

# Nor-Cal News Views

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/568662210169482/>

## Secretary/Treasurer

Hi all - well the season is beginning to rev up so hopefully the rain will give us a break (though we are thankful for it), and the worry about Covid-19 will soon be a horrid memory to us all. Let's all keep our chins up and get ready to pitch. In the meanwhile we have members that are pitching on the online tournaments – Tom Webb is doing very well and has been pitching all winter, Bobby Bartell is also pitching as is Dave Lane and I think they are enjoying the competition.

Welcome to the following new members we have so far this year. If you have more new members coming in you should know the NHPA is continuing their new member gifts, so as soon as you get the information get it to me to get them started and on the list to receive their shirts. Please remember to get their shirt size and color preference. Thank you.

They are still working to perfect the new E-Shoe program. Please be patient it is a huge undertaking. If you can use HS Master you will find it is a great program and very user friendly. If all goes well after the virus goes away we will be holding some training seminars – more to come as that is a possibility.

One more reminder you can and please do order your tournaments plates from our new Trophy shop. Raymond Trophy's. Please email Kaitlyn as follows: [Kaitlyn@raymondstrophy.com](mailto:Kaitlyn@raymondstrophy.com), the plates this year are green.

See you on the courts - *Gail Sluys*

## 1st VP

It is mid- March, the time has changed, and horseshoe pitching season is upon us! Time to

knock the rust off of the shoes, start loosening up the arm, and reviewing your pitching fundamentals. Maybe this is the year to do something about your horseshoe game that will increase your ringer percentage and your enjoyment of the game. I'm suggesting that maybe this is the year to improve your Horseshoe Mental Game

The mental game in sports performance has always interested me. A book I have enjoyed that has been very enlightening to me is:

- The Inner Game of Tennis, The Classic Guide to the Mental Side of Peak Performance, by W. Timothy Gallwey

Timothy Gallwey wrote The Inner Game of Tennis in 1972, and at the time it was a groundbreaking work in sports psychology. The book was published some 48 years ago, but its ideas are very pertinent today. The book has been an inspiration to Steve Kerr, coach of the Golden State Warriors, and to Tom Brady, Quarterback of the New England Patriots. The book is a great place to start learning about the mental game of sports and to apply it to your horseshoe pitching!

Gallwey writes in his introduction that, "Every game is composed of two parts, an **outer game** and an **inner game**." He goes on explain, "The outer game is played against an external opponent to overcome external obstacles, and to reach an external goal [in horseshoe pitching this goal is to throw ringers, in fact to throw more ringers than your external opponent.] Mastering this game [the outer game] is the subject of many books offering instructions on how to swing a racket, club or bat, and how to position arms, legs or torso to achieve the best result [a good example in our sport is the classic book Science at the Stake, by Roy W. Smith]. But for some reason most of us find these instructions easier to remember than to execute." Gallwey goes on to say about the inner game, "...neither mastery nor satisfaction can be found in

the playing of any game without giving some attention to the relatively neglected skills of the inner game. This is the game that takes place in the mind of the player, and it is played against such obstacles as lapses in concentration, nervousness, self-doubt and self-condemnation. In short, it is played to overcome all habits of mind which inhibit excellence in performance.” I think we would all agree that the inner game in Horseshoe Pitching is very real and very important. Three-time Men’s World Champion Brian Simmons said about horseshoe pitching in a 2012 interview, **“This whole game is mental. It’s all upstairs. It’s a mind game.”**

Galloway’s book is written using the sport of tennis to explore the inner game, but the principles he teaches can be easily applied to horseshoe pitching. The author writes, “The player of the inner game comes to value the art of relaxed concentration above all other skills; he discovers a true basis for self-confidence; and he learns that the secret to winning any game lies in not trying too hard. He aims at the kind of spontaneous performance which occurs only when the mind is calm and seems at one with the body, which finds its own surprising ways to surpass its own limits again and again. Moreover, while overcoming the common hang-ups of competition, the player of the inner game uncovers a will to win which unlocks all his energy and which is never discouraged by losing. There is a far more natural and effective process for learning and doing almost anything than most of us realize. It is similar to the process we all used, but soon forgot, as we learned to walk and talk. It uses the intuitive capabilities of the mind and both the right and left hemispheres of the brain. This process doesn’t have to be learned; we already know it. All that is needed is to unlearn those habits which interfere with it and then to just let it happen.”

Galloway would ask us to think of a horseshoe pitcher who is said to be “hot” or “playing in the zone.” He would also ask us, “Is he thinking about how he should pitch each shoe? Is he thinking at all?” Galloway points out that we would say about that pitcher, “He’s out of his mind”; “He’s playing over his head”; “He’s unconscious; “He doesn’t know what he’s doing” Galloway teaches that, “The common factor in each of these descriptions is that some part of the mind is not so active. Galloway would say about the top athletes in a sport, such as Alan Francis, “that their peak performance never

comes when they’re thinking about it.” That is to say that Alan “is not aware of giving himself a lot of instructions, thinking about how to pitch the shoe, how to correct past mistakes or how to repeat what he just did. He [Alan] is conscious, but not thinking, **not over trying**. A player [Alan] in this state knows where he wants the shoe to go [on the stake for a ringer], but he doesn’t have to “try hard” to make it happen. It just seems to happen-and often with more accuracy than he could have hoped for. The player [Alan] seems to be immersed in a flow of action which requires his energy, yet results in greater power and accuracy.

