

Nor-Cal News & Views

Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association website address is: <http://www.NCHPA.com>.

President:

First of all, let's hope that our friends from Forebay park and Madera are safe as the raging wildfires are sadly burning near their communities. Congratulations to Rich Robbins (Tri-Valley), John Carver (Half Moon Bay) and Hayden Lee (Sonoma County) for their first place wins at the State Tournament. Northern CA pitchers were outnumbered as there were over 250 pitchers with almost 50 from our Charter.

The combined State Officers meeting, (held every year at the State) was held. One item discussed was payment of judges at the State Championships. The idea is for each player to donate \$1.00 at check-in. The money collected would be split among judges on those shifts. NorCAL officers brought it up at last year's officers meeting after we were told that some members thought judges should be paid. Unfortunately, SoCAL could not test the idea as they had forgot to bring it up at their annual meeting. We will be discussing it at our annual meeting to see if our membership would like to proceed. Let your club presidents or an officer know what you think about this please. **(Editors note, we have available extensive judging guideline information. If any of you would like a copy please let me know.)*

NorCAL Championships are just around the corner. We have a strong women's group with Elaine Butcher, Linda Hoelscher, Sharon Paddock and Vallejo's own Kimmy Stockli. Too bad Foa Remillong, Sue Lichau, Lois Edwards and Delia Garza were not able to make

the tournament as we have some incredible women in NorCAL *Cathy Kauffman*

3rd VP

The state meet is over, and looking at the attendance it was too long of a drive for most NCHPA members. There were less than fifty of us present. Besides pitching there were plenty of things to do in San Diego to keep you busy. I was lucky, I wasn't expecting to do very well, but as luck will have it I did better than expected. My percentage didn't improve, but neither did theirs. Hope my luck holds up for Nor Cal tournament in Vallejo.

Remember after Nor Cal, we only have about five weekends of pitching left before we have to hang up our shoes for the winter. Before that happens; you club representative should check your score sheet supplies and let me know if you need any. I can give out the orders at our; November NCHPA meeting saving you the shipping charges. "Score sheet are still \$40 per 500".

Hope everyone had a good year of pitching and may it continue into next season. *John Barney*

4th VP

This is the year for making amendments to our BY-LAWS and since I have not received any suggested changes for this year it looks like the by-laws will stay as they are. NCHPA is an organization that relies on the involvement of its members to exist, so get involved it will be good for us!

I hope to see many of you at our annual meeting in November and as we wind up our pitching season and look forward to the holidays I wish you blessings and I hope you have lots of good food, special memories, and happy times with your families. *Lorena Tournour*

5th VP

Hello everyone as the season winds down I want to say that 2014 has been a great year. A bunch of us from Stockton attended the state championship and had a great time all was good except the clay. 2014 has also brought with it a lot of new players and to that we say welcome. On a sad note Colleen and I will be moving to Hawaii the beginning of November and it going to be very hard saying good bye to all of you, but we will carry on in Hawaii and thank you for letting me serve all of you. --
Scott Henne, The Zooo

Statisticians Report:

2014 NCHPA Horseshoe Pitching Season is coming to an end and now is the time is to start figuring out who wins what Awards. I want to congratulate all Award winners. The results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Congratulations to all the pitchers that competed at World Tournament. Congratulations to all the pitchers that competed at San Diego, California State Championships.

On a personal note: I am no longer retired and I will need your help in turning in your tournament results to me so I can process them to National. Please when possible either at the tournament or after the tournament please put these tournaments on a tournament program so that the results shows .text files, their Class/Group, their names, the State they are from, their NHPA number, wins, losses, ringers, shoes pitched and how you set the tournament up like for instance if you set it up as 80% or

75% or 66.67% this way I will not be guessing and you can always send me a note to let me know. When the results are sent to me in a .text file it helps a lot and when you send it in as a paper tournament even it was on a computer and I get just a print out, I have to input the tournament results into my computer as if I am running the tournament so I can get that .text file results to send to National. I want to thank all of the Tournament Directors for doing a job well done. I can be reached by email WayneNatStat@hotmail.com snail mail 1573 E Sandalwood Ave Tulare CA 93274, Mon-Thurs 9am to 4pm Work Phone: (760) 376-3713 or 3714 and when in Cell Phone service: (805) 540-0842. *Wayne George*



Junior Boys World Champion for 2014
Hayden Lee

Recap of the Junior Boys 2014 Championship

The Junior Boys World Championship final game was perhaps one of the best horseshoe contests I have witnessed in my 28 years of attending the World Horseshoe Pitching Championships. It began with eight of the best in the world competing as a result of pitching high percentages in preliminary rounds in the Boys A class.

