



# The Ringer Report



Informative - Educational - Entertaining

MAY 2026

Thirty nine MHPA members have signed up for the World Tournament.

	NAME	Division	R%
1	Andrew Adams	Men	71.98
2	Brandy Morehead	Women	69.89
3	Helga Hewlett	Women	66.51
4	Greg Burke	Elder Men	62.65
5	Kyle Peterman	Men	55.92
6	Jaime Goodman	Women	54.20
7	Ken Kuss	Elder Men	52.19
8	Kevin Bastian	Elder Men	51.24
9	Warren Westbrook	Men	49.12
10	John Cousins	Men	45.90
11	Bob Dale	Elder Men	43.70
12	Michele Burns	Women	41.61
13	Paul Bachelor	Elder Men	40.42
14	George Jones	Elder Men	38.59
15	Wayne Friesmuth	Men	38.24
16	Roger Higgins	Elder Men	38.15
17	Robert Kudla	Elder Men	36.71
18	Danny Markley	Elder Men	34.38
19	James Toth	Men	33.98
20	Josh Lewandowski	Men	32.47
21	Aprile Friesmuth	Women	32.42
22	Joe Hetrick	Men	30.95
23	Bryce Vancleave	Junior Boys	28.32
24	Bobby Mumford Sr.	Elder Men	28.24
25	Kevin Gladstone	Men	28.13
26	Will Plankenhorn	Men	27.56
27	Tina Payne	Women	27.41
28	Crystal Devine	Women	26.27
29	Bob Roesler	Elder Men	25.91
30	Bobby Mumford III	Men	25.64
31	Bobby Mumford, Jr.	Men	25.52
32	Matt Skrzypek	Men	24.47
33	Tonya Toth	Women	20.07
34	Jackson Vancleave	Cadet Boys	17.74
35	Thomas Wedyke	Men	15.07
36	Carmen Wedyke	Women	6.63
37	Cindy Jones	Elder Women	6.10
38	Audrey Hetrick	Cadet Girls	3.98
39	John Banks	Elder Men	62.55

## STATE HORSESHOE PITCHING TOURNAMENT

# 2026

Friday, Aug. 21  
Sat., Aug 22,  
Sunday, Aug. 23

Class seedings will use the eShoe averages as of Friday, August 14, 2026 available at NOON. (The tournament average from August 15 tournament WILL NOT be used in the class seedings.



Entries accepted by mail - postmarked by August 10, 2026.

Entries will be accepted at the August 15, 2026 Jackson Tournament.  
**NEED ONLY TWO SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS TO QUALIFY**

### Hall of Fame

HoF Chairman John Banks has announced that forms must be received by June 30th for the nominee to be included in the voting for that year.

John's committee includes: J.D. Drake, Andy Mathews and Dean Schmitz.

**A HORSESHOE** can be pitched almost anywhere at any time, and by almost anybody. It doesn't take exceptional strength to throw a 2 1/2 pound weight 30-40 feet.

However, pitching horseshoes in any number is significant exercise, since during the course of an hour, players will pitch 400 pounds or so of steel a distance of about a mile. An afternoon of horseshoes is more strenuous than one of golf. Among other things if you haven't been pitching regularly, brushing your teeth may be a bit of a pain the next morning.

"Best Horseshoe Event of the Year"- Sue Snyder

## TEAM WORLD

The 40th  
**Team World Tournament**  
May 15-17, 2026, Beloit, WI

The Team World Horseshoe Tournament is an annual, multi-day competition held in Beloit, WI, featuring elite pitchers from the NHPA. The 39th annual event (2025) saw Team Wisconsin win the title, with Missouri also being a top competitor in recent years. Michigan won the title in 2017.

2026 team members are:

Andrew Adams  
Brandy Morehead  
Helga Hewlett  
Greg Burke  
Kyle Peterman

The (7) teams finishing with the most wins after round robin play move on to an elimination playoff to determine the winner of the event.

