



The Ringer Report



Informative - Educational - Entertaining

MARCH 2026



SPRING MEETING

Our spring meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 26, at the Jackson Horseshoe Club at 10 a.m. All tournament directors and interested members are encouraged to attend to pick up supplies and discuss directing successful tournaments. That will also be a chance to view the MHPA Hall of Fame display.

Takes effect January 2026

Constitution, By-Laws Changes

• **Entry fees for Indoor and Outdoor district tournaments shall be \$20.00 (minimum).**

\$20 This adjustment in the tournament entry fee will allow for an increased payout for our participants and by reducing the number of places paid out, that will also increase the payouts. There had not been an increase in the tournament entry fee in many years. There was also a change in the fees that were being paid to the Jackson Horseshoe Club for utilities/use of the facility. The fee was previously \$8/player and is being reduced to \$6/player. This will allow some additional money to be paid out.

• **MHPA tournament participants will be allowed to place their beverages (non-alcoholic/alcoholic) behind the backboard on the courts.** Beverages must be in a covered container and not be glass.



"Best Horseshoe Event of the Year" - Sue Snyder

TEAM WORLD

The 40th Team World Tournament will be held May 15, 16, and 17, 2026, Beloit, WI.

The MHPA is in the process of forming teams for this event. Team World is a 3-day event.

The entry fee is \$200 per team. Teams are assessed a scorekeeper fee of \$1 per player, per game, when teams arrive to check in. Teams do have the option of including a 5th player on their team with no additional entry cost to the team. This 5th player can be from any division (Men, Women, Elders, and/or Junior Boys/Girls) except Cadets, provided the combination does not exceed the maximum limit of (3) short distance pitchers. The event is limited to 24 teams. Teams with the lowest combined entering ringer percentage from a U.S. state with multiple teams entered may be denied entry if more than 24 teams or an odd number of teams enter.

J.D. Drake from Michigan received the Team World Earl Paulson Award in 2025. J.D. was the first to be recognized for his accomplishments at Team World as an elders' division pitcher. J.D.'s Michigan teams placed 5th or higher in 9 of the 12 years he has pitched, including winning Team World in 2017 and having the highest average in the tournament



State Horseshoe Pitching Tournament



Aug, 21-23

NEED ONLY TWO SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS TO QUALIFY



President's Report

Mark Burns



Hello from Jackson!

I can't believe that we have almost completed our 2026 winter indoor pitching season! We have two remaining indoor tournaments – March 28 hosted by Mecosta and April 25 (the Thrun Vincent) hosted by Jackson. Make sure to contact Helga and Brandy to reserve your spots for these two events.

Our outdoor season begins on Saturday, May 30 at Lansing and the proceeds of that tournament will be donated to St. Jude.

I would like to remind everyone the World tournament is in Wisconsin (July 13 – 24th). Adults - You need four sanctioned tournaments to qualify to pitch. Cadets and Juniors are only required to have one sanctioned tournament. Tournament participation must be completed by May 18th entry deadline! Check your eShoe for your current tournament participation record.

To continue to make our MHPA stronger and maintain our business as usual, status, we still need your help in the following areas:

- Audit & Finance Committee
- Publicity Committee
- St. Jude Coordinator
- Youth Director

It is never too late to invite a friend or family member to join the MHPA. We have several membership options available from a trail membership (allows participation in just one tournament), provisional membership (allows participation in all our local tournaments, the only exception is participation in our state tournaments) and our full membership (allows participation in all our local/state tournaments and participation in sanctioned tournaments across the US).

If you have questions or are interested in helping out with an open position, please let me know.

See you on the courts and wishing you all a happy spring filled with many RINGERS!!!

The Ringer Report

Official Newsletter of the Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association

Michigan Division of the NHPA - Established 1935

Issues published in March, May, August, October, December

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

Emails to the Editor and news items are encouraged.