After the standard round robin of seven games there was a three way tie for first, between Ben Webb, KY, Brandon Pearl, NH and Hayden Lee, CA. As Hayden and Benn had a lower percentage than Brandon they had to play the first play off game. Hayden handily won by a score of 40-19 in 58 shoes. Then came the Championship game between two relative “new comers” to the game of horseshoes, Brandon’s first year of competition and Hayden just entering his third year. Brandon began with a double ringer and Hayden with a double miss. Immediately the score was 6-0 Brandon, second inning 2 dead 1 for Brandon, third was 4 dead, fourth was 2 dead 1 for Brandon again, putting Hayden in a 8-0 hole. Hayden shook off the nerves and scored on a 3 ringers 3 but he stayed there until the 22nd shoe and Brandon was up to 14 points. Then Hayden held Brandon at 14 until the 30th shoe, the boys, scoring along the way, making it 18-15 Hayden at 30 shoes. It seemed as though Hayden had found his mark. The boys went back and forth to shoe 50 where the game was tied at 27. At shoe 64 it looked as though Brandon would put Hayden away as he scored making it 36 for Brandon and 33 for Hayden. At shoe 66 it became worse for Hayden as Brandon scored another 3 getting him to 39. But wait! Brandon misses one at shoe 68 and Hayden scores 3. With all the reserve Hayden could muster the boys toss a 4 dead at shoe 70. With Hayden crouching down, stretching his legs and shaking the nerves off he lines up his shoes and tosses a double Brandon needed to top at least one of them to hold Hayden at 39, BUT he missed both shoes giving Hayden 6 points and the win. Final score was Hayden 42 Brandon 39 in 72 shoes. Congratulations Hayden Lee of Santa Rosa! *Casey Sluys*

All of you with access to a computer could have watched this game as a live camera feed were being broadcast to the NHPA website (one of 4 cameras). In fact Rick Della Santina and Mona hooked their puter up to their TV and watched it larger than live Be sure to tune in to the Kansas WT in 2018..

2014 World Champions

Junior Boys Champion

| Pos | Name | Entry % | St | Won | Lost | Pts | Rgrs | OvrAvg | Sh | R% |
|-----|-------------------|---------|----|-----|------|-----|------|--------|-----|-------|
| 1. | Hayden Lee | 71.39 | CA | 8 | 1 | 362 | 410 | 5.38 | 534 | 76.78 |
| 2. | Brandon Pearl | 69.75 | NH | 6 | 2 | 320 | 308 | 6.86 | 402 | 76.62 |
| 3. | Ben Webb | 73.75 | KY | 6 | 2 | 281 | 308 | 4.39- | 444 | 69.37 |
| 4. | Dalton Rakestraw | 68.33 | IL | 3 | 4 | 215 | 207 | 1.99- | 312 | 66.35 |
| 5. | Tyler Howard | 64.72 | KY | 2 | 5 | 215 | 263 | 1.36 | 398 | 66.08 |
| 6. | Travis Sluys | 67.78 | CA | 2 | 5 | 179 | 227 | 5.76- | 366 | 62.02 |
| 7. | Gunnar David | 63.06 | WI | 2 | 5 | 162 | 211 | 4.78- | 362 | 58.29 |
| 8. | Dayton C Campbell | 65.83 | OH | 1 | 6 | 154 | 205 | 8.57- | 358 | 57.26 |

CLUBS:

Feather River:

Another fun season of pitching is winding down. Thanks to all the people who came to our Feather River Club we had three successful tournament weekends this summer. We have a new pitcher at the Elks who recently moved from San Diego to Paradise. He is a member of the SCHPA and will be a welcome addition to our club. That's about it for now. Good pitching to all. *Audrey Winters*