**President's Report**

Mark Burns



**Welcome to summer season for pitching!**

Winter is finally over and we can start to enjoy getting outside and enjoying the sunshine!!! So, let's get out and support our local and far away clubs this summer!

We have the World & Team World Tournaments in Wisconsin coming up soon! In May, there is one team going to Team World this year - Andy Adams, Brandy Morehead, Helga Hewlett, Greg Burke and Kyle Peterman. Good luck to them!

May 18th is the deadline to sign up for the World Tournament in Wausau. You need four sanctioned tournaments from May 18 of 2025 to May 18 of 2026.

As of the writing of my article, we have at least 40 members going to the World Tournament! I am sure that everyone will be getting their practice in to perform at their best and bring home the hardware and money!

Good luck to everyone!!

If you have questions or new ideas, please feel free to reach out to me!

See you on the courts!



**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**

**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.*

**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**

<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	Frank Ouillen	(248) 513-7893	frank.j.ouillen@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.

<b>May</b>		
		5/2/2026 - Sat
		5/3/2026 - Sun
		5/9/2026 - Sat
	<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>	<b>5/10/2026 - Sun</b>
	<b>TEAM WORLD</b>	<b>5/15/2026 - Fri</b>
	<b>TEAM WORLD</b>	<b>5/16/2026 - Sat</b>
	<b>TEAM WORLD</b>	<b>5/17/2026 - Sun</b>
		5/23/2026 - Sat
		5/24/2026 - Sun
	<b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	<b>5/25/2026 - Mon</b>
		5/30/2026 - Sat
		Lansing - St. Jude
		5/31/2026 - Sun
<b>June</b>		
		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
	<b>FATHER'S DAY</b>	<b>6/21/2026 - Sun</b>
		Lansing - 40/30 Throwback Tournament (50 Point games)
		6/27/2026 - Sat
		6/28/2026 - Sun
<b>July</b>		
	<b>4th of JULY</b>	<b>7/4/2026 - Sat</b>
		7/5/2026 - Sun
		7/11/2026 - Sat
		Lake Orion
		7/12/2026 - Sun
	<b>WORLD TOURNAMENT @ WAUSAU, WI</b>	<b>7/13 - 7/26/2026</b>
		7/18/2026 - Sat
		7/19/2026 - Sun
		7/25/2026 - Sat
		7/26/2026 - 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.**

**August**

<b>STATE DOUBLES @ LAKE ORION</b>	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	
<b>STATE SINGLES @ KALAMAZOO</b>	8/21/2026 - Fri	
<b>STATE SINGLES @ KALAMAZOO</b>	8/22/2026 - Sat	
<b>STATE SINGLES @ KALAMAZOO</b>	8/23/2026 - Sun	
	8/29/2026 - Sat	
	8/30/2026 - Sun	

**September**

	9/5/2026 - Sat	
	9/6/2026 - Sun	
<b>LABOR DAY</b>	<b>9/7/2026 - Mon</b>	
	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
<b>TO GUARANTEE</b>	10/10/2026 - Sat	
	10/11/2026 - Sun	
<b>YOUR SPOT FOR</b>	10/17/2026 - Sat	
	10/18/2026 - Sun	
<b>FALL TOURNAMENTS</b>	10/24/2026 - Sat	Mecosta
	10/25/2026 - Sun	
	10/31/2026 - Sat	

**November**

**PRE - REGISTER**

	11/1/2026 - Sun	
	11/7/2026 - Sat	Jackson
<b>TO GUARANTEE</b>	11/8/2026 - Sun	
<b>YOUR SPOT FOR</b>	11/14/2026 - Sat	
	11/15/2026 - Sun	
<b>FALL TOURNAMENTS</b>	11/21/2026 - Sat	
	11/22/2026 - Sun	Jackson

# Indoor Tournament Results

## Mecosta Indoor - March 28, 2026

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Denise Daly	64.48	3-1	174	230	75.65
2. Brandy Morehead	66.93	3-1	192	260	73.85
3. Andrew Adams	74.18	2-2	160	232	68.97
4. Helga Hewlett	64.94	2-2	161	236	68.22
5. Greg Burke	62.65	0-4	110	190	57.89

Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Kyle Peterman	55.31	4-0	87	154	56.49
2. Quincy Johnson	55.35	3-1	81	146	55.48
3. Bob Dale	41.91	2-2	73	172	42.44
4. John Cousins	45.03	1-3	70	162	43.21
5. George Parsons	41.40	0-4	44	154	28.57

Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Dave Harrison	41.25	3-1	57	158	36.08
2. Danny Markley	38.38	3-1	56	174	32.18
3. Wayne Friesmuth	38.24	2-2	47	140	33.57
4. Jonathan Landino	35.99	2-2	51	156	32.69
5. Josh Lewandowski	32.47	0-4	39	144	27.08

Class D	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Joel Durecka	32.40	5-0	86	202	42.57
2. Johnn King	29.19	4-1	62	204	30.39
3. Aprile Friesmuth	32.42	3-2	63	228	27.63
4. Matt Skrzypek	24.41	2-3	53	216	24.54
5. Bryce Vancleave	28.32	1-4	68	240	28.33
6. Troy Durecka	29.62	0-5	57	242	23.55

Class E	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Edward Henry	23.25	5-0	49	182	26.92
2. Jackson Vancleave	17.74	4-1	34	196	17.35
3. Aaron Ostrander	15.61	3--2	38	188	20.21
4. Thomas Wedyke	15.07	2-3	22	190	11.58
5. Carmen Wedyke	6.63	1-4	6	168	3.57
6. Audrey Hetrick	3.77	0-5	8	180	4.44

## Jackson Indoor - Saturday, April 25, 2026

Class A	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Brandy Morehead	69.28	3-1	148	200	74.00
2. Denise Daly	70.35	3-1	153	216	70.83
3. Andrew Adams	74.18	2-2	160	232	68.97
4. Doug Crawford (OH)	66.39	1-3	114	188	60.64
5. Helga Hewlett	66.51	1-3	90	164	54.88

Class B	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. John Banks	61.82	4-0	95	158	60.13
2. Greg Burke	62.65	3-1	104	182	57.14
3. Lisa Smith	60.62	2-2	99	186	53.23
4. Sam Moore	55.44	1-3	89	184	48.37
5. Warren Westbrook	47.83	0-4	115	230	50.00

Class C	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Mark Burns	39.96	3-1	63	164	38.41
2. Mark Burns II	42.34	3-1	75	200	37.50
3. John Cousins	45.73	2-2	71	162	43.83
4. Michele Burns	41.61	2-2	57	164	34.76
5. Dave Harrison	41.25	0-4	50	158	31.65

Class D	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Joel Durecka	35.86	3-1	76	200	38.00
2. Jonathan Landino	36.22	3-1	69	188	36.70
3. Danny Markley	34.16	3-1	65	190	34.21
4. Chris Judson (IL)	34.03	1-3	55	190	28.95
5. James Toth	33.98	0-4	44	180	24.44

Class E	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Johnnie Smith	31.61	4-0	62	192	32.29
2. Josh Lewandowski	32.47	3-1	63	226	27.88
3. Bobby Mumford Sr.	28.24	2-2	36	168	21.43
4. Bobby Mumford	26.44	1-3	41	210	19.52
5. Kevin Gladstone	28.13	0-4	39	196	19.90

Class F	Entry%	WL	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1. Bobby Mumford III	25.19	5-1	75	300	25.00
2. Crystal Devine	25.84	5-1	62	262	23.66
3. Zachary Spanke	16.40	1-5	48	290	16.55
4. Tonya Toth	20.07	1-5	30	256	11.72

Welcome to the  Village of Lake Orion

**2026 State Doubles Championship**  
**Saturday, August 1, 2026**

**Hosted by the Lake Orion Horseshoe Club**

- Pre-registration is required to Mark Burns by July 30, 2026, (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
- 48 shoe count-all scoring
- Bring a dish to pass