MICHIGAN HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

Mark Burns, President **734-323-9116**
 6565 Blackman Rd. _____ Jackson, MI. 49201
 Jackson, MI. 49201 _____ burnsmo@umich.edu

Tina Payne, 1st Vice-President **586-744-3223**
 11362 Konczal 1864
 Warren, MI 48089 _____ tinapayne0828@gmail.com

Helga Hewlett, 2nd Vice-President **989-621-7630**
 4480 35th Street
 Remus, MI 49340 _____ helgahewlett@gmail.com

Michele Burns, Secretary/Treasurer **517-605-8573**
 6565 Blackman Rd.
 Jackson, MI. 49201 _____ mabearin@yahoo.com

Committee Chairs

Audit & Finance _____ **Volunteer needed**

John Banks, Hall of Fame **313-740-2509**
 13336 Charlotte Ave., Warren, MI 48089 _____ john_b313@hotmail.com

Constitution/Bylaws: _____ 1st Vice-President

Grievance: _____ 2nd Vice-President

Membership: _____ Secretary / Treasurer

HOF and Museum: _____ Volunteer needed

Website, Stats & More

Bob Williams, MHPA Website **517 -392-7110**
 MHPAhorseshoes.com _____ bob.Williams1957@gmail.com

Zachary Spanke, Regional Director **248-805-5273**
 49360 Carlos St., Apt 174, Chesterfield, MI 48051 _____ zachy214@gmail.com

St. Jude Coordinator _____ **Need Volunteer**

Dean Schmitz, Ringer Report Editor **989-615-4064**
 799 Chippewa St., Mount Clemens, MI 48043 _____ horseshoe48043@gmail.com

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Club	Director	Phone	Email
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	Frank Ouillen	(248) 513-7893	frank.j.quillen@comcast.net
Lansing	Keith Schafer	(517) 256-8224	michhorseshoectdir@yahoo.com
Mecosta	Helga Hewlett	(989) 621-7630	helgahewlett@gmail.com
St. Clair Shores	Tina Payne	(586) 744-3223	tinapayne0828@gmail.com

2026 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.

April	PRE - REGISTER		
		4/4/2026 - Sat	
	EASTER	4/5/2026 - Sun	
	TO GUARANTEE	4/11/2026 - Sat	
		4/12/2026 - Sun	
	YOUR SPOT FOR	4/18/2026 - Sat	
		4/19/2026 - Sun	
	WINTER TOURNAMENTS	4/25/2026 - Sat	Jackson - Thrun Vincent
	SPRING MEETING	4/26/2026 - Sun	
	OUTDOOR SEASON BEGINS		
May			
		5/2/2026- Sat	
		5/3/2026 - Sun	
		5/9/2026 - Sat	
	MOTHER'S DAY	5/10/2026 - Sun	
	TEAM WORLD	5/15/2026 - Fri	
	TEAM WORLD	5/16/2026 - Sat	
	TEAM WORLD	5/17/2026 - Sun	
		5/23/2026 - Sat	
		5/24/2026 - Sun	
	MEMORIAL DAY	5/25/2026 - Mon	
		5/30/2026 - Sat	Lansing - St. Jude
		5/31/2026 - Sun	
June			
		6/6/2026 - Sat	St. Clair Shores Memorial Tournament
		6/7/2026 - Sun	
		6/12/2026 - Fri	Kalamazoo
		6/13/2026 - Sat	Lake Orion
		6/14/2026 - Sun	
		6/20/2026 - Sat	Mecosta
	FATHER'S DAY	6/21/2026 - Sun	
		6/27/2026 - Sat	Lansing - 40/30 Throwback Tournament (50 Point games)
		6/28/2026 - Sun	

Participants: Help the TD's by bringing the correct fee (\$20) money.

It will speed up check-in. Bring dollars for scorekeepers.

It is good etiquette to wear a tournament shirt at all events.