Fortuna:

Fortuna Club is happy to announce that our Bear River Money Tournament was again a big success. Tom Webb took home the top honors in group 1, Tom has won this tournament every year, way to go! Tim Warlick bought himself a new flying machine, the contraption has wheels a motor, propeller and a para-sail. He had a hard landing the other day and broke a couple bones in his foot. He is having surgery next week, here's wishing him a speedy recovery. Our club got Chopper and Marcie Dahl as new members over the summer plus Dakota Paddock and Brice Rowley as two new cadets. Cecil Shaw of Fortuna Club won his group in the Bear River tournament and Mike Robinson of Willows Club won his group without a single loss, good pitching guys. Blair Rowley was doing really good in practice before the tournament and then at the games he was just off a tad. Don't get discouraged Blair I think it happened one other time, to a guy back in the 1960's. Will Facey of Ukiah Club won his group, he was in a 3 way tie for 1st place and had to play two tough opponent's to get the win, I bet he appreciated the mild weather during that marathon. Well I was pitching Tom Webb a couple tournaments ago and Tom threw an exceptional game 92.5 percent. Here's the thing he skunked me, PEW that stunk. Last I heard Tom went down to Ukiah and threw another 92.5 game and averaged 80% for the tournament. Those numbers kind of sound like what you hear coming from the best players in the world. I remember helping Tom build a nice building at his home

in Shively, specifically for the purpose of practicing the art of horseshoe pitching. Well it's apparent practicing night and day and night will make you a great pitcher. I tried it one time, after a few hours, it just didn't work out. At our awards dinner on Saturday night during the Bear River Tournament, Tom also won the drawing for his pitching dues (local, State & National) to be paid for the year of 2015.

Hey, I got a joke for you: This guy may not have been the sharpest chisel in the drawer but you got to hand it to him for his creativity. He lives North of Fortuna in McKinleyville, Ca., in a subdivision where the streets are named after trees. Anyway he and his wife were out taking an evening stroll, when she fell down, hitting her head on the sidewalk, knocking her out. He pulls out his cell phone and calls 911, when he gets the dispatcher he tells her that he needs an ambulance for his wife. The dispatcher asks him his location and he tells her that he is at the corner of Murray and Eucalyptus streets. She asks him to spell Eucalyptus and he tells her to hang-on, that he is going to drag his wife down to Oak Street. Ha Ha.

Bill Paddock

Gold Country:

We are getting ready for our last tournament of the year which will be on Saturday, the 20th.

The weather is supposed to cooperate by staying in the low to mid 80's which will be really nice after all the "hot" days we've been having lately. Sure hope we will have a good turnout to honor our "cadet" pitcher, Isaac Frazier.

For those of you who have not been at our courts this year, we have all new backboards and thanks to a very generous grant that we received from the NHPF, we have ordered a custom made 8 x 10 storage unit which will house all of our tournament equipment. It will be nice not to have to haul everything back and forth. Thanks to one of our members, Dave Barbe, we also have some sponsors and are having signs made to display on the fence during tournaments.

A big welcome to Natalie Smith, our newest member who pitched for the 1st time in our August tournament. Andy is working on putting together at least one team for the Team Tournament in

October. He, Andy, is recovering nicely from his heart surgery and has hopes that his Dr. will release him soon so he can get back to pitching. However, he still has a bad shoulder and might need surgery if special exercises don't help to strengthen it.

On a final note, I would urge any club that needs help in upgrading their courts to apply for a grant to the NHPF. This Foundation is there for all NHPA members. Although they issue grants, the funds are more of a loan in that it is hoped that those that receive funds will hold "benefit tournaments" and eventually pay back the grant. The NHPF is responsible for the thousands of dollars it takes to maintain the Hall of Fame museum and the beautiful indoor courts at the facility in Wentzville, MO. We should all be willing to support "OUR" Hall of Fame

Looking forward to seeing many of you on Saturday! *Cathie Loucks*

Half Moon Bay:

Congratulations to two of our members who won their groups at the State Horseshoe Tournament. John Carver and Richard Robbins (who is an associate member). I have to thank John Carver, who left before the awards ceremony and asked me to get his check. When John was called up to get his trophy and check, I went up to a loud cheer and applause. I explained that I was not John but thanked everyone for the greeting because I never experienced that before and how great it felt. I guess I need to win at the State!