When a horseshoe pitcher is playing well his “hot streak” usually continues until he starts thinking about it and tries to maintain it; as soon as he attempts to exercise control, he loses it. Whenever I am playing Richard Robbins and I am doing well, he says, “Keep it Going!”...and that’s when my game goes into the tank! Now I know what Richard is doing! Galloway even suggests if you want to test this theory, and you don’t mind a little underhanded gamesmanship, all you have to do is “The next time your opponent is having a hot streak, simply ask him, ‘Say George, what are you doing so differently that’s making your shoe open so well at the stake today?’ If he takes the bait-and 95 percent will-and begins to think about how he’s pitching the horseshoe, telling you he’s keeping his wrist firm, and reaching out at the stake better his streak will invariably end. He will lose his rhythm and fluidity as he tries to repeat what he just told you he was doing so well.”

Galloway asks, “Can one learn to play ‘out of his mind?’” He says it sounds like a contradiction to be consciously unconscious, yet he claims that this state can be achieved. He writes, “Perhaps a better way to describe the player who is “unconscious” is by saying his mind is so concentrated, so focused, that it is still. It becomes one with what the body is doing, and the unconscious or automatic functions are working without interference from thoughts. The concentrated mind has no room for thinking how well the body is doing, much less of the how-to’s of the doing. When a player is in this state, there is little to interfere with the full expression of his potential to perform, learn and enjoy.” Who of us would not want to become an “inner game” horseshoe pitcher??!!

Galloway explains that he had a major breakthrough in inner game studies when he discovered:

- **Self 1**
- and, **Self 2**

Gallwey would say, as it applies to a horseshoe pitcher, when he listened to horseshoe pitchers talk to themselves as they played they would say things like “Come on Joe, hit the Stake! You’ve had ‘right-itis’ all day long” He wondered, “Who was telling who what?” Pitchers would say things to themselves like, “Stop throwing short, Alice!”, “Follow through just one time!”, “What are you doing?”, “You clumsy ox, your grandmother could throw a better shoe!” And again the author asked, “Who was talking to whom?” Who was scolding and who was being scolded? “I’m talking to myself,” say most pitchers. But just who is this “I” and who is the “myself”?”

Gallwey would reason, “Obviously, the “I” and the “myself” are separate entities or there would be no conversation, so one could say that within each player there are two “selves.” One, the “I” seems to give instructions, the other, “myself,” seems to perform the action. The “I” returns with an evaluation of the action. **For clarity let’s call the “teller” Self 1 and the “doer” Self 2.**

Gallwey stated that the first major postulate of the Inner Game is: Within each player [pitcher] the kind of relationship that exists between Self 1 and Self 2 is the prime factor in determining one’s ability to translate his knowledge of technique [of pitching ringers] into effective action. In other words, the key to better horseshoe pitching-or better ANYTHING-lies in improving the relationship between the conscious teller, Self 1, and the natural capabilities of Self 2.”

Self 1 and Self 2 of course, are part of the same person...I would say basically **Self 1 is our Conscious Mind**, and **Self 2 is our Unconscious mind**. It is fun to think how you would characterize their relationship if Self 1 and Self 2 were separate persons, and you heard the conversation between them! Gallwey writes, “Self 1 says to Self 2 “Okay, dummy, keep your stupid wrist firm” Then as the horseshoe is swung into the backswing, Self 1 reminds Self 2, “Keep it firm, keep it firm, keep it firm! Monotonous? Think how Self 2 must feel! It seems as though Self 1 thinks Self 2 doesn’t hear well, or has a short memory, or is stupid! The Truth is, of course, that Self 2 which includes the unconscious mind and nervous system, hears everything, never forgets anything, and is anything but stupid. After pitching a ringer once, it knows

forever which muscles to contract to do it again. That’s its nature.”