July		
4th of JULY	7/4/2026 - Sat	
	7/5/2026 - Sun	
	7/11/2026 - Sat	Lake Orion
	7/12/2026 - Sun	
WORLD TOURNAMENT @ WAUSAU, WI	7/13 - 7/26/2026	
	7/18/2026 - Sat	
	7/19/2026 - Sun	
	7/25/2026 - Sat	
	7/26/2026 - Sun	

August		
STATE DOUBLES @ LAKE ORION	8/1/2026 - Sat	Mark Burns MHPA President
	8/2/2026 - Sun	
	8/7/2026 - Fri	Kalamazoo
	8/7/2026 - Fri	St. Clair Shores
	8/8/2026 - Sat	St. Clair Shores
	8/9/2026 - Sun	St. Clair Shores
	8/15/2026 - Sat	Jackson - Mark Burns (TD)
	8/16/2026 - Sun	
STATE SINGLES @ KALAMAZOO	8/21/2026 - Fri	
STATE SINGLES @ KALAMAZOO	8/22/2026 - Sat	
STATE SINGLES @ KALAMAZOO	8/23/2023 - Sun	
	8/29/2026 - Sat	
	8/30/2026 - Sun	

September		
	9/5/2026 - Sat	
	9/6/2026 - Sun	
LABOR DAY	9/7/2026 - Mon	
	9/12/2026 - Sat	Mecosta
	9/13/2026 - Sun	
	9/19/2026 - Sat	Woody Cup
	9/20/2026 - Sun	
	9/26/2026 - Sat	
	9/27/2026 - Sun	

FALL INDOOR BEGINS		
October	PRE - REGISTER	
	10/3/2026 - Sat	
	10/4/2026 - Sun	Jackson
	TO GUARANTEE	10/10/2026 - Sat
		10/11/2026 - Sun
	YOUR SPOT FOR	10/17/2026 - Sat
		10/18/2026 - Sun
	FALL TOURNAMENTS	10/24/2026 - Sat
		10/25/2026 - Sun
		10/31/2026 - Sat

November		
	PRE - REGISTER	
	11/1/2026 - Sun	
	11/7/2026 - Sat	Jackson
	TO GUARANTEE	11/8/2026 - Sun
	YOUR SPOT FOR	11/14/2026 - Sat
		11/15/2026 - Sun
	FALL TOURNAMENTS	11/21/2026 - Sat
		11/22/2026 - Sun
		Jackson

Indoor Tournament Results

Mecosta Indoor - January 10, 2026

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Doug Crawford (OH)	64.17	3-1	111	162	68.52
2. Helga Hewlett	64.19	3-1	109	136	64.12
3. Brandy Morehead	68.75	3-1	99	168	58.93
4. Quincy Johnson	55.01	1-3	81	158	51.27
5. Keith Schafer (FL)	53.20	0-4	28	114	24.56

Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Greg Burke	51.00	4-0	97	172	56.40
2. Larry McArthur	47.35	3-1	80	178	44.94
3. Wayne Baker (OH)	42.80	1-3	78	194	40.21
4. Roger Higgins	41.04	1-3	53	160	33.13
5. Bobby Mumford Sr.	41.70	1-3	53	164	32.32

Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Dave Harrison	39.85	4-0	69	80	38.33
2. Bob Dale	35.82	3-1	142	158	44.94
3. Danny Markley	40.00	2-2	41	122	33.61
4. George Jones	36.24	1-3	97	160	36.25
5. Brad Reynolds	38.87	0-4	29	140	20.70

Class D	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Josh Lewandowski	29.72	6-0	98	288	34.03
2. Larry Thompson	33.00	3-3	74	250	29.60
3. Jason Fri	21.73	3-3	60	270	22.22
4. Tim Stewart	30.81	0-6	55	276	19.93

Class E	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Aaron Ostrander	16.00	3-3	27	240	11.25
2. David Morehead	10.03	3-3	26	240	10.83
3. LEEANNE STEWART	5.00	3-3	25	240	10.42
4. Cindy Jones	6.67	3-3	8	240	3.33

Jackson Indoor - Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Brandy Morehead	66.74	3-1	141	212	66.51
2. Doug Crawford (OH)	65.16	2-2	139	204	68.14
3. Helga Hewlett	64.38	1-3	128	204	62.75

Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Wayne Baker (OH)	41.70	4-0	81	160	50.63
2. Jaime Goodman	48.43	2-2	69	150	46.00
3. Dave Harrison	39.85	2-2	71	176	40.34
4. Danny Markley	40.00	2-2	49	166	29.52
5. Bobby Mumford Sr.	41.70	0-4	23	144	15.97

Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Mark Burns	36.99	3-1	70	166	42.17
2. Bob Peek	34.93	3-1	73	196	37.24
3. Michele Burns	38.33	2-2	52	132	39.39
4. James Toth	33.38	1-3	56	172	32.56
5. Dan Kofflin	26.47	1-3	48	178	26.97

Class D	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Chrystal Devine	22.88	6-0	62	214	28.97
2. Jason Short	14.00	3-3	50	228	21.93
3. Derrick Ostrander	24.00	3-3	39	220	17.73
4. Thomas Wedyke	14.64	0-6	35	222	15.77

Class E	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Aaron Ostrander	11.25	2-2	21	164	12.80
2. David Morehead	10.52	2-2	19	164	11.59
3. Carmen Wedyke	6.79	2-2	10	160	6.2

Kalamazoo Indoor - Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Andrew Adams	76.87	5-1	197	280	70.36
2. Brandy Morehead	67.00	3-3	204	304	67.11
3. Doug Crawford (OH)	66.90	3-3	176	284	61.97
4. Greg Burke	56.40	1-5	176	276	63.77

Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Jaime Goodman	48.65	3-1	82	154	53.25
2. Wayne Baker (OH)	44.01	3-1	73	170	42.94
3. Warren Westbrook	46.62	2-2	70	150	46.67
4. Martin Quillen	40.43	1-3	57	146	39.04
5. Danny Markley	40.00	1-3	40	152	26.32

Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. George Jones	38.59	4-0	49	172	28.49
2. Wayne Friesmuth	39.02	3-1	50	162	30.86
3. Dan Kofflin	27.35	2-2	38	168	22.62
4. Jason Short	21.93	1-3	38	174	21.84
5. Cindy Jones	6.79	0-4	8	148	5.41

Tom Burns Memorial Jackson Indoor Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026



Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Brandy Morehead	67.76	3-1	133	206	64.56
2. John Banks	61.41	3-1	115	196	58.67
3. Greg Burke	60.94	2-2	126	196	64.29
4. Randal Hawkins	70.94	2-2	115	184	62.50
5. Lisa Smith	61.49	0-4	105	194	54.12

(Continued on next page)

Class B						Class B					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%		
1. Jaime Goodman	50.50	4-0	66	130	50.77	1. Jaime Goodman	51.06	4.0	93	172	54.07
2. Wayne Baker (OH)	44.95	3-1	50	136	36.76	2. Kyle Peterman	55.31	3-1	73	194	47.40
3. Dave Harrison	40.25	2-2	47	184	25.54	3. Warren Westbrook	54.07	2-2	93	186	50.00
4. Mark Burns II	42.34	1-3	61	174	35.06	4. Larry McArthur	48.34	1-3	81	166	48.80
5. Danny Markley	40.00	0-4	50	168	29.76	5. Wayne Baker (OH)	44.95	0-4	34	108	31.48

Class C						Class C					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%		
1. Bob Peek	35.91	4-0	63	170	37.06	1. Michele Burns	39.93	4.0	79	200	39.50
2. Mark Burns	37.83	2-2	58	176	32.95	2. Dennis Soldan	40.08	3-1	77	190	40.53
3. George Jones	38.59	2-2	49	188	26.06	3. Dave Harrison	40.25	2-2	72	174	41.38
4. Bobby Mumford Sr.	39.26	2-2	47	206	22.82	4. Martin Quillen	40.91	1-3	62	176	35.23
5. Chris Judson (IL)	34.11	0-4	43	200	21.50	5. George Parsons	43.44	0-4	56	168	33.33