## UPCOMING MHPA EVENTS - MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUG., 2026

MAY	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE	JULY
<b>30</b> Saturday Lansing St. Jude	<b>6</b> Saturday St. Clair Shores 	<b>12</b> Friday Kalamazoo	<b>13</b> Saturday Lake Orion	<b>20</b> Saturday Mecosta	<b>27</b> Saturday Lansing Throwback 40/30 50 pt. games	<b>11</b> Saturday Lake Orion Mike Ardelean Memorial St. Jude tournament



For details, visit: [mhpahorseshoes.com](http://mhpahorseshoes.com) - Stay in Touch, Stay Pitching

<b>SPECIAL EVENT</b> July 13 - July 25  <b>2026 WORLD TOURNAMENT</b> Deadline: May 18	AUGUST	AUGUST	AUGUST	AUGUST	AUGUST	AUGUST
	 <b>1</b> Saturday <b>DOUBLES</b> LAKE ORION	<b>7</b> Friday Kalamazoo	<b>7</b> Friday St. Clair Shores	<b>8</b> Saturday St. Clair Shores	<b>9</b> Sunday St. Clair Shores	<b>15</b> Saturday Jackson

## STATE HORSESHOE PITCHING TOURNAMENT

August 21-23



NEED ONLY TWO SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS TO QUALIFY

**Pitching Distance:** (measured from opposite stake)

**20 Feet** Young kids up through 12 years old - women 65+

**27 Feet** Teens 13 through 18 years - women - men 65+

**37 Feet** Men 19-64 years of age.



### MHPA Hall of Fame Museum

This position is open to a volunteer who is willing to keep this important part of the MHPA current. This group works on ideas for updating the displays and will be working on forming a committee. Located at the Jackson Indoor Building.



The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation was formed as a charitable public foundation to raise funds to build and maintain the **NHPA Hall of Fame Museum**; to preserve the history, showcase the present and build the future of horseshoe pitching. Located in Wentzville, MO.

## Condolences

### Paul Mattson

12/24/1942 - 4/7/2026

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Paul Mattson. He passed away on April 7, 2026, from cancer. He was a long time MHPA member.

Paul enjoyed being outdoors and his hobbies included: hunting, fishing, gardening, woodworking, playing horseshoes, cutting wood, and fixing things. He loved spending time and making memories with family.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a future date.



### Larry Hinton

6/14/1939 - 4/17/26

Mr. Hinton was educated in the Lansing School District and proudly graduated from J.W. Sexton High School. Lawrence went on to build a long and dedicated career with General Motors, where he later retired.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, he answered a higher calling and served faithfully as a Reverend, touching countless lives through ministry, compassion, and a steadfast devotion to God.

More than a topflight pitcher, Larry has served as president and publicity director for the Greater Lansing Area Horseshoe Club. He has pitched in many exhibitions held throughout the Lansing area over the years and has sang the National Anthem at many tournaments around the state.

He was inducted into the Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association's Hall of Fame on Sept. 6, 2009.



## MHPA CLUB NEWS

### St. Clair Shores

Just how much effort does each club and our association put into recruiting and promoting our clubs?

The SCSHC has promoted, it seems, forever. Starting with our local newspapers, word of mouth, our recreation center, recreation newsletter and our annual Guide Book.

We built our club shed and pavilion with funds raised through donations and membership dues. We are expanding the shed this year to make it a more efficient way to operate the club. We groom the courts every spring with a discount for members who participate. Resetting of pit stakes is done during that time and whenever it needs to be done. We paint the picnic tables and do any repairs needed.

We give each new member a club shirt and patch, guide book and a great welcome to the club.

Members participate in our district sanctioned tournaments, state and world tournaments. Participation in the Woody Cup to raise money for St. Jude has become an exciting event for the club.

We have had members step up to become officers and shed managers. One of the highlights is the banquet under the pavilion each fall.

We have banners posted on our fence promoting our sponsors. Over the years, we have had the Recreation Director, Recreation Dept. Members, SCS Mayor, State Representative, and the NHPA president throw out the first pitch during our sanctioned tournaments.