I think the “Inner Game” approach is a great way to improve one’s horseshoe pitching and to enjoy the sport more than ever. We learn to pitch horseshoes, or learn anything by using our Conscious Mind to learn the basics of the techniques involved. At first we are very awkward at pitching horseshoes because we are doing it with our Conscious Mind, thinking of each step, and trying to learn and remember each detail. We diligently work, practice, and repeat the horseshoe pitch until we can do it without thinking about it; our pitch is smooth, and we become confident in our ability to throw ringers. At this important stage in becoming an expert horseshoe pitcher we turn our pitching over to our Subconscious Mind; we allow our pitching skills to be performed by our Subconscious Mind, without guidance from the Conscious Mind. It requires trust in our ability, sincerely believing that our Subconscious Mind is perfectly capable of throwing ringer after ringer. Where we can go wrong is when “Conscious Over-Ride occurs”; this is when we get in a clutch situation, fail to trust the Subconscious to perform, and the Conscious Mind starts trying to tell the Subconscious how to pitch the shoe....which leads to disaster. This is the way we learn to drive a car, or type, or learn to play a musical instrument...we learn to do it so well that we don’t even have to think about it when we’re doing it! A stumbling point for many is that they never turn the pitching over to the Subconscious Mind; they never settle on a technique, but keep trying to make change after change. We need to find or be shown a sound solid technique, learn it until it can be done without thinking, and stick with it. It is only at this point that our pitching can be turned over to the Subconscious Mind and high level of achievement attained.

Trying different turns with different shoes might be fun, but it is totally ineffective if you want to become a top pitcher [believe me, I’ve lived it!].

Our Subconscious Mind works faithfully to produce any result our Conscious mind pictures. It is said that our Conscious Mind can have only one thought or picture one thing at a time, so we need to be sure it is a positive thought or picture when it is time to throw a horseshoe. Another important factor is that our Subconscious Mind does not understand negatives, so if we hold the thought in our Conscious Mind “don’t throw the shoe short”,

our Subconscious Mind interprets that as “throw the shoe short” and sure enough we throw a short shoe.

Many inner game approaches suggest a player develop a fixed ROUTINE that is used before each pitch. The idea is to keep the Conscious Mind in the Present, not thinking of past missed ringers, or in the future thinking of the consequences of missing this shoe. Often times the routine is designed to have the Conscious Mind thinking of important physical steps involved in pitching a ringer to keep the Conscious Thoughts POSITIVE or NEUTRAL [NEVER A NEGATIVE THOUGHT], leading up to the Subconscious pitch of the shoe. Some mental game strategies involve being aware of your breathing, which occupies your Conscious Mind, and also promotes physical relaxation. Other pre-pitch routines involve keeping the Conscious Mind occupied with an unrelated, meaningless task in order for the Subconscious to do its thing.

An interesting sports pre-shot routine comes from Dr. Tom Amberry in his book Free Throw, 7 Steps to Success at the Free Throw Line. The basketball player takes his position at the free throw line as the first step in the routine, then bounces the basketball exactly 3 time while keeping his eyes on the inflation hole of the ball. Keeping his eye on the inflation hole is the task [meaningless task] that keeps the Conscious Mind from thinking about the shot. After the ball is gripped, the player simultaneously bends his knee to insure leg power in the shot, and brings his shooting elbow into his side to control the left-right direction of the free throw, only then does he momentarily put his eyes on the target rim while he is shooting, and following through. Coach Amberry feels that looking at the basketball rim too long causes the Conscious Mind to get involved in the shot. Dr. Amberry was a 72 year-old retired Podiatrist, who ended in the Guinness Book of Records by making 2,750 free throws in a row. He didn't finish on a miss, it was just time to close the gym! He is certainly a man to listen to when it comes to mental game technique. Dr. Amberry's story is an interesting one, and I recommend his book as a fun read. After he retired from Podiatry, he found he had no hobbies to keep himself occupied, so he took up free throw shooting to get in shape. He started participating in free throw contests, which reminded me of my involvement in horseshoe pitching. It always bugged him when he missed a free throw. He would make 24 in a row, then why not 25? He

begin to wonder if there was a way to guarantee that he could sink a basket every time. I thought what a perfect attitude for a horseshoe pitcher.....if I could just learn a way to guarantee a ringer everytime! Dr. Amberry wrote in his book, “As I improved, I kept setting new goals. My percentage climbed to 90 percent, then higher. I often made 25 in a row. Then 50. I kept telling myself, if you can make 50, why not 100? If I can make 100, why not 500? Finally, one day I made all 500 free throws. I walked out of the gym like I had discovered the secret of the universe.” I got the biggest kick out of that! Can you imagine going to the horseshoe courts, throwing 500 shoes, making a ringer with each pitch, and then going home only because it got dark!

I hope everyone has enjoyed my little introduction to the mental game. I realize I rambled around a little bit, and I only scratched the surface of the subject, but I hope you were entertained a little, and are inspired to look into the mental game as it applies to horseshoe pitching. I know it would do your game a lot of good.

I've quoted Gallwey heavily because he tells the story so well. In his book he also deals with how to “avoid trying too hard,” how to “learn naturally”, how to “quiet Self 1, and trust Self 2”, how to “learn new techniques”, how to “change habits”, and how to “concentrate, and learn to focus.” Inner Tennis is a great book to help you with the “Inner Game of Horseshoe Pitching.” The book obviously uses the sport of Tennis, but as I said before you can readily apply it to our sport. If interested, you can buy this book on Amazon, new, used, or on Kindle or Audiobook.