If your club is using HS Master I found a small glitch. Check the players list under profile. We found that some members are listed twice due to having a new NHPA card number. You need to delete the oldest card entry so you don't enter that player into your tournament with the wrong NHPA average.

Remember to start the Holidays off right by coming to the last two tournaments on the schedule in Half Moon Bay during the first weekend in December.
Rick Della Santina

Lindsay:

It may still be very hot in the San Joaquin Valley but that is not stopping the Lindsay Bangers Club from enjoying getting out and pitching on Thursday evenings. The turnout for our weekly Thursday evening event is growing in numbers. We have a very young group with the majority of our pitchers in their 20's or early 30's which makes for some very entertaining evenings. We usually have between 12 to 18 pitchers on any given Thursday night. We are working to get some of these pitchers to become NHPA members of the Lindsay Club. The bangers have taken the opportunity to compete in not only our own tournament but also have competed with our neighboring clubs in Exeter and Tulare. As we gain more experience under the direction of Club President Isaac Rodriguez we plan to branch out and visit other more distant clubs in the near future.

Lindsay will be hosting a tournament on September 27th and we are expecting a big turnout. Fundraising for our club has started and we have created a website.

Our site is <http://lindsaybangers.weebly.com/> please take a look when you get a chance. We would like to thank a couple of early sponsors Forcum Mackey Construction for their monetary sponsorship and Frank Arroyo who donated 5 sets of horseshoes to the club. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the City of Lindsay for providing such a great venue with lighting for us to pitch and also for helping with permits.

On our list of goals for the future is to start providing free horseshoe pitching camps for the youth of our community and surrounding area. Till next time stay cool and keep pitching. *Ike Rodriguez*

San Francisco:

We're getting ready for our second tournament on Oct. 18th. We had a great turnout for our earlier tournament in June and are looking forward to seeing people again next month. Gino and I are talking about trying to host a couple of club tournaments next year or maybe even an NCHPA tournament during the week like Half Moon Bay does. It looks like a lot of the State, National, and other tournaments require a minimum of three

tournaments to be eligible, so that might be a way to get more of our local members eligible since the State Tournament is in Nor Cal next year. There are a lot more people playing horseshoes in Golden Gate Park now. I have 18 pairs of Cobra Horseshoes I loan out to the public, and several groups have contacted me this summer to help them throw a 'horseshoe party'. During July we helped with the California State Firefighters Olympics Horseshoe Tournament in GG Park, with players coming in from all over the State. We even got a new club member from one of the local firehouses. Last Saturday I loaned out horseshoes for a private 20 team tournament, and the following day, I helped manage the 6th Annual, Lord of the Ringer Horseshoe Tournament and Skate Jam put on by Blood Wizard Skateboard Company. We had 24 teams and several more people that came just for the portable skate park they set up. The team caliber definitely went up several notches this year, with teams coming in from Merced, Chowchilla, San Jose, Santa Rosa, San Rafael and the East Bay. The final matches were tough battles with Elias & Tino on team 'Horseshoes and Beer', from the South Bay coming out on top of the Frank Perez & Robert Stoker team 'Bad Habit' from the Merced Club in a tie breaker match. This was a double elimination, games to 21, win by two tournament where leaner's count! A whole lot of people playing horseshoes who had probably never heard of the NHPA before. Tournaments like the LOTR-6 get advertised and blogged about by websites and magazines, so the exposure of horseshoes in Golden Gate Park reaches a lot of people even if they are not there. Photos and videos will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

We're in our third year now and it seems every time I talk to Casey, Gail or one of the other club's officers' I'm learning something new. It's a difficult process learning by mistake and what seems like trying to recreate the wheel. And as I was reading about the new club in Lindsay, I was guessing they are struggling with many of the same things I am unless they are lucky enough to have a veteran NHPA club member guiding them.

