - Sat	
			4/7/2024 - Sun	
		TO GUARANTEE	4/13/2024 - Sat	
			4/14/2024 - Sun	Lapeer
		YOUR SPOT FOR	4/20/2024 - Sat	
			4/21/2024 - Sun	
		WINTER	4/27/2024 - Sat	Jackson (Thrun/Vincent)
		TOURNAMENTS	4/28/2024 - Sun	
<b>May</b>				
			5/4/2024 - Sat	
			5/5/2024 - Sun	
			5/11/2024 - Sat	Lapeer
		MOTHER'S DAY	5/12/2024 - Sun	
		Team World	05/17/24	
		Team World	5/18/2024 - Sat	Lansing - 30/40
		Team World	5/19/2024 - Sun	
			5/25/2024 - Sat	Lake Orion
			5/26/2024 - Sun	
		MEMORIAL DAY	5/27/2024 - Mon	

Continued on next page



The Ringer Report - Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association - October 2023

<b><u>June</u></b>					
				6/1/2024 - Sat	St. Clair Shores Memorial Tournament
				6/2/2024- Sun	
				6/7/24 - Friday	Kalamazoo - 7:00 Signup Deadline
				6/8/2024 - Sat	Kalamazoo
				6/9/2024- Sun	
				6/15/2024 - Sat	Lake Orion - Mike Ardelean St. Judes
		<b>FATHER'S DAY</b>		6/16/2024- Sun	
				6/22/2024 - Sat	Lapeer
				6/23/2024- Sun	
				6/29/2024 - Sat	Lansing Waterworld Tournament
				6/30/2024- Sun	St. Clair Shores - Non Walking Doubles
<b><u>July</u></b>					
		<b>4th OF JULY</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>07/04/24</b>	
				7/6/2024 - Sat	
				7/7/2024- Sun	
				7/13/2024 - Sat	Lake Orion
				7/14/2024- Sun	
				7/19/2024 - Fri	St. Clair Shores
				7/20/2024 - Sat	St. Clair Shores
				7/21/2024- Sun	
				7/27/2024 - Sat	
				7/28/2024- Sun	
<b><u>August</u></b>					
		<b>World Tournament</b>		7/29/24	
		<b>World Tournament</b>		8/3/2024 - Sat	State Doubles - Lake Orion
		<b>World Tournament</b>		8/4/2024- Sun	
		<b>World Tournament</b>		8/10/2024 - Sat	St. Clair Shores
				8/11/2024- Sun	
				8/17/2024 - Sat	Lansing St. Jude
				8/18/2024- Sun	
				8/24/2024 - Sat	State at Kalamazoo
				8/25/2024- Sun	State at Kalamazoo
<b><u>September</u></b>					
				9/1/2024- Sun	
		<b>LABOR DAY</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>09/02/24</b>	
				9/7/2024 - Sat	
				9/8/2024- Sun	
				9/14/2024 - Sat	Woody Cup - St. Clair Shores
				9/15/2024- Sun	
				9/21/2024 - Sat	
				9/22/2024- Sun	
				9/28/2024 - Sat	
				9/29/2024- Sun	Fall Scheduling Meeting
<b><u>October</u></b>					
		<b>PRE-REGISTER</b>		10/5/2024 - Sat	
		<b>TO GUARANTEE</b>		10/12/2024 - Sat	
		<b>YOUR SPOT FOR</b>		10/19/2024 - Sat	
		<b>FALL</b>		10/26/2024 - Sat	
		<b>TOURNAMENTS</b>		10/27/24 - Sun	Jackson
<b><u>November</u></b>					
		<b>PRE-REGISTER</b>		11/2/2024 - Sat	Brighton
		<b>TO GUARANTEE</b>		11/9/2024 - Sat	
		<b>YOUR SPOT FOR</b>		11/16/2024 - Sat	