Class D						Class D					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%		
1. Johnnie Smith	31.48	3-1	50	158	31.65	1. Robert Kudla	35.19	3-1	65	176	36.93
2. James Toth	33.71	2-2	46	184	25.00	2. Mark Burns	37.83	3-1	50	162	30.86
3. Kevin Gladstone	27.61	2-2	41	172	23.84	3. Danny Markley	39.04	3-1	52	180	28.89
4. Dan Kofflin	27.35	2-2	43	182	23.63	4. Johnn King	35.33	1-3	34	148	22.97
5. Will Plankenhorn	28.39	1-3	46	196	23.47	5. Josh Lewandowski		0-4	54	202	26.73

Class E						Class E					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%		
1. Gene Meadows	23.05	5-1	69	248	27.82	1. Joel Durecka	26.25	5-1	85	232	36.64
2. Jason Short	21.89	4-2	70	260	26.92	2. Daran Stephenson(OH)	25.51	4-2	85	260	32.69
3. Bobby Mumford	25.28	3-3	68	252	26.98	3. Troy Durecka	27.78	3-3	85	268	31.78
4. Michael Burns	25.72	0-6	28	248	11.29	4. Jason Short	23.87	0-6	47	248	18.95

Class D						Class F					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%		
1. Jacob Kwasneski	16.06	3-1	19	160	11.88	1. Derrick Ostrander	20.00	3-3	53	228	23.25
2. Aaron Ostrander	11.88	2-2	17	160	10.63	2. Derrick Ostrander	17.73	3-3	35	224	15.63
3. Cindy Jones	6.16	1-3	4	160	2.50	3. Steven Hall	18.00	2-4	39	238	16.72
						2. Aaron Ostrander	11.52	2-4	34	234	14.53

Jackson Indoor - Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026

Class A					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	
1. Brandy Morehead	66.29	6-1	111	170	65.29
2. Lisa Smith	61.49	4-2	127	238	53.36
3. Michele Burns	38.78	1-5	109	264	41.29
4. Mark Burns	37.83	1-5	78	220	35.45

Class B					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	
1. Johnnie Smith	31.61	4-0	49	180	27.22
2. Kevin Gladstone	27.61	2-2	26	176	14.77
3. David Morehead	11.02	0-4	20	176	11.36

Mecosta Indoor - February, Feb. 28, 2026

Class A					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	
1. Andrew Adams	76.77	3-1	171	240	71.25
2. Doug Crawford	66.90	3-1	143	226	63.27
3. Brandy Morehead	66.47	2-2	161	246	65.45
4. Helga Hewlett	64.38	1-3	138	216	63.89
5. Greg Burke	61.96	1-3	124	208	59.62

Kalamazoo Indoor - March 7, 2026

Class A					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	
1. Lisa Smith	61.49	3-1	101	172	58.72
2. John Banks	61.82	1-3	85	172	49.42

Class B					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	
1. Michele Burns	40.27	4-0	80	180	44.44
2. John Cousins	40.91	3-1	92	184	50.00
3. Bob Dale	40.75	2-2	78	178	43.82
4. Danny Markley	39.04	1-3	55	170	32.35
5. Dave Harrison	40.60	0-4	54	164	32.93

Class C					
Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%	
1. Mark Burns	37.83	3-1	56	196	28.57
2. Kevin Gladstone	27.61	2-2	48	170	28.24
3. Johnnie Smith	31.61	2-2	51	186	27.42
4. George Jones	38.59	2-2	44	170	25.88
5. Will Plankenhorn	27.56	1-3	52	202	25.74

(Continued on next page)

Class D	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Bobby Mumford III	22.88	4-0	58	204	28.43
2. Gene Meadows	25.32	3-1	44	164	26.83
3. Crystal Devine	25.84	2-2	39	180	21.67
4. Bobby Mumford	26.44	1-3	43	190	22.63
5. Dan Mendham	19.34	0-4	31	170	18.24
Class E	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Matt Skrzypek	17.58	4-0	38	134	28.36
2. Zachary Spanke	14.57	3-1	27	164	16.46
3. Cindy Jones	4.81	2-2	1-3	152	8.55
4. Aaron Ostrander	12.85	1-3	25	154	16.23
5. Steve Hall	16.39	0-4	11	152	7.24