So, while I was struggling to figure out all the ins and outs of starting and running an NCHPA club, I had an idea. What if the NCHPA took a survey of all the existing clubs to see how they ran things, and then created a 'Starter Kit' from the best ideas and

practices being used by the different clubs? Think about when you buy a computer or other new gadget. There is always the 'Quick Start Guide' that covers the absolute basics and gets you up and running. Then you could have a more complete guide that explains things and can be used as a check list as the club gets established. There could be Year 1-2 checklist, a year 3-5 checklist, etc outlining how to set up and run a horseshoe club in the NCHPA. Qualifying, dues, rules, scorecards, Natstats, raffles, clipboards, patches, brass plate, plaques, HS Master, News & Views, club shirts, donuts, coffee, handicapping, score keeping, delegates, club officers, bank accounts, on and on Horseshoe clubs are a lot more complicated than I would have ever thought 5 years ago.

We're starting to work on this ourselves in order to create a TO DO checklist for tournaments, but it could be expanded into club management and to create a schedule of milestone deadlines when things should be happening... Things like when you should submit articles to News & Views.

This might not even be a regional issue, but rather something that should be a master template created by NHPA, and modified locally. If it were not for everyone so generously helping us out and explaining things it'd would have been very difficult to get our club off the ground. Even established clubs can pick up new tips if people come up with a good idea. Why doesn't everyone send Casey their best club tip for the next News & Views and we'll see what's working?

We have a new Secretary, Matt Lusher, and we're talking about automated Paypal dues notices to our member list, and linking that to our club checking account. We haven't figured it all out yet, but when we do it could be good info to share. We'll make sure there is an 'associate member' option for people that want to be associates, as well as a 'donate' option for anyone that finds our website and just wants to donate to our work in the park. ...This is on the Year 4 Checklist. Cheers, *Peter Zepponi*

San Jose:

Congratulations to all those who pitched in the 2014 State Championships in San Diego!

I am sure it was a lot of fun. And best of luck to those pitching in the NCHPA Championships in Vallejo Oct. 4-5 and in the NCHPA Club Team Championship in Stockton Oct. 25-26.

Here in San Jose we have held the last of our tournaments for the 2014 season and it was a very good season. I would like to thank all the pitchers who made it to our tournaments and hope you will be able to make it to San Jose in 2015. I would also like to thank all those who helped in the court preparation prior to tournaments, all those who helped in setup and take down on tournament days, and a special thanks to all those who helped with tournament registration, the raffle, and the potluck. It would not happen without you!

I would like to remind everyone that the San Jose club still has the recipe book "A Ringer of Recipes" available for \$15.00 each. They make great gifts for any occasion. Just let Nancy Cloutier know and she will fix you up with any quantity you need.

Best of luck to everyone in the remainder of the 2014 season. *Mike Anderson*

Sonoma County:

On Sept 20 we will host the Whine Country Open. In this tournament you can complain all you want, we'll listen, but cannot guarantee you'll receive a satisfactory answer to your whine. First and second place winners will receive a bottle of wine along with the standard awards of patch/plate/money for first and plate/money for second. Come join us for our last tournament of the year, stay for the weekend and enjoy the Air Show at Charles Shulz Airport it's called, Wings Over Wine Country and more info can be found here: <http://www.wingsoverwinecountry.org>

Could it be due to assisting Montgomery High School coach Dean Haskin with his Arena Sports Program? Could it be due to an article in the local paper, perhaps an advertisement that we ran for 35

days? Who knows for sure, but the Sonoma County Club has picked up some new members this year.

They are John Amy, Dale McCann, Marie Cole, Greg Malone, Bob Tutone, Terry McKean and three young men of high school age, Alex Mullan, Austin Fagar, and Riley Frenzel. Welcome all of you to the Sonoma County Horseshoe Pitching Club and the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Terry has pitched in a tournament already and the others hopefully will soon. All belong to our league and the NHPA. We hope your stay with this organization proves to be a great experience for all of you. If there is anything any of us can do please don't hesitate to call any of the officers listed on the last page of this publication.