I hope everyone has a great 2020 Horseshoe Pitching Season! I look forward to seeing you all on the courts! I hope everyone throws a lot more ringers this year using “Inner Horseshoe Pitching!”

***George Davis***

### **3rd VP**

As of the middle of March 6 NCHPA 2020 tournaments have been pitched and 3 have been cancelled or postponed due to weather. It remains to be seen how the COVID-19 pandemic will affect the remainder of the 2020 season. Let's hope we can all get out

there and get some exercise. Best of luck to everyone in avoiding the flu.

As always you club statisticians can make my task pretty easy if you submit your results in a timely manner. I would like to have them within two days after your tournament is complete so that the pitchers will have their averages submitted to Natstats in time for the following weeks update. Please email results to me at: [meanderson99@yahoo.com](mailto:meanderson99@yahoo.com). And please be sure that the boxscore files that you send are generated in HSMaster as Tournaments, Reports, Format, Results [not Results (Brief) ]. Keep in mind that I would like to see member numbers in every file that you send. That means I want the long version, not brief version, of every file. Thanks for all your help. *Mike Anderson*

## 4th VP

Hello all, what a crazy world in which we live!!!! I hope you are all healthy and happy and I hope we can have a good and joyous horseshoe season. Warnings against large gatherings and such, we can only hope that not too many of our tournaments will be cancelled. *Lorena Tournour*

# CLUBS

## Half Moon Bay

Our club would like to wish all of you, your families & friends a safe virus season. We are not in a panic mode by avoiding contact with any possible carriers. The corona virus is very new and they don't very much about it. Virus's, can be resilient or mutative and can give the CDC a good run for their money. Be safe and practical.

We would like to welcome the Espinola Family to our Club. We look forward to

having one of the nicest Families in NCHPA be part of our Club. They came from the recently closed Seaside Club.

There are 25 tournaments scheduled for Half Moon Bay next season. 15 NCHPA, 9 Club tournaments and the NCHPA Walking Doubles Championship. We hope you will be able to attend as many tournaments as possible at our courts.

See you on the courts! *Rick Della Santina*

## Stockton

We are getting members signed up and dues paid for 2020. Our club has become small in numbers, but we are still large in attitude. We are hoping to welcome some able-bodied new members this year. We need a healthy sized club to host the State Tournament next year. We were glad to host last year's State, but I for one will be glad to be in Bakersfield this Labor Day Weekend! Hopefully our NCHPA season will not be effected by the Corona Virus Situation...let's all hope for the best! Ringers to all for the upcoming season!

*George Davis*

## Lincoln/McBean

It should be raining by the time the NCHPA News& Views comes out next week. The 1st tournament was on January 25th 2020 here in Lincoln. We had a Tie for 1st place between Bobby Bartell & Jeff Williams. Jeff won 1st place, probably because he did the handicapping? Jan 26th was a rain-out. 2nd & 3rd tourneys were February 29th which had a 3 way tie for 1st place. Walt Stafford 1st, Marshall Merino 2nd, Mona Larian 3rd. Sunday March 1st was a pleasant start, it start raining at the end of the second game. After a little discussion the pitchers decided to pitch the sand courts instead of the clay courts. We finished the day with no more delays. Bobby Bartell

finished in 1st place with his great pitching he broken the 50% tournament average barrier. 2nd place had a 3 way tie between Dale Koistinen & Marshall Merino & Henry Langley, Dale got 2nd with total points 731 - 729 - 721. We have started a NHPA Sanction League on Thursday Evening. Bobby Bartell & Wayne Lockhart have been pitching in the "Horseshoe Pitching Online" Facebook. Hope everyone is doing well!  
*Jeff Williams.*

## San Jose

Welcome to the 2020 pitching season from San Jose! As of this date (Mar. 15, 2020) the COVID-19 pandemic has not affected our tournament schedule.

We will be avoiding physical contact, using fist and elbow bumps instead of handshakes with no hugs or kissing. The San Jose Parks & Recreation crew has done an excellent job of getting Columbus Park ready for the season and our San Jose Horseshoe Club crew has the pits ready to go. Please join us for our tournaments if you can. The tournaments are:

- Sat. Mar. 21 San Jose Memorial
- Sun. Mar. 22 Gary Greensmith
- Sat. May 23 Russell Zelmar
- Sun. May 24 Edward Moore
- Sat. June 13 Jim Saunders
- Sun. June 14 Nakamoto Family
- Sat. Sep. 12 Marisela Mauricio
- Sun. Sep. 13 Dick McCall

We hope to see you there and best of luck in avoiding the flu. *Mike Anderson*

## Sonoma County

There were some people pitching horseshoes in Novato 25 miles south of us. They have 2 sand courts. Chris Benson, Paul Machado and Gina Cyr recruited them to join us in sanctioned pitching.

