



RINGER REPORT

LIVE TOURNAMENTS

July 17 th -July 18 th	Kalamazoo	Josh Lull 269.838.7698
August 1 st	Brighton	Paul Bachelor 810.772.8678
August 8 th	Hillman	Don Mueller 810.705.2539
August 15 th	Holt	Keith Schafer 517.256.8224
August 22 nd	Jackson	Keith Schafer 517.256.8224
August 28 th -August 30 th	Kalamazoo	John Stephenson 517.980.6122
September 12 th	Holt	Keith Schafer 517.256.8224
September 19 th	Jackson	Keith Schafer 517.256.8224

If you are interested in pitching one of these tournaments, we are asking that you contact the TD and preregister. If you do not preregister, it will be up to the TD if they have room for you to pitch. Also, when you check-in, you will need to pay your scorekeeper's money to the TD. The TD will then pay the scorekeepers at the end of their shift. There will be no lunch served at these tournaments, so be sure to bring something to eat and drink.

Please remember that it is very important that you do the social distancing, washing your hands and wearing a mask.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Paul Bachelor is heading up the constitution and by-laws committee. He is looking for volunteers to help out. If interested, please give Paul a call.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

On Tuesday, June 30th, Keith and Tina Schafer and I made a road trip up to Hillman, Michigan. We sanctioned six sand courts for Don Mueller. Don has six beautiful sand courts and is planning a tournament for August 8th. I hope to see some of our pitchers come out and support Don for his first tournament. Please call Vicki Mueller at 810.434.1975, by the Wednesday before tournament day to sign up. If you don't preregister, it will be up to the TD if they have room for you to pitch. Thank you, Don and Vicki Mueller for all your hard work in putting these courts in.

Also, I would like to welcome our new officers to the Board of Directors: 2nd Vice President, Debbie Markley and Secretary/Treasurer, Pam Nelson. My thanks to both for filling these positions.

Hope to see everyone on the courts soon.

John Stephenson

NEW SECRETARY/TREASURER

I'd like to welcome Pam Nelson to the Michigan Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Pam is our new secretary/treasurer. Pam and her husband Ron are members of the Lake Orion club. If you see Pam, stop and say "Hi".

STATE TOURNAMENT

We have tentatively scheduled the state tournament for the weekend of August 28th-August 30th. If you are interested in participating in this tournament, we ask that you fill out your application and have it postmarked no later than August 10th. Please mail them to Keith Schafer, 832 Hyatt St., Eaton Rapids, MI 48827.

This will be held at the Kalamazoo Horseshoe Club's facility. Josh Lull has been working on getting a block of rooms reserved at the hotel next door to the courts. Please contact Josh for more information on the rooms.

Again, we will have to practice our social distancing, washing our hands and of course, the all important wearing of the face mask.

We will also be having our fall meeting where we will be addressing some proposals and having our elections for President and Secretary/Treasurer.

SENIORS TOURNAMENT

The seniors tournament has been moved from July 11th to September 19th. The location is Jackson.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

The NHPA has advised us that it is not necessary for you to carry a card any more. They have combined e-shoe and HSmaster together, so that the TD's can see online if you have a current card or not. To be on the safe side, I have been sending the TD's a manual file listing the pitchers who have renewed.

LOCATION CHANGE

Please note there will be no tournaments held in Lansing. The August 22nd tournament has been moved to Jackson.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Please note that Debbie Markley has been appointed to fill the position of 2nd Vice President until the end of 2020. Welcome aboard Debbie. We will be voting on this position at the fall meeting. If interested in running for this position, please contact John Stephenson.

LIVE TOURNAMENTS

Note that if you are planning to pitch any of the live tournaments, you will need to preregister with the TD's. If you just show up, the TD's will determine if they have the room for you to pitch or not. You will also need to pay the TD for the scorekeeper. They will then pay the scorekeeper at the end of their shift. There will be no meals provided at the tournaments. Please be sure to bring something to eat and drink.