Jackson Indoor - March, 14, 2026

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Brandy Morehead	66.40	5-0	161	240	67.08
2. Helga Hewlett	64.37	4-1	153	230	66.52
3. Denise Daly	64.24	3-2	156	228	68.42
4. Quincy Johnson	55.01	1-4	113	202	55.94
5. Kyle Peterman	55.31	1-4	119	222	53.60
6. Doug Crawford (OH)	66.18	1-4	102	198	51.52
Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Jaime Goodman	52.85	5-0	109	198	55.05
2. Mark Burns II	42.34	3-2	75	190	39.47
3. Dave Harrison	40.60	2-3	88	210	41.90
4. Dennis Soldan	40.64	2-3	86	214	40.19
5. John Cousins	45.86	2-3	71	178	39.89
6. George Parsons	42.38	1-4	75	218	34.40
Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Gerard Kane (OH)	39.49	4-1	83	214	38.79
2. James Toth	33.71	4-1	74	212	34.91
3. Danny Markley	38.38	3-2	52	240	21.67
4. Tonya Toth	25.11	2-3	55	244	22.54
5. Aaron Ostrander	14.49	1-4	39	240	16.25
6. Dan Mendham	20.18	1-4	37	254	14.57

What the rules say...

It is legal for a contestant to carry and use a blunt-ended hook or horseshoe pick-up device, but it cannot exceed thirty-six inches (36") in total length. Any hook cannot protrude more than two inches (2") from the main shaft. Care should be taken in using the hook so as not to endanger the opponent or other contestants. Contestants are also encouraged to carry measuring tools as well as a file and towel to keep their shoes burr-free and shoes/hands clean and dry.

Note: All measurement tools manufactured for sale must be pre-approved by the NHPA Council. (For sanctioned tournaments)

Welcome to the Village of Lake Orion

2026 State Doubles Championship
Saturday, August 1

Hosted by the Lake Orion Horseshoe Club

- Pre-register: (Mark Burns, burnsmo@umich.edu)
- Need one MHPA tournament to qualify
- 9:30 a.m. Sign-In Deadline \$40.00 per Team

Note if the tournament is cancelled - The rain date will be Sunday, August 2

- Combined average cannot be greater than 120%
- Pick your partner or we'll find one for you
- Walking doubles
- Pitch your own shoes
- 50 shoe count-all scoring
- Bring a dish to pass

2026 MHPA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

August 21-23, 2026

Hosted by:
Kalamazoo Horseshoe Club

Details will be forthcoming.

NEED ONLY TWO SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS TO QUALIFY.

Entry Mailing Deadline: TBD

Entries will be accepted at the last two regularly scheduled tournaments (see schedule.)

MHPA CLUB NEWS



Frank

Lake Orion

Doug Bailey is now the President of the Lake Orion Club and Frank Ouillen is the Tournament Director.

Frank's vitals are 248-513-7893 and frank.j.quillen@comcast.net

For all Charters

Charters are made up of volunteers, none of whom get paid for their time. Some know first hand how much time it takes to do all the duties of the Statistician/Secretary/Treasurer, President, Vice-Presidents, Tournament Directors and other volunteers. Some of these people have been serving for a number of years. Think about how you could help, and consider being an officer.

"One thing that is good to keep in mind is the reach of social media. Constructive criticism of the NHPA council can be productive, but it's very disappointing to see this happen on public forums. Keep in mind as you post, everything on horseshoe related pages can be seen by both members and those considering membership. If someone sees a lot of negativity on a page, would they really want to join the association? My guess would be that this would have a negative effect. This isn't to say that criticism can't yield positive results, we always want to hear from you! I would encourage anyone that has this type of feedback though to send it to me directly at bwebb5155@gmail.com, let's keep our pages and groups positive in 2026, building each other up as we pursue membership growth in 2026!"

—Ben Webb. NHPA President

Renewing Membership Online for 2026 Cards

Listed below are the basic steps to renewing your membership card online. This is the preferred method and it saves the MHPA time and money.

1. Go to www.horseshoepitching.com
2. Click on the eShoe link
3. Click in the players search box.
4. Type name or your card number.
5. Click on your name.
6. Next to card year click renew.
7. Then click print



NHPA

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

"Come Pitch with Us!"