Welcome: Thomas Larson, Ernie Reda, Peter Clark, Mike Glantz, Erich Bravo and Virginia Hadley.

We welcome them with open arms and will guide them along toward the purchase of any horseshoe pitching equipment they might want. Ernie came to us from doing a search for horseshoe pitching and in turn brought Peter along. The other four are from Petaluma and Novato.

Due to the latest restrictions on gatherings of more than 10 people and the other factors involved with this Covid-19 outbreak we will be postponing league until at least April 2nd. Watch NCHPA Facebook page or your email for timely updates please. Stay well everyone!

The end of this month, on the 28th we have our first tournament. Be sure to watch the NCHPA Facebook page for the latest updates on postponements and or cancellations. We are at the mercy of the Santa Rosa Parks and Recreation Department as our courts are on their property. Be sure to call the contact person on the schedule to double check that they will be pitching. *Casey Sluys*

## Ukiah

Our March tournament is this coming weekend (3/21-22) and I'm hoping that we won't have to cancel because of rain or that other thing. All is well in Ukiah so far although most of the businesses (except the Forest Club) are closing or limiting number of people - trying to keep numbers at 50 or below at this point but we never know what new regulation will be coming out of Sacramento or D.C. If we don't see you in March then hopefully we will be able to gather in April or even May!! Blessings to you all from Ukiah. *-Lorena Tournour*



**New Members for 2020 so far. Keep up the great work everyone.**

**THE NCHPA WELCOMES ALL OF YOU AND WISH YOU MANY RINGERS FOR THE 2020 PITCHING YEAR.**

	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	DIV	CITY	Club
1	David	Meharg	M	Roseville	Gold Cntry
2	Norman	Benson	M	Lindsay	Lindsay
3	Mike	Jones	M	Fresno	Madera
4	Tiffany	Fletcher	W	Sanger	Madera
5	Brenda	Armenta	W	Salinas	San Jose
6	John	Flores	M	San Jose	San Jose
7	Abby Rose	George	C	Tulare	TriValley
8	Robert	Regalado	M	Pleasanton	TriValley
9	Tony	Spada	E	Weed	Willows
10	Thomas	Larson	M	Petaluma	SonCnty
11	Ernie	Reda	M	S Rosa	SonCnty
12	Peter	Clark	M	S Rosa	SonCnty
13	Mike	Glantz	M	Novato	SonCnty
14	Erich	Bravo	M	Novato	SonCnty
15	Virginia	Hadley	W	Novato	SonCnty
16	Daniel	Renteria	M		Madera
17	Hector	Rangel	M		Madera
18	Greg	Norton	M		Madera
19	Brooks	Norton	M		Madera

Each one of the new folks please bring a friend to the next tournament or league you come to. Who knows they might enjoy it?

Below are just some ideas of the various shirts you can create.



While on social media I see quite a few videos posted by various groups and charitable causes. Some are very professionally done, some are hack jobs. I'd like to propose that the NHPF fund the creation of either one 10 minute video showing and briefly explaining, the benefits and the existence of horseshoe pitching. If not a 10 minute video, we can do 10 one minute shorts and blast social media with them on a daily basis. (see Bobby White's comments) How this should be structured is to be determined as is the source to produce it.

The NHPF has so far not done much of anything to promote itself or show an active interest in the promotion of horseshoe pitching as our purpose states we do. We all need to remember that when, and if, a foundation implodes the funds of that foundation cannot be used for anything related to said foundation. They must be distributed to another charitable cause recognized by the IRS. That is not to say that we are on our last legs by any means, just something to bear in mind as we consider a major project such as this.

I envision hiring a professional spokesperson with an excellent speaking voice (Mike Rowe) as a for instance. Check out the enthusiasm in this ladies voice and facial expressions. You won't understand it because it's in Dutch. It does have English captions though... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TI5chnNVofM> That's the type of person we need. We just need to come up with the script. It will become our task to determine how much of what should be included in the video.

Projected costs run the gamut from a low of \$1,200.00 to as high as \$15,000 and anything in between. Is there a projected ROI? There certainly will be if a video such as this were produced. I venture a conservative guess at an increase of 1000 people if we market this correctly. The marketing would be electronic media and not CD's or written material. If anyone knows of a professional video service they can recommend please let me know.

Your thoughts will be appreciated.

On the Fb page Promoting Horseshoes I asked what should be included in that video, below are some suggestions:

[Tim Gilmore](#) Great idea Casey.

Beginning of horseshoes, fun, family oriented, healthy, all ages. ( clips of youngest, oldest, novelist, backyard best and sanctioned best) Go into local, leagues, state and world formats. Maybe try to include some info on the states that have horseshoes in school. Playing with disabilities (hip and knee replacements, wheel chair bound) Just a few things off the top of my head.