2020 MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY FORM

Circle One

Circle One

Name: _____ Distance 30' or 40' Card # _____ \$40.00 or Junior \$0

Name: _____ Distance 30' or 40' Card # _____ \$40.00 or Junior \$0

Name: _____ Distance 30' or 40' Card # _____ \$40.00 or Junior \$0

Name: _____ Distance 30' or 40' Card # _____ \$40.00 or Junior \$0

Make checks payable to MHPA and mail to:

Keith Schafer
832 Hyatt Street
Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827

Mailed entries must be postmarked by Monday, August 10, 2020

Michigan State Championships Tournament will be held in Kalamazoo. The club is located at the VFW, 1920 E. Kilgore Service Road. Tentatively, the tournament is scheduled to run from Friday, August 28th to Sunday, August 30th.



SOCIAL DISTANCING - LIVE TOURNAMENTS

Two courts, with the scorekeeper on one court, and the game proceeding on the other. The entire complex will operate the tournament in this manner.

The scorekeeper will sit in the center of the odd court, midway between the stakes. The play will happen on the even court.

The person pitching (#1) will take their position on the pitching platform. The other competitor (#2) will stand behind the backboard 4 feet (to be six feet away) or near the odd court. When it is time for #2 to pitch, they will switch places using the circle method, keeping their 6 foot distance. Masks are optional.

After both have pitched, they will walk to the other end, keeping 6 feet of distance between them. If they walk in unison, they shall be on the outside of the pitching platforms on either side of the court. One person will be designated to determine the score of the inning. The other pitcher will stand on the odd court pitching platform. If there is a dispute, a judge may be called in to resolve the dispute. The judge will be equipped with a mask and gloves. The competitors will continue play for the next inning after determining the score with the person who scored pitching first and taking position 1, the other competitor in position 2.

The judge on each end of the courts will sanitize the shovels, water cans and paint cans before and after use, in addition to their normal duties.

When the game is over, the competitors will briefly congratulate each other from the 6 foot distance and move outside the fence opposite their next court, waiting to play the next game, remembering to continue the 6 foot social distance. They will wait outside the fenced area until that game is complete before heading to the court.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR AND STATISTICIAN REPORT

By Keith Schafer

There were virtual tournaments run in late May and in June as there were no live tournament play happening. In the six tournaments that were run, there were 131 total entrants from six states (Michigan, Louisiana, Nebraska, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Virginia). Forty-six different pitchers participated, with seven pitchers pitching all six tournaments. It was a tough way to stay pitching, but with live pitching coming back in July, we hope to not have to be forced into this situation again.

Seventy pitchers from Michigan have the two tournaments completed to qualify for State tournament. Since we are only requiring two tournaments this year, there is plenty of opportunity to be qualified to play. The remaining schedule is listed elsewhere in this report. Social distancing will be asked of pitchers so we may be able to continue to pitch live tournaments without the government shutting us down.

New clubs are being added to the Association, as the Hillman Horseshoe Club's six courts were given their sanction on June 30 and approved for tournaments, and the Ionia Moose Lodge has indicated that they have courts ready to be sanctioned for tournament play beginning in 2021. Next year, beginning in mid-May, pitchers should begin to get their tournaments completed to qualify for the 2022 World Horseshoe Tournament at the Summit in Dimondale, the first time the World Tournament has come to Michigan. A pitcher will need to pitch four tournaments in the year-long window to qualify to enter this event. Spread the word about World coming here, and if you know of courts that can possibly be approved for tournament play to help pitchers qualify for the World Tournament, contact me. We can see what can be done to get them ready for tournament play.

Please stay safe out there, and hope to see you on the courts very soon!

PROPOSALS

Date: January 16, 2020

Subject: Proposed Change to MHPA Constitution and By-Laws

To: John Stephenson - MHPA President

From: Paul Bachelor

I would like to submit the following change proposal to the MHPA Constitution and By-Laws:

Current Practice: Juniors and Cadets currently do not pay tournament entry fees and are not eligible for any monetary awards or pay-outs. The only award they are eligible to receive is the "Patch" for finishing first in their Class (but no monetary payout)

Proposed Change: Treat Juniors and Cadets like all other pitchers. That is, collect the appropriate tournament entry fee, and give them any and all monetary awards and payouts they may have earned for appropriate finish position in their class.