## 2023 Fall Meeting of Passed and Failed Bylaw Change Proposals

### Article II - Section 7 - Currently Reads:

Section 7. The Constitution and By-laws, Rules and Regulations may be revised by submitting changes at any membership meeting or sent to the chairperson of the Constitution and By-laws Committee by July 15. Such proposed revisions shall be published in the MHPA's August newsletter. All proposed revisions shall be voted upon at the State Tournament meeting. Any additions, deletions and/or changes shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of members present at the meeting and shall become effective January 1 of the following year. The president may at his/her option, have the State Tournament meeting later if tournament scheduling or other unforeseen reason does not allow proper time for the meeting to be held during the tournament.

### Proposed Change:

The Constitution and By-laws, Rules and Regulations may be revised by submitting changes at any membership meeting or sent to the chairperson of the Constitution and By-laws Committee. **All proposed revisions shall be voted upon at the either of the annual membership meetings. The spring meeting or the fall meeting during the State Tournament. The deadline for submitting for the spring meeting will be March 15. The proposed revisions shall be published in the April newsletter (Spring Meeting) and the August newsletter (State Tournament) meeting.** Any additions, deletions and/or changes shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of members **present at the Spring or State Tournament meeting. (Each individually, attendance at one meeting does not constitute attendance nor a vote at the other). Those approved at the Spring Meeting shall become effective the first of the month following the Spring Meeting.** Those approved at the State tournament meeting shall become effective January 1 of the following year. The president may at his/her option, have the State Tournament meeting later if tournament scheduling or other unforeseen reason does not allow proper time for the meeting to be held during the tournament.

### Reasoning for Change:

The deadline for submitting for the State Tournament meeting July 15. Help encourage the MHPA membership to attend the spring meeting while at the same time encouraging their voices to be heard. The additional vote would also allow the MHPA to be more flexible to member concerns or changes to keep the quality of the game and experience at the highest possible level. Especially when it comes to state tournament issues.

**Proposed by Josh Lull**

**FAILED**

### Article VII - State Tournament Section 7 – Currently Reads

Section 7. Any club that meets the requirement of 18 lighted courts should be able to host the singles state tournament. Voting will take place during the meeting at the state tournament. If there is no host club for the singles state tournament, the executive council will then contact qualified clubs and award one of them the tournament. Only the MHPA will be allowed to do 50/50 raffles during the State Tournament to supplement the prize money.

### Proposed Change:

Any club that meets the requirement of 18 lighted courts should be able to host the singles state tournament. **(Remove the portion in regard to voting taking place during the meeting.)** The executive council will contact qualified clubs and award one of them the tournament. **The MHPA will decide how 50/50 raffles are conducted and by who during the State Tournament to supplement the prize money.**

### Reasoning for Change:

The MHPA is currently not in a position where voting is necessary to decide who hosts the state singles tournament. Let's hope in the future the MHPA is able to get back to where that is a valid concern. At that time a re-instating a vote would be completely valid to make sure not favoritism is shown, and the joy of the tournament is shared. Currently the MHPA only has a couple of locations. In regard to the 50/50 raffle this allows the MHPA to be more flexible in possibly trading the conducting and proceeds of the raffle for possibly a more lucrative benefit in increasing the prize payouts at the State Tournament.

**Proposed by Josh Lull**

**PASSED**

### Section 8 – Currently Reads

This association shall award the Junior Boy and Junior Girl State Champion a \$100 scholarship each. These scholarship monies shall be awarded upon a college, university or trade school's letter of enrollment to the association. This award must be claimed before their twenty first birthday. Junior and Cadet players are to pay the State Tournament entry fee. They will be eligible to receive monetary awards for the class pitched in.