[Bobby White](#) If it is for Facebook use, I would suggest making ten one minute videos, each focused on one thing and post them one per day and then just keep doing that indefinitely, or create more to make your loop bigger. Ten aspects to feature:

- 1) Family Activity: something a family can do together, same time, same place, all can play.
- 2) Beginners can compete immediately at their level of ability
- 3) Camaraderie , friendship, family like feel of it
- 4) Structure of Association: charters in all

states, clubs in all major areas, at least one near just about everyone in the USA. All hosting sanctioned tournaments and leagues on sanctioned courts so you get that familiar first class NHPA feel at every location.

- 5) Official World, State, and other local championship tournaments conducted by NHPA... perhaps list the total number of sanctioned events per year for effect.
- 6) Promote junior play... obvious, I think, various age groups, boys and girls compete and socialize, gain confidence, learn sportsmanship, make lifelong friends.
- 7) Promote senior play, focus on both men and women... great activity for a retired couple, great travel activity
- 8) Target men and women age 40-ish who are competitive in athletics like softball, basketball, volleyball, running, but can't keep up in their sport anymore... horseshoes is still challenging, very competitive and great exercise.
- 9) Show adults of various ages like Travis, Tony, Mark Seibold, Alan Francis, Amy Francis, Walter Ray, Dave Loucks, Gary Roberts, Tony and Randy Hankins, Ben Webb, Dalton Rakestraw, Chad Hyatt, Brian Simmons, Rick Howe, Doug Kienna, Rene Cowan, Amy Hall, Becky Holmes, Ed Posey, Matt Fuller, me... people who started as kids and have competed their entire lives, literally growing up in the sport.
- 10) Just show people having fun competing, keeping score, running tournaments/leagues, spectating, show indoor and outdoor pitching as well... show that even a rain delay can be fun in this sport because there's more to it than just horseshoe pitching.

You need to connect with people and show them what they can gain from doing this... that's what works. What doesn't work is historical videos, how to play videos, general info videos... also, remember that

when you're targeting juniors, it's their parents who are seeing this too, not just the kids... you need to appeal to both. Every video needs to show people smiling, laughing, having fun doing this... that's what sells it.

You can post them here for free and repost all you want... daily content is what really works, even if it is the same stuff over and over because you're not reaching the same people every time... think of them as TV commercials... actually, these days, this might be better and obviously, who can beat free? When you hook on to a video that really works in free posting, take that one and pay to boost it out to a wider audience and see how it goes. Facebook should be a goldmine for NHPA publicity.

[Stephanie Barry](#) I think looking into creating a series of 3 to 5 minute videos on different horseshoe topics might be more useful. A lot of times when I see a video is longer than 5 minutes, I usually lose interest or skip through it to see the important stuff. Maybe starting with a promotional montage video of "Here is why I pitch" along with other selected questions like "how did you get started" and "what keeps you pitching" from pitchers around the US and Canada would be helpful. Then a video on champions from each state and/or World with tips, tricks, and motivation for pitching. Then you could get into some more technical details with how-to videos for different topics like pitching, scoring, measuring, etc. Don't try to put too much into one video.

Just sharing ideas that have been expressed here from Facebook.

Hello everyone,

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association publishes a bi-monthly newsletter/magazine called Newslin. You can each sign up for it at this link: <https://www.horseshoepitching.com/newslin-e-publication/> If you need assistance with the sign up process please let me know, I'll guide you through it. It's a nicely done edition with a new editor.

The Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association has a website at: <http://www.nchpa.com/>  
It also has a Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/481228218748973/>

Horseshoes in general has a pretty decent presence on social media especially Facebook check out these FB sites please? This one is for Promoting Horseshoes <https://www.facebook.com/groups/568662210169482/?ref=bookmarks> Anything having to do with promotion anywhere is welcome here.

This one is general discussion worldwide: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NHPAQ/>  
This one is for World Tournament information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WorldHorseshoeTournament/>

This one is a group that pitches 12 shoe games live: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/612576172534108/> The call themselves Horseshoe Pitching Online (HPO) Everyone that pitches horseshoes anywhere is welcome to participate. Please read their files section on

the page to familiarize yourselves with the rules.

If there are any questions about online horseshoe stuff please ask. Post your events, tournaments, get-togethers, or just yourself pitching horseshoes. Let's use all other forms of social media also.

Call or email with questions.

707-477-8893 [kclus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kclus@sbcglobal.net)

*Promoting horseshoes is a 24/7 task there are no days off.*

Wanna pitch in Canada? Here's your chance.

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Sam Tomasevic 1-604-328-5276  
samtom@telus.net ENTRY FEE \$25. JRS FREE  
Entry form  
[www.bchorseshoe.com/forms/2017INT.pdf](http://www.bchorseshoe.com/forms/2017INT.pdf)



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[dscof62@gmail.com](mailto:dscof62@gmail.com)



# NCHPA CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY FORM



October 3, (4 if needed)2020

(One or Two Days of Pitching depending on number of Entries)

**HOST CLUB – Vallejo Horseshoe Cub**

*PRE-REGISTER - \$ PRIZE MONEY & PLAQUES*

*ENTRY DEADLINE POSTMARKED September 12, 2020*

Participants must have pitched in (1) NHPA sanctioned tournament before September 13, 2020. **New members** who joined after August 1, 2020 and **Junior/ Cadet** Entrants also need a minimum of one (1) NHPA sanctioned tournament before September 14, 2020.