We have without a doubt the best Junior pitcher in the nation in our club. Hayden Lee proved that in Buffalo, New York this year, (see article on page 4) Two of the best Junior Boys in the nation are right here in Santa Rosa. They will be happy to give anyone lessons and or tips on how to improve their game. *Casey Sluys*

Stockton:

The Stockton Club enjoyed the trip to San Diego for the State Tournament. 7 pitchers and two wives (Fay and Pam) represented Mudville. Stockton was known, going back to the 1800's as Mudville, due to delta flooding, but the nickname is coming back due to the Great Mud in the Horseshoe Pits at Louis Park in Stockton....really!! Colleen Henne came close in the Women's Championship Group finishing second, and Jerry Bower came through in the clutch to take second in Men's O Class. The club enjoyed the Beach, the Weather, and the Sights in San Diego, getting together as a team for dinner twice during the weekend. We look forward to possibly hosting next year's State Tournament, and hope to see either Frank break through, or Rick win back his Title in the Men's Championship, and Elaine, Kimmy, or Linda return the Women's Title to Norcal where it belongs. The San Diego Club did a nice job with preparing the facility for the State. I spoke with their president Robert Chubinsky, and he explained the huge undertaking that it was to get ready for the Tournament, and I told him I could certainly relate to that. Based on some bad advice, they added sand to the clay; you

would think San Diegans would know that sand belongs on the beach, not in horseshoe clay! Clay or Sand is ok.....just not Clay and Sand! We are looking forward to the Team Event in Stockton in October. Put your teams together, and get your entries in to Gail! It should be fun!! Aloha and Ringers to Colleen and Scott Henne. Thanks for all you have done for the Stockton Club and the NCHPA....sweet are the memories! *George Davis*

Ukiah:

Where can you get the sweetest, juiciest watermelon in the world and some cool weather too? At the Fortuna tournaments in September and some of the best tomatoes too! If you missed the tournaments in Ukiah and Fortuna then you not only missed some great food but also some very exciting pitching. It has been a great summer and we have been able to spend time with some very nice people at a few tournaments in our lovely Northern part of California. We are looking forward to the Northern California Championships in Vallejo and the team tournaments in Stockton and to finish off our pitching season we will try to travel to Half Moon Bay in December. As we put the 2015 tournament schedule together and plan for the holidays we hope for a wonderful new year and a very happy holiday season for everyone. *Lorena Tournour*

DO YOU HAVE PICTURES OF RECENT HORSESHOE TOURNAMENTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE INCLUDED ON OUR WEBSITE? IF SO PLEASE SCAN THEM AND SEND THEM TO ME. WE WILL BEGIN ANOTHER PHOTO SECTION ON THE WEBSITE FOR ALL TO ENJOY.

Re-print from the communications email list:

The 2014 State Tournament is now in the books. N.CA had approximately fifty

pitchers participating in a tournament with nearly 250 pitchers. It was a long haul going to San Diego from Sacramento as I clocked 1198 miles to and from including times being lost or going out for meals (*it's very understandable why N.CA had low attendance at State*).

Below are some tidbits about the tournament.

- Terry Farrell (*Half Moon Bay*) was pitching extremely well but missed the second day of play. He would have been a contender in the Elders Championship group had he been present for day two. Great job Terry!
- Jesse Gonzales (S.CA) had a 90% game, wow!
- The San Diego Club did an excellent job of assisting the officers with the tournament under the leadership of Robert Chubinsky. The S.CA officers under Dave Smullen worked very hard on behalf of both charters. Thank you to Dave for his attention to details.
- During opening ceremonies, S.CA mentioned that Kimmy was tending to her husband and wished him (*Mitch*) a speedy recovery.
- Thank you to Esther Latino (*Sacramento*), Matt Smith (*Sacramento*), Gail Sluys (*Sonoma*), Joe Summers (*Vallejo*), Rick Birmingham (*Sacramento*), Scott Henne (*Stockton*), Don Shuler (*Stockton*), and Faye (*Stockton*) for scorekeeping and judging. And thanks to anyone else I may have missed. At times S CA had difficulties finding judges and scorekeepers as pitchers headed to the beach or took in the sites (*who could blame them*).
- At the officers meeting, items discussed included judges being paid for their service during the State Tournament and an increase to \$40 from \$25 for the entry fee. . This will be brought up at our annual meeting in November.
- Two of our members were so excited to get to San Diego that they received speeding tickets, they

were both framed is what I heard (*over 80 mph both of them*).