**Proposed Change:** Addition of a sub-section. An exception to Section 8.

*Continued on next page*

A. In the event that either the Junior Boy or Girl are the only one in their class at the state tournament, they are given an option to be classed in a 30' group thus relinquishing eligibility to be the junior boy or girl champion for that year. However, they are eligible for the plaques and monetary awards in that 30' group. This option is only given when either that Junior Boy or Girl are the only participant in their class in the state tournament. If the Junior Boy or Girl declines the option of pitching in a 30' group, they will be awarded the scholarship. (Tournament entry fee refunded) However, they are then only allowed to pitch as a pacer in another group/class. Not eligible for awards and or plaques.

**Reason for Change:**

This gives the MHPA and the junior pitcher some flexibility when it comes to an issue that has been a struggle for some time. We want to provide competition but also conduct it in a way that is consistent with the rest of our groups/classes. With the very unstable participation at the junior levels this flexibility would allow the MHPA to provide a competitive experience with award eligibility if the junior pitcher chooses to do so. I believe it is also important to keep in consideration that we need to keep these juniors at 30' and also recognize we would be in a bit of dicey situation in regards to of Rule 1 Pitching Divisions Section A subsection 2,3 of the RGS. Our use of the mix classes is where I believe we can allow them to play without relinquishing their junior status.

**Proposed by Josh Lull**

**FAILED**

**Article VIII - State Doubles Tournament: Section 10 – Currently Reads**

The cost of the cookout/potluck meat will be paid for by the MHPA.

Proposed Change: Remove section 10 completely.

**Reasoning for Change:**

The MHPA is currently not in a position to allow for a blank check purchase of a "meat" dish for either of its two state tournaments. This is not a consideration nor a rule for the State Singles Tournament. Why the State doubles? Treat the State doubles tournament just like the State singles tournament. The cost liability must be taken on by the host club. The financial position of the MHPA improves enough to consider handling the cost of the meals at our State Championships this topic could be revisited as a policy.

**Proposed by Josh Lull**

**PASSED**

**Article VI: Tournaments - Section 11 – Currently Reads**

All MHPA sanctioned tournaments shall be 35 point cancellation. Any game at a state singles tournament between two pitchers with a 25% or lower ringer percentage shall play to 30 points or 60 shoes, whichever occurs first. Any game at a district tournament between two pitchers with a 25% or lower ringer percentage shall play to 35 points or 50 shoes, whichever occurs first. In case of a tie game the pitchers shall pitch down and back (four shoes) until a winner is decided. If a class consists of only 5 players at a district tournament, they will be allowed to pitch to 40 points. The 25% rule would remain the same.

**Proposed Change:**

All MHPA sanctioned tournaments shall be 35 point cancellation. Any game at a state singles tournament between two pitchers with a 25% or lower ringer percentage shall play to 25 points or 50 shoes, whichever occurs first. Any game at a district tournament between two pitchers with a 25% or lower ringer percentage shall play to 25 points or 50 shoes, whichever occurs first. In case of a tie game the pitchers shall pitch down and back (four shoes) until a winner is decided. If a class consists of only 5 players at a district tournament, they will be allowed to pitch to 40 points. The 25% rule would remain the same.

**Reasoning for Change:**

It seems that one area we see lack of scorekeeping is when it comes to classes where the pitchers are predominantly under 25%. Games are longer (If they get closer to the shoe limit and less exciting due to lack of dead ringers and lower scores) 25 points is an amount that is quite achievable by most pitchers under 25%. Games feel exciting because there is a good chance either participant is going to reach that amount and simply outlast the other by hitting the shoe limit. In my opinion the move to 30 pts was in the right direction but the at the same time moving to a 60-shoe limit was a bad idea. Both decisions together cancelled each other. Now one could argue the MHPA has plenty of games with pitchers both over 25% that go over 50 shoes. Well Yes, we do. However, that usually means both pitchers are pitching well and the game includes a fair number of live and dead ringers for a competitive game. With the higher competition when one pitcher is not pitching well that game will most likely be quite short. (In terms of time and innings) A good chance with pitchers under 25% if one is not pitching well the other does not pitch well enough to shorten that game. (In terms of time and innings) Really an idea to help shorten our time a bit and make the game more exciting for all.