**TOURNAMENT is open to all NHPA Members with Natstats Average  
ENTRY FEE \$20.00 per pitcher**

*Mail Entries to: Gail Sluys 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa, CA. 95409*

**NO REFUNDS AFTER SCHEDULE IS COMPLETED.**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

NHPA CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle the Group you are entering.**

**OPEN MEN, OPEN WOMEN, ELDERS MEN, JUNIOR GIRL/BOY, CADET 12 & UNDER, SR.MEN, SR.WOMEN. SENIOR GROUPS NOT HAVING A MINIMUM OF 6 PLAYERS WILL BE MIXED WITH OPEN CLASSES.**

**ENTRY FEE \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



## 2020 NCHPA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Entry Fee \$50.00 per team. Team Cap = 110% closing date September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The 2020 NCHPA Doubles Championship Tournament will be held at the Half Moon Bay Horseshoe Club on September 19th and 20th 2020.

Pick your partner from any NCHPA, SCHPA, NEVADA Member. Send \$50.00 per team plus completed entry form in by September 1st. Each team will pay the scorekeeper \$2.00 per game. (\$1.00 per player). The cap on a team is 110% combined. (Example player A is 65% player B cannot be more 45%) These are Championships – No Handicapping. Groups will be formed based on the number of entries, with a minimum of two (2) groups. Prize money and awards in each group will depend on number of entries.

Send entry form and entry fee to Lorena Tournour PO Box 113 Calpella 95418. Phone 707-485-7894.

Food will be available for sale at Half Moon Bay. More information to follow as the tournament nears.

Player A \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ Charter \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

PlayerB \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ Charter \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# 2020 California State Championships Entry Form

Sponsor: Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA) Host Club:  
Bakersfield Shoe Crew **5-6 September 2020**  
Added prize money from local sponsors! **Beach Park, Bakersfield, California**

NHPA #: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ CA ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want your pitching schedule sent? Please circle one: E-Mail US Postal Service

Select Your Entry Division (circle one):

Open Men (40ft) Sr. Men (40ft) Elders or Med Exempt (30ft) Open Women , Sr. Women

Jr. Boys

Jr. Girls

Jr. Cadets (20ft)

**For Cadets and Juniors, do you want to participate with the prize money awards?  
Circle either: Yes or No**

**If yes, we require parental approval: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's signature)**

**Participant Liability Release:** All applicant information and signature are required. In consideration of participating in this tournament, I hereby waive, release, and forever discharge the NHPA, SCHPA, and NCHPA, all officers, employees, agents, and servants of the afore stated organizations, 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 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships. In addition, it is understood that the SCHPA and NCHPA have sole rights to any and all pictures and/or articles for publication.

**Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

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-(Keep this section for future reference – Calif. State Championships, Bakersfield, 5-6 September 2020)

Adult entrants **MUST** have at least 3 sanctioned California tournaments during the 12 months prior to the below entry deadline date recorded in NATSTATS; for cadet or junior entrants, at least 1 sanctioned California tournament recorded in NATSTATS as of the entry deadline date.

For a division with less than six entries, the tournament committee reserves the right to combine the division with another division with the same pitching distance.

Entrants must wear shirts with their name professionally printed on the back; do not rely on purchased shirts at the tournament because the vendor cannot guarantee timely deliveries.

Entry fee is \$40.00 for adults and FREE for juniors and cadets; no refunds after the below entry deadline date.

**Entry deadline** date (or post mark date): **1 August 2020** (Late entries require an additional \$10 entry fee and will be used on a standby basis only.)

Make checks payable to: **SCHPA** Send entries to: Hal Griswold (949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com) 32612 Balearic Road. Dana Point CA 92629

**If you must drop out, please immediately notify Hal Griswold (949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com).**



## 2020 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships

### Awards Sponsor Form

The Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA) will host the 2020 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships Tournament at the Bakersfield Shoe Crew Horseshoe Pitching Club, Beach Park, Bakersfield, California, during the 5-7 September weekend. Please consider sponsoring an award for this prestigious event! Both plaques and cash are awarded to the winners of 15-20 player groups from throughout the State of California. This tournament establishes California State Horseshoe Pitching Champions for both men and women of all ages plus boys and girls less than 19 years old. If you wish to sponsor a first or second place plaque award, each plaque costs about **\$50**. If we receive your plaque sponsorship by the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, the award plaque will reflect your support. The SCHPA is a not-for-profit association and 100% of your donation goes towards the awards.