- The two people with the highest averages in the state, Hayden Lee and Travis Sluys, battled with Hayden coming away the victor. Both boys went to the San Diego Zoo and had a great time with Hayden's brother who had come from LA to watch them pitch.

More good things from these two Boys are sure to happen.

- Thanks to Marisela Mauricio and Sheila Garner who both played in the Women's Championship Group though more than thirty percent separated them from the top pitcher. Both ladies played without complaining about the spread and pitched well. Sandra Johnson from S CA won the Women's Championship. Sheila's lovely granddaughter was with her, she is probably between 8 and 10 years of age. Last time I saw her she had long flowing hair. She recently cut her long beautiful long locks so a wig could be made for a cancer patient. Kudos to that young lady, and to Sheila for helping to raise a compassionate young lady.

- Like any tournament, spending time with Mona Della Santina is always a good time. Not sure how Rick did but it is always great seeing Mona and Miss Mandy, Cheryl Lane, Maddie Barney, Judette & Sharon Rippetoe, Sue Saunders and others who support their loved ones.

- I also saw Sal Delgado, Luis Moreno, Donald Henry, Mary Houston from our Tulare Club who came to play as well as George Davis, Tom Mandich (*Stockton*), Rich Robbins (*Tri-Valley*), Alan Trusty (*Turlock*), Joe Sciarra, Jeff Erickson (*Half Moon Bay*), Tim Saunders (*San Jose*).

- Did I mention Dangerous Dave? Also known as Dave Lane (Vallejo). He handily beat current State

Champion and past World Champion Marcus Santillana. Dave was on fire!

It is exciting to watch someone when they go on a "*ringer run*" and Dave did that.

The Men's Championship Group had a playoff between Frank Arroyo (*Exeter*) and Marcus (S CA) who each had one loss. It was eerily quiet, at one point Frank was down 30-15 and he battled back, Marcus ended up winning with a double, I think the final score was 42-38. The crowd erupted with applause, there were a lot of comments after saying it was the best Men's Championship game and tournament played in years. Frank placed second and Rick Bermingham (*Sacramento*) came in third with three losses.

And kudos to Jeff Merrill (*Exeter*) who was thrilled to join the men's championship group when someone dropped out and he had a great time; and hurray for Mike Hammer (*Sacramento*) who was the eleventh seed and won five games - we were happy for Mike that he did so well. The Men's Champion Group played under poor lighting. These lighting conditions will need to be addressed should the State Tournament return to San Diego.

- There were mixed reviews about the clay with a lot of folks from various classes stating it was too sticky.

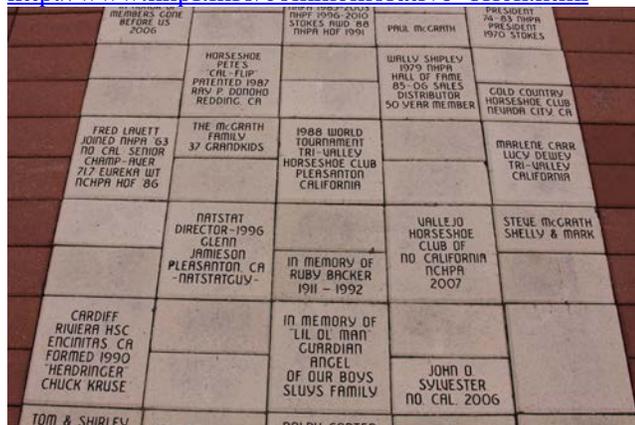
Hope you enjoyed the rundown. I think it was a nice tournament and another great pitching experience.

Please don't forget to get your team together for the Team Championships Oct 25th and 26th in Stockton. *Cathy Kauffman*

Please update your emails to me @ Casey Sluys kclus@sbcglobal.net you will be receiving the NHPA magazine Horseshoe Pitching Newsline via email.