15 Minutes to go, but 30 Seconds to pitch!

by NHPA 3rd Vice President, *Jerry LaBrosse*

This month I'd like to share some information regarding the use of judges at all NHPA sanctioned events, including world and state tournaments. Everybody knows that it is up to the players to determine the score at each end of your court. If you are unable to do this, then you both should agree to call for a judge. I'm sure most of you know this, but I want to reiterate that once you call for that judge, both players must step away and let that judge determine the score, and the judge's decision is FINAL. The NHPA strives to have the best trained.

There was a judging incident that happened at the world tournament in Sandy. It involved the 30 second rule to release both shoes. The situation was not handled well and

caused a lot of hard feelings. We all know that the 30 second rule is somewhat subjective and unclear in certain ways. Long story short, the NHPA has adopted a new policy to deal with this situation at the world tournament.

All judges will be instructed that they are not allowed to take any action regarding the 30 second rule with any player without getting the shift director or an NHPA officer involved first. I believe this new policy is self-explanatory, but if anybody has any questions regarding this policy, feel free to contact me.



Go ahead and pitch, don't wait!

Go ahead and pitch, especially in doubles play. Waiting for others up or down the line may be distracting for those waiting to pitch. I am always asked: "What are they waiting for?" It takes time from the game, breaks up the rhythm and sometimes is very annoying. Concentrate and focus on your target which is the stake. Lock out all distractions and you will become a better pitcher. **But, keep alert. Getting hit by a horseshoe will hurt.**

—Joan Lewis-Elmore, 11-time World Champion and 19-time TN State Champ



Deadline for signing up for the 2026 World Tournament in Wisconsin is May 18, 2026.

So far, 22 MHPA members have signed up. Members still have a chance to get in on the fun! The next closest WT is in 2028 in Springfield, IL.

	Name	Division	R%
1	Jackson Vancleave	Cadet Boys	17.74
2	Audrey Hetrick	Cadet Girls	3.77
3	Greg Burke	Elder Men	62.65
4	Paul Bachelor	Elder Men	40.42
5	George Jones	Elder Men	38.59
6	Danny Markley	Elder Men	38.38
7	Roger Higgins	Elder Men	38.15
8	Robert Kudla	Elder Men	37.28
9	Bobby Mumford Sr.	Elder Men	28.24
10	Bob Roesler	Elder Men	25.91
11	Cindy Jones	Elder Women	6.10
12	Bryce Vancleave	Junior Boys	28.32
13	Warren Westbrook	Men	47.83
14	Wayne Friesmuth	Men	38.24
15	Joe Hetrick	Men	30.95
16	Bobby Mumford, Jr.	Men	26.44
17	Brandy Morehead	Women	66.93
18	Helga Hewlett	Women	64.94
19	Jaime Goodman	Women	54.20
20	Michele Burns	Women	41.61
21	Aprile Friesmuth	Women	32.42
22	Tina Payne	Women	27.41

Sanctioning a New Designed Horseshoe

Any shoe that is altered from its original design would not be legal in any NHPA sanctioned event. Grinding off the ringer breaker would make the shoe altered and therefore illegal.

The cost to have a new horseshoe sanctioned by the NHPA is \$300 with a \$100 yearly fee every year there after as long as the shoe is being manufactured. A prototype must be sent to the NHPA Sec./Treas. to start this sanctioning. There have been a couple of pitchers that invented their own horseshoe, got it sanctioned and did so only for their own use. A rather expensive horseshoe.

With over 50 different shoes currently sanctioned plus many more that are no longer made but still out there for sale and still sanctioned, one would think that there by now was a shoe made that covers any ones needs.

NHPF Grant Qualification

There is no requirement for a club applying for a grant to be registered with the state or feds as a non-profit. Ideally, the club would be part of an NHPA charter but that also is not a requirement. One thing to keep in mind is that the NHPF cannot grant funds to an individual or a club if the money is to be used to make permanent improvements on privately owned property.