Sponsor's Name (business, club, or person): \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Phone and/or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your donation check payable to SCHPA and mail it along with this completed form to the SCHPA Secretary/Treasurer:

Hal Griswold  
32612 Balearic  
Rd. Dana Point  
CA 92629

949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com

Thank you for your support!!!

# **Hall of Fame Nomination**

## **Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association**

**Any member in good standing may nominate any NCHPA member for consideration to be inducted into the NCHPA Hall of Fame. Nominees must have ten years of consecutive membership and may be nominated as a Pitcher or Promoter.**

**This form must accompany any and all supporting documentation concerning your nomination.**

**Tell us all you can about the person that you are nominating so as to assist the selection committee in considering your nomination for induction. You may use the back of this page and/or include as many additional pages as needed for you to justify why your nominated person should qualify for induction. All submitted documentation must be type written to be considered. Provide copies as materials will not be returned.**

**Return form:** Linda Hoelscher: 24334 Hoag Road, Corning CA 96021 (530) 824-1392, [linal74@aol.com](mailto:linal74@aol.com)

<b>Nominee Name:</b>
<b>Number of Years as NCHPA Member:</b>
<b>Nominated By:</b>
<b>Nominated as a Pitcher or Promoter:</b>

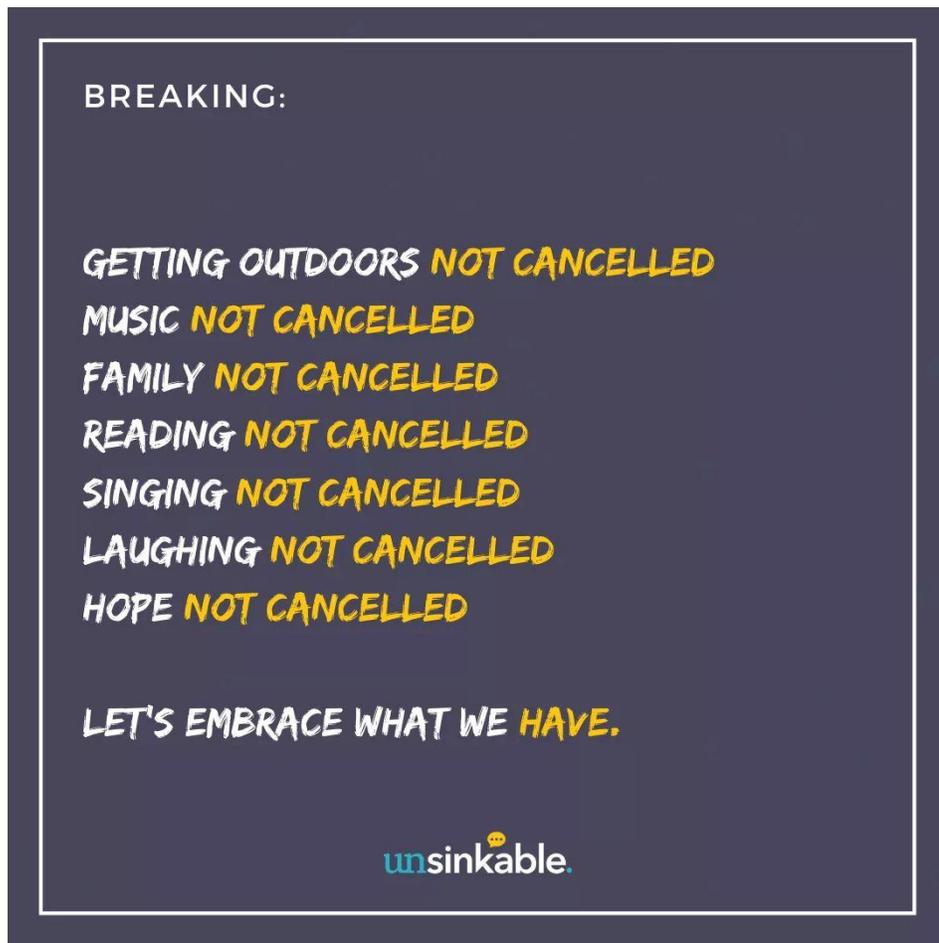
### **Highlights of Pitching Career**

<b>Tournaments Won</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Average</b>

### **NCHPA or Club Offices Held**

<b>Office Held</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Date</b>

### **Provide Example of Promotional Efforts**



This poster forgot kindness, love, and respect - which is such a large part of horseshoes. Keep our Horseshoe family safe and enjoy some of these things that are not canceled!

It's also a great time to check out the horseshoe Facebook groups!  
Almost every Charter has at least one page.

- Horseshoe Pitching Online
- Horseshoe Pitchers Club
- MO Horseshoe Pitchers Association
- All About Pitching Horseshoes
- Promoting Horseshoes
- Horseshoe Pitchers Concerns
- Horseshoe Challenge
- World Horseshoe Tournament (NHPA)
- What's Going on at the Pits
- National Horseshoes Pitching Association (NHPA)
- NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION (NHPA)

**