Reasoning: The long standing reason Juniors and Cadets were restricted from receiving monetary awards at tournaments was the belief it would negate their "Amateur" status to be eligible for college sport related scholarships.

The NHPA has done long and exhaustive evaluation of the amateur status for horseshoe pitchers and has determined that since no college organization recognizes 'Horseshoes' as a varsity sport, no college would negate any 'amateur' status to anyone who received monetary awards for pitching in horseshoe tournaments.

In 2019 the *NHPA Official Rules / Regulations* were changed as follows:

Regulation 6, Section C - Awards: was changed from:

All Junior play (mixed class or otherwise) will be conducted on an amateur basis. Awards presented to this Division by the Tournament/League Officials should have no immediate monetary value. The awarding of trophies, medals, or ribbons is recommended. Any award with monetary value, including funds from the Charter, State, World Tournament or the Junior Scholar Pitcher Awards Program, shall not be issued before the recipient reaches 18 years of age. Scholar awards may have additional restrictions.

To: Awards presented to a Junior or Cadet by the tournament/league officials may have immediate or deferred monetary value.

Regulation 6, Section D - Responsibility: was changed from:

It shall be the responsibility of all Junior pitchers (or their parents/guardians) to make sure that their amateur standing is not jeopardized by any violation of the above information.

To: Section D - Amateur Status Responsibility

Collegiate: Prizes or cash awards for horseshoe pitching achievements do not impact amateur status in any NCAA sport's (Horseshoe pitching is not a NCAA sport)

Scholastic (High School): It is the responsibility of the youth participant and their parents/guardians to check state scholastic sport association regulations/restrictions when determining whether to accept an award with any monetary value +. The host charter and/or the NHPA assumes no responsibility for any adverse effects which horseshoe pitching awards may have on the amateur status of any youth participant.

The current practice of not providing monetary payouts to Juniors & Cadets places not only the Juniors and Cadets at a disadvantage, but also puts the other pitchers in the Class with the Junior / Cadet at a disadvantage because the overall payout available for the class is less. Through no fault of their own, the other pitchers receive less payout than another class that has the same number of pitchers but without a Junior or Cadet. The problem is even greater if more than one Junior / Cadet is in a given Class.

MHPA Constitution and By-Laws needed change:

The only area in the Constitution that requires official change is:

Article VIII: State Doubles Tournament, Section 4.

If two juniors enter as a team they do not pay or receive money. They are only eligible to win patches, trophies or plaques.

This Section should be eliminated from the MHPA Constitution and By-Laws.

Effective Date:

Standard tournaments: Since no formal change to the Constitution and By-Laws is required to implement this change, I suggest it be implemented beginning with the Fall Indoor Tournament Schedule, or with the 2021 tournament schedule.

State Singles Tournaments: Since no formal change to the Constitution and By-Laws is required to implement this change, I suggest it be implemented for next year's State Singles Tournament.

State Doubles Tournament: Implement with approval of this proposed Constitution and By-Law change for next year's State Doubles Tournament.

PROPOSALS CONTINUED

Proposal to add a section to the constitution for State Tournament play:

All games in class play during the state tournament shall be 40 shoe games. Ties in class play will not be played off. Playoff games during class play will be 40 shoe games, and ties will be broken by an additional 4 shoes until there is a winner. All games in Championship group play are played to 40 points.

Purpose: To define in the constitution what our state tournament practice is for play.

Submitted by Keith Schafer 11/24/19

Proposal to add responsibilities to the constitution (Add to Article II, section 8)

The publicity chair and the webmaster will be under the oversight of the president. Any changes to these positions shall be agreed to by the board of directors.