NHPF grant checks must be issued to organized clubs, associations, city, county, state or federal entities where the funds will be used to enhance horseshoe pitching opportunities open to the general public.

NHPA clubs with courts on public owned land qualify because they are open to the general public. If a club or charter is leasing a privately owned site, indoor or out, the NHPF could provide funds for portable courts to be used at those sites because ownership of the courts stays with the club or charter and no funds were used to improve the privately owned site.



The only horseshoe pitching related charity needs your tax-deductible donations to support many programs of the sport including the Hall of Fame and Grants to install new or upgrade existing courts.

Deadline for grant Applications: March 1st and September 1st .

Mail Inquires & contributions to:

NHPF

100 Bluestem Way

Wentzville, MO 63385 www.nhpf.info

Newly Designed Patches

In 2026, anyone who pitches in any NHPA sanctioned tournament has an opportunity to win one of these newly designed patches. Top class winners earn the Tournament Champion patch. All other class champions will win the Class Champion patch.



St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is our charity of choice. Make your ringers count even more.

Pledge forms available on the MHPA website and Ringer Reports.

Statistician's Report for 2025

Michele Burns, Statistician

First Place Finishes				30 Foot				
6	Andrew Adams			Brandy Morehead	93.72%			
5	Lisa Smith	Shoes Pitched: (32 Tournaments/594 Pitchers)		Denise Daly	92.11%			
	Brandy Morehead			Jennifer Hess	91.67%			
4	Denise Daly			Helga Hewlett	80.56%			
	Kevin Gladstone			Ringers: 43,436	Randal Hawkins	79.17%		
	George Jones			Shoes: 132,588	Ken Kuss	76.93%		
	Bobby Mumford III	Ringer %: 32.76%						
	Johnnie Smith			List of Tournaments by Michigan Pitchers in Michigan Tournaments (Only Highest game by pitcher shown)				
Second Place Finishes								
9	Brandy Morehead							
6	Dave Harrison			40 Foot				
5	George Jones			Andrew Adams	77.98%			
4	Doug Bailey			Quincy Johnson	56.76%			
	Jaime Goodman			Kyle Peterman	55.49%			
	Bob Kudla			Eric Soltis	51.31%			
	Sam Moore			Keith Schafer	50.00%			
	Lisa Smith			Warren Westbrook	48.15%			
Third Place Finishes								
10	Helga Hewlett			30 Foot				
7	Cindy Jones			Denise Daly	79.86%			
5	Quincy Johnson			Brandy Morehead	75.34%			
	Johnnie Smith			Randal Hawkins	75.20%			
4	Kevin Gladstone			Larry Heier	66.10%			
	Dave Harrison			Helga Hewlett	65.90%			
	George Jones			Clip Connin	59.58%			
	George Parsons							
List of Highest Games by Michigan Pitchers in Michigan Tournaments (Only Highest game by pitcher shown)				Tournaments Pitched in Michigan:				
				20	George Jones			
				17	Lisa Smith			
					Brandy Morehead			
					Cindy Jones			
					Johnnie Smith			
				16	Helga Hewlett			
				15	Dave Harrison			
					Danny Markley			
					George Parsons			
				13	JD Drake			
40 Foot								
	Andrew Adams	91.67%						
	Mark Burns II	73.83%						
	Warran Westbrook	72.73%						
	Eric Soltis	70.45%						
	Keith Schafer	68.42%						
	Quincy Johnson	61.54%						

MHPA Ringer Report Editor

Dean Schmitz
799 Chippewa St.
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

www.mhpahorseshoes.com

Publishing schedule
for the MHPA RR:

- March*
- May*
- August*
- October*
- December*



FIRST CLASS

NHPA/MHPA Membership Application

Name: _____ Last NHPA Card #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ Is this a new address? [] Yes [] No

Phone: () _____, Email: _____

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

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

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ **Mandatory for Juniors, Elder Woman 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: **Michele Burns, Secretary/Treasurer - 6565 Blackman Rd. - Jackson, MI. 49201 - mabearin@yahoo.com**

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.)