Support your Hall of Fame buy a brick today. See the following for details:

http://www.nhpf.info/commemorative_brick.html



Shown in this picture are some of the Northern CA bricks.

As this is the final edition of the year we sincerely hope you have a great Holiday Season and enjoy the time off.



Golf at Christmas

Four old timers were playing their weekly game of golf, one remarked how nice it would be to wake up on Christmas Morning, roll out of bed and without an argument go directly to the golf course, meet his buddies and play a round.

His buddies all chimed in said, "Let's do it! We'll make it a priority; figure out a way and meet here early Christmas morning."

Months later, that special morning arrives, and there they are on The golf course.

The first guy says, "Boy this game cost me a fortune! I bought my wife a diamond ring that she can't take her eyes off it."

The second guy says, "I spent a ton too. My wife is at home planning the cruise I gave her. She was up to her eyeballs in Brochures."

The third guy says "Well my wife is at home admiring her new car, reading the manual."

They all turned to the last guy in the group who is staring at them like they have lost their minds. "I can't believe you all went to such expense for this golf game. I slapped my wife on the butt and said, 'Well babe, Merry Christmas! It's a great morning... Intercourse or golf course?' She said, "Don't forget your sweater."

NEWSLINE:

Beginning in January 2015 the NHPA bi-monthly magazine; "Horseshoe Pitching Newsline" will be published electronically. Each NHPA member with an email will now receive a copy of the magazine in their email. Please look for it beginning with the Jan/Feb 2015 issue. *Please update your emails to me @ Casey Sluys kclus@sbcglobal.net*

NCHPA NEWS & VIEWS is published quarterly, and distributed by the most economical methods. That includes email, website and USPS, as per the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) of the NCHPA.

The deadlines for submitting articles are: **Mar. 15th, June 15th, Sept. 15th Dec. 15th** Mail to Casey Sluys, kclus@sbcglobal.net

Articles and/or comments appearing in this newsletter are the sole responsibility of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or beliefs of the NCHPA's Executive Council, the Newsletter editor or individual members of the Executive Council.

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Combie Trophy & Awards Regina Grohe 10556 Combie Rd. PMB 6408
Auburn, CA 95602 (530) 268-8350 Fax (530) 268-2696 Email: combietrophy@sbcglobal.net

Talk to your local Business's about an ad. (All ads to be Black & White). Business Card size is \$25 each per year; ¼ page size is \$100 per year. Send your check to Gail Sluys, NCHPA News & Views, 1721 San Ramon Wy. Santa Rosa, CA. 95409. Make check payable to **NCHPA**. You can email the advertisement to the editor directly. Need information; call Casey at (707) 477-8893 or e-mail at kclus@sbcglobal.net
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Support the NHPF

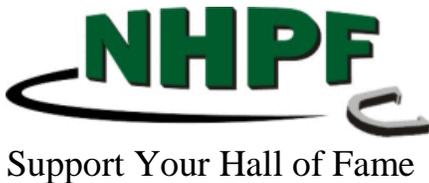
The only horseshoe pitching related Charity needs your tax-deductible donations to support many programs of the sport; including the Hall of Fame and Grants to install new or upgrade existing courts. Deadlines for Grant Applications: March 1st and September 1st. Mail contributions and inquiries to: NHPF, 100 Bluestem Way, Wentzville, MO 63385. We would love to have your financial support....please help? <http://www.nhpf.info/index.html>

The NHPA Hall of Fame is now open in Wentzville, MO. It's located right off of I-70 a major East/West Interstate. Stop in on your way to points East.

Do you have a weatherproof barn that you could store the NCHPA Hall of Fame material in? We really need a 10X10 ft. area that we could use indefinitely.

All statistics for all Northern CA tournaments are posted on the website. Simply scroll across the schedule window and you will see another widow appear. When you click on it all tournaments will be listed and those in hypertext have results listed. Many thanks to Statistician Wayne George and our webmaster Steve Summerlin for working this out for all of us to enjoy.

<http://www.nchpa.com>
<http://www.horseshoepitching.com>
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