**Proposed by Josh Lull**

**WAS VERY SIMILAR TO A PROPOSAL BY DEAN SCHMITZ FOR THE SAME RULE. THOSE IN ATTENDANCE LIKED**

*Continued on next page*

**DEAN'S BETTER. WE DECIDED TO DISREGARD THIS ONE IN FAVOR OF VOTING FOR THAT ONE. NO VOTE.**

**Article VII: State Tournament Section 4.**

"While pitching, all participants of the State Singles Tournament shall wear a shirt or blouse with their last name professionally lettered on the back."

**Proposed Change:** Add to the Article VII: State Tournament Section 4 of the MHPA Bylaws to include "sleeveless shirts **allowed** excluding cutoffs, and spaghetti strap tank tops."

**Reason:** Currently the MHPA bylaws does not specifically state "no sleeveless shirts" allowed, only the NHPA rules identify no sleeveless shirts for the world tournament and **may** also be **adopted** into any Charter Bylaws or **may be** enforced at any State Championship Tournament or at any local tournament, **if announced in advance by the Tournament/League Officials**. Contestants who do not comply may not be allowed to participate in the event".

**Proposed by Brandy Morehead**

**FAILED**

**Section 11.**

All MHPA sanctioned tournaments shall be 35 point cancellation. Any game at a state singles tournament between two pitchers with a 25% or lower ringer percentage shall play to 30 points or 60 shoes, whichever occurs first. Any game at a district tournament between two pitchers with a 25% or lower ringer percentage shall play to 35 points or **50 shoes**, whichever occurs first. In case of a tie game the pitchers shall pitch down and back (four shoes) until a winner is decided. If a class consists of only 5 players at a district tournament, they will be allowed to pitch to 40 points. The 25% rule would remain the same.

**Proposed change:** Change to 40 shoes

**Reason:** Because it takes way too much time for pitchers in these classes.

**Proposed by Dean Schmitz**

**PASSED**

**Section 9.**

Any MHPA club that meets the requirements of having 12 similar courts may be able to host the Doubles State Tournament. Bids will be accepted at the fall scheduling meeting. If more than one club bids, Tournament Directors present will vote to award the club. The club must be able to host a cookout/potluck meal in between the morning and afternoon sessions.

**Proposed:** Remove **The host club must add \$200.00 to the prize money**. Only the host club will be able to run 50/50 drawings during the tournament.

**Reason:** This sentence should be dropped because the host club is doing enough by hosting the doubles tournament.

**Proposed by Dean Schmitz**

**PASSED**

**Section 10.**

A new member or a member who does not have an established ringer percentage shall pitch 100 qualifying shoes that must be witnessed by 2 NHPA members or use a NHPA sanctioned league ringer percentage based on **four hundred (400) or more shoes**.

**Reason:** The NHPA changed this a few years ago to 200 shoes.

**Proposed by Dean Schmitz**

**Appendix A: Miscellaneous Rules**

A. Copies of rules, regulations and the Constitution and By Laws shall be given to all new members and published in the newsletter each year for current members.

B. **Jean Swarthout**, Dick Frakes, Paul "Dewey" Howard, Bob Wells and **Paul Wishon** are granted lifetime membership to the MHPA. (Lee Jacobs will forever remain on the active membership rolls.)

**Proposed Change:** Remove Jean Swarthout and Paul Wishon from Bylaw and add Judy Curtiss

**Reason:** Jean and Paul are deceased. I believe Judy Curtiss is on this list. It should be updated.

**Proposed by Dean Schmitz**

**PASSED**

*Continued on next page*



**Reason:** There are a number of pitchers who do not like walking doubles. Most of our pitchers have pitched in bar leagues or doubles recreation leagues with all pitching non-walking doubles. They are used to throwing their partners shoes. This should be an added interest to the schedule. In regular doubles, both team members use the same pair of shoes, and all contestants stay at the same end of the court for the entire game. To begin the game, the highest-rated contestants will decide on the first pitch and deliver their shoes, just as in singles competition. Count-all scoring. No handicap.