We have grown from nine active pitchers in 1997 with one night of pitching to currently three evenings of pitching. We have a recreation singles league, a sanctioned league and 12 full courts of doubles pitchers. And, we fill the courts for our 10-week fall league.

We all know that we have lost many horseshoe clubs in Michigan. Those still in existence have had members step up to keep the clubs afloat. The SCSHC has plenty of help from horseshoe pitching lovers and promoters to keep expanding the SCSHC.

*Keep horseshoe pitching alive!*



## July 13-25

**Future World Tournaments**

2027 Kennewick, WA

2028 Springfield, IL

2029 Wausau, WI



**National Horseshoe Pitchers Association**  
**2026 World Horseshoe Pitching Championship**  
 July 13 - 25, 2026 Wausau, Wisconsin



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ 2026 NHPA Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 First (Please Print Legibly) Last (or Canadian #)  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One >>>>>>  I will Print My schedule  Email my schedule  Mail my schedule

Circle the Division you are Entering: (You may enter only one Division) (See notes at bottom on page)

Open Men 40 ft	Sr Men 40 ft	Elder Men 30 ft	Open Women 30 ft	Sr Women 30 ft	Elder Women 20 ft	Jr Boys 30 ft	Jr Girls 30 ft	Cadet Boys 20 ft	Cadet Girls 20 ft
	Note #2	Note #1		Note #2				Note #3	

All application information above is required. Form will be returned if not signed below or is incomplete. **ENTRY DEADLINE MAY 18, 2026**

NO REFUNDS will be made after June 1, 2026. **NOTE:** A processing fee of \$15 will be deducted from all refunds.

**PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE:** In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA), all officers, employee's, agents and the servants of the NHPA, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. The NHPA and it's legal representatives (NHPA Officers) assigns, and retains the right and permissions to publish, without charge, photographs taken during the 2026 World Tournament. These photos or videos may be used in any publication, or in audio-visual presentations including "Live" interviews, promotional literature, advertising, sponsorships, or in other similar ways that the NHPA sees fit to use on behalf to represent and promote the NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament and the sport.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Mail top half only \*

Entry Fees Adults -- \$150 before Jan 1, 2026 -- \$170 Jan 1 to May 18, 2026  
 All Juniors/Cadets -- \$25 All Fund must be USD Currency  
 Canadian Entries must use a Money Order if mailing payment Entry Fee includes Scorekeeping Fee

Mail to: NHPA Telephone & Email inquires to:  
 2660 S Fairway Drive Phone: 208 201-3326  
 Pocatello, ID 83201 Email: sec.treas@horseshoepitching.com

All Entries must be on this signed form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 18, 2026. You may enter anytime prior to May 18, 2026 using this form or on our website link. Entries received with a postmark after May 18, 2026 shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the World Tournament only as spaces are available. All Adults must have pitched in a minimum of four (4) US/Canadian sanctioned events in the twelve (12) months prior to May 18, 2026 in the same division you are entering. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors/Cadets. Exceptions for US Armed Forces members and family and Foreign competitors (other than Canadians) are outlined in Rule 11, Sec D.1 of the RGS Book. Contact NHPA for more information regarding qualifying exceptions. All Averages used will be the average on record in NHPA-eShoe as of May 18, 2026. Anyone qualifying under an exception must have those scores recorded by the same date. All NHPA and any special tournament rules apply. Please see note regarding refunds.

**READ CAREFULLY:** Any Adult male pitching from the full distance platform may enter the OPEN Men's Division regardless of age, just as any Adult Female may enter the OPEN Women's Division. To enter the Senior Division, you must be 60 years of age or older before the end of 2026. Any Man/Women that turns 65 years of age in 2026, or has an approved Medical exemption may enter the Elders Division. Entrants in the Jr Boys and Jr Girls Division eighteen (18) years old or younger for the entire calendar year OR through September 30th of the year of completing high School - not to exceed 19 years of age. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Division entrants must be 12 years old or younger for the entire 2026 calendar year.