Submitted by Keith Schafer 12/31/19

Article VI Tournaments

Addition to Section 11:

During state stay-at-home orders or other emergencies which do not allow regular tournaments to be played, when allowed by the NHPA, virtual mail-in tournaments will be run. Home courts will be sanctioned for play according to NHPA rules by the Regional Director. These tournaments shall use 40 shoe games, may be ringers only or count-all, there will be no entry fees or payouts, and tournament will be announced at least one week before play. When possible, the classes shall be posted prior to play and results will be posted as soon as possible.

Submitted by Keith Schafer 5/14/20

FULL MEMBER - Dues for full adult members are the National dues of twenty- five dollars (\$25.00) plus the amount set for State dues within their Charter. Three dollars (\$3.00) of every adult membership will be set aside for the World Tournament prize fund, for the next year. Only full members may enter State and World tournament.

_____ FULL MEMBER (\$45.00): Voting member will full privileges to entry all sanctioned tournaments upon paying fees.

PROVISIONAL MEMBER - Dues for provisional adult members are the National Provisional dues of ten dollars (\$10.00). Provisional members are allowed to entry to regular tournaments/leagues (upon paying their full entry fee) for the period beginning at their first entry to the end of the current calendar year. At which time they must become full members in order to continue participating in NHPA tournaments/leagues. During their provisional time, a member can upgrade to full member at any time by paying the remainder of their National dues of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) and their state charter dues. Provisional member tournament/league statistics are reported to the NHPA. Provisional members cannot vote and do not count toward the awarding of charter delegates, but are reported on charter membership reports to the NHPA.

_____ PROVISIONAL MEMBER (\$10.00): Must pay entry fees and can play in as many tournaments as you like for the year.

TRIAL MEMBER - All dues for trial members are waived and the member is allowed entry to one regular tournament/league (upon paying their full entry fee). Trail member tournament/league statistics are not reported to the NHPA. Trail members cannot vote and do not count toward the awarding of charter delegates, but are reported on charter membership reports to the NHPA.

_____ TRIAL MEMBER (\$0.00): Must pay tournament entry fee and allowed only one tournament.

NHPA/MHPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ NHPA Card #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ Is this a new address: ___ Yes

Phone Number () _____ Email: _____

How do you wish to get the Ringer Report? _____ Website _____ Standard Mail

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

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Mandatory for Juniors and 30' Men

_____ FULL MEMBER (\$45.00): Voting member with full privileges to entry all sanctioned tournaments upon paying fees.

_____ PROVISIONAL MEMBER (\$10.00): Must pay entry fees and can play in as many tournaments as you like for the year.

_____ TRIAL MEMBER (\$0.00): Must pay tournament entry fee and allowed only one tournament.

Make Check Payable to: MHPA
Mail to: Pamela Nelson
660 S. Coats Road
Oxford, MI 48371

Full Member Card Cost \$45.00 Adults - \$38.00 for Second Card in the same household
Junior/Cadet Card Cost \$0.00 Junior wanting to receive the newsletter \$7.00
Ringer Report Subscription Only \$8.00 (Subscription included in full membership)

PRESIDENT

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248.421.9708

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517.487.0188

LINCOLN PARK
Bob Wells
734.847.6429

ST. CLAIR SHORES
Dean Schmitz
586.463.7488

AUGUST 8, 2020
HILLMAN HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

If you are planning on going to the first Hillman Horseshoe Tournament on August 8, 2020, here is a list of motels, hotels and campgrounds for you.

Hillman Motel
14917 State Street
Hillman, MI
Tel: 989.742.4123

One Bed	\$61.00
Two Beds	\$71.00

Thunder Bay Golf Resort and RV Campground
27800 M32
Hillman, MI
Tel: 800.729.9375

Camping	\$45.00	
Suite with Whirlpool	\$155.00	**only six rooms left for August 8 th **

Emerick Park / Village of Hillman
351 State Street
Hillman, MI
Tel: 989.742.4751

Camping	\$20.00	**reservations accepted, will not guarantee a specific site**
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