## NO NEED, AS THE NHPA ALREADY ALLOWS FOR THESE TYPES OF TOURNAMENTS.

### Article VIII: State Doubles Tournament states

#### Section 2.

The combined NatStats average of both players must not exceed 120.

#### The proposal is

#### Section 2

The combined NatStats average of both players must not exceed 100.

Reason why to change it: I feel like we will get more players into the state Doubles if we lower it. Also it would make classes more fair and even.

**Proposed by George Parsons**

FAILED

### 2023 MHPA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT PITCHING SCHEDULE

Outdoor Tournaments - Check-in by 9:30 a.m

*Indoor Tournaments must pre-register with the Tournament Director - Check-in by 9:30 a.m. - Starting time 10:00 a.m.*

#### Fall Indoor Tournaments @ Jackson Facility

<u>October</u>			09/30/23	SCHEDULING MEETING
30-23-047			10/07/23	Mecosta
30-23-048	PRE-REGISTER		10/14/23	Lake Orion - Mike Ardelean Memorial St. Jude
30-23-049	FOR YOUR SPOT	Sunday	10/22/23	Jackson
30-23-050	FOR ALL FALL	Sunday	10/29/23	St. Clair Shores
	TOURNAMENTS			

#### November

30-23-051			11/04/23	Brighton Indoor Club
30-23-052			11/11/23	Mecosta
30-23-053		Sunday	11/19/23	Jackson

### Tournament Directors

<u>Club</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Brighton Indoor	Paul Bachelor	(810) 772-8678	paulbachelor@aol.com
Jackson	Brandy Morehead	(517) 599-5933	brandy.morehead@gmail.com
Kalamazoo	Josh Lull	(269) 838-7698	joshlull@gmail.com
Lake Orion	Doug Bailey	(248) 421-9708	doughbailey204@gmail.com
Lansing	Keith Schafer	(517) 256-8224	michhorseshoectdir@yahoo.com
Lapeer	Jason Castle	(810) 358-6209	jcastle95@hotmail.com
Mecosta	Helga Hewlett	(989) 621-7630	helgahewlett@gmail.com).
St. Clair Shores	Tina Payne	(586) 744-3223	tinapayne0828@gmail.com

**MHPA Ringer Report Editor**

Dean Schmitz

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**FIRST CLASS**

**NHPA/MHPA Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last NHPA Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a new address? [ ] Yes

Phone: (       ) \_\_\_\_\_, Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*How do you wish to get the Ringer Report?*    ☐ *website*    ☐ *standard mail*

(Circle One) Category:    Man 40'    Man 30'    Woman    Junior Girl    Junior Boy    Cadet

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_    **Mandatory for Juniors and Men Pitching at 30'.**

*(We would appreciate all pitchers providing birth date for statistical purposes.)*

\_\_\_\_ **Full Member \$45:** Voting member with full privileges, able to enter all sanctioned tournaments upon paying fees.

\_\_\_\_ **Provisional Member \$10:** Must pay entry fees and can play in as many tournaments as you like for the year.

\_\_\_\_ **Trial Member \$0:** Must pay tournament entry fee and allowed only one tournament.

(Provisional and Trial memberships are for first time NHPA members. If you were a previous NHPA member, Provisional/Trial memberships cannot be used.)

Make Check Payable to: MHPA

Mail to: **Pamela Nelson, 660 S. Coats Road, Oxford, MI 48371**

FULL MEMBER Card Costs: \$45.00 Adults - \$38.00 for second card in the same household.

\$0.00 Juniors    \$7.00 for a junior wanting to receive the newsletter

\$8.00 Ringer Report Subscription only. (Subscription included in full membership.)