**NOTE #1:** 30 ft Men with a Medical Exemption must be in NHPA eShoe as "Exempt" to pitch in this Division. A copy of the Exemption Form must be sent with this application.

**NOTE #2:** For Prelim Class play, a minimum of 48 pitchers must enter Sr Division's or it may be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Division if canceled.

**NOTE #3:** Junior Boys & Junior Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play.

The pitching schedule will be finalized by May 31, 2026 and published on the NHPA website [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com). If you indicate above to receive the schedule by mail, it will be mailed to the address you have listed above during the 2nd week in June. Please write address clearly & readable.

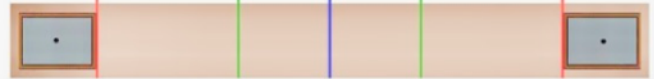
**Please note:** The NHPA reserves the right to disallow your participation for any of the following reasons: Any errors on this form, if your records don't appear in NHPA eShoe or any false or misleading information on this form, cannot validate Medical Exemption, or for any other reason by majority vote of the NHPA Council. The NHPA also reserves the right to add qualified entrants and to make class participant changes after the above deadline. No pitcher will be moved from a class or pitching time, without notification, after the final schedule has been published.

## Delivering the Shoe

Very Few horseshoe pitchers hold and deliver their shoes alike. This is because of the variation in the size and shape of their hands, the length of their fingers, and methods of release. There are several generally accepted ways of gripping and releasing the shoe to make it land "open" at the stake.

### Court Set-up

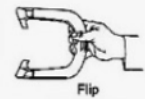
Stakes are 40 feet apart. Junior Boys and Girls pitch from the green line, which is 27 feet from the opposite stake. Cadets pitch from the blue line, 20ft from the stakes.



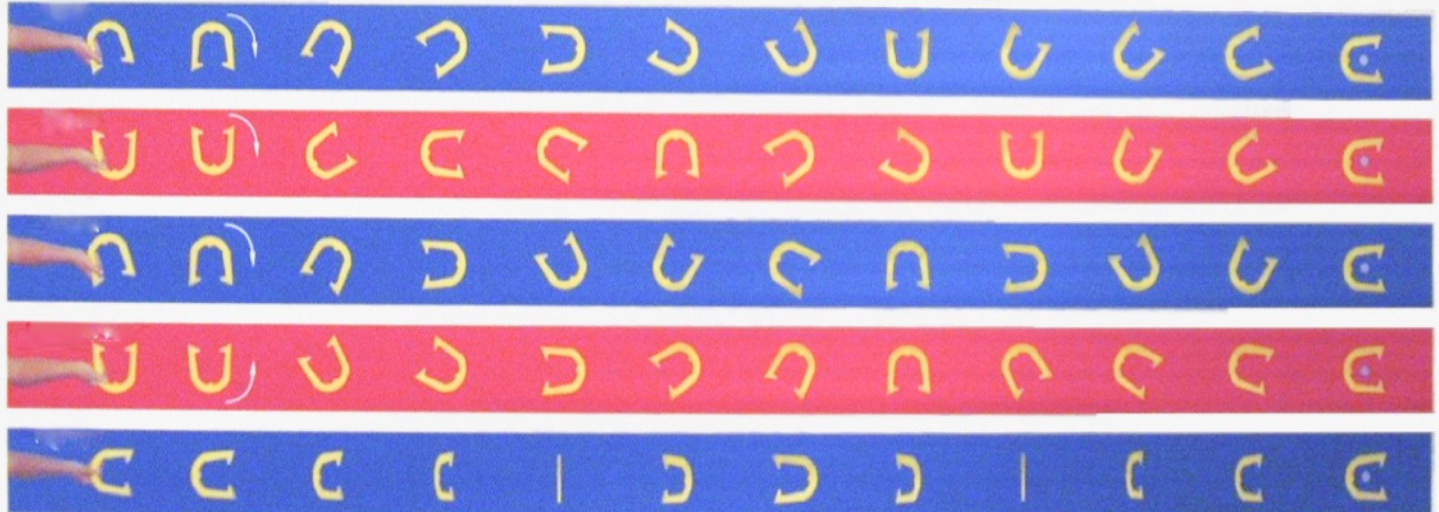
1 1/4 Turn  
3/4 reverse turn



3/4 Turn  
1 3/4 Turn



Flip



### HORSESHOE PITCHING TIP

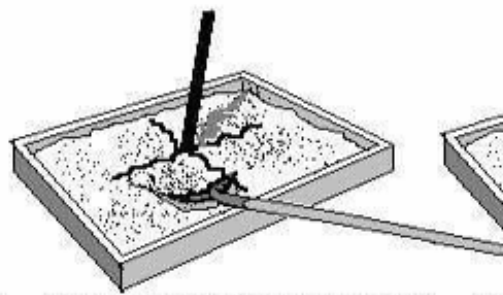
dg-2/03

#### RECOMMENDED METHOD FOR DRESSING CLAY PITS BETWEEN GAMES

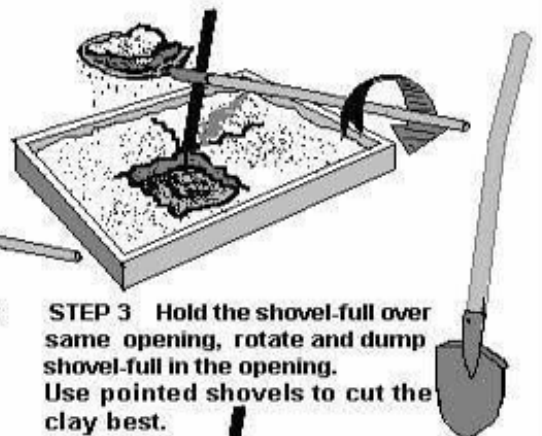
Lightly sprinkle clay first, then turn the moist side under for it to be "worked" when pitched upon.



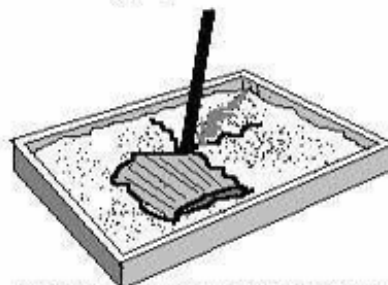
**STEP 1** Hold shovel blade vertical and step on blade to make 4 cuts as shown above. Use more cuts for large pits.



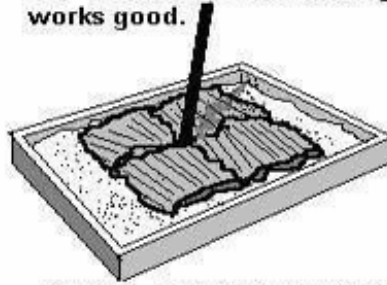
**STEP 2** Use shovel to scoop out a shovel-full of clay from one quadrant as shown above. A 2" thick shovel-full usually works good.



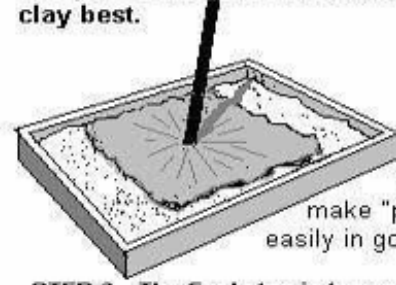
**STEP 3** Hold the shovel-full over same opening, rotate and dump shovel-full in the opening. Use pointed shovels to cut the clay best.



**STEP 4** The fresh, underside of the shovel-full of clay will now be on the top-side of the pit as shown above.



**STEP 5** Repeat steps 1 thru 4 for each quadrant around the stake to appear as shown above.



**STEP 6** The final step is to use shovel to shave off high-spots and to fill in the low-spots, and to use bottom of shovel to pat and smooth the fresh clay surface.

Ringers make "pockets" easily in good clay.

COVER CLAY PITS WHEN NOT IN USE TO KEEP CLAY MOIST.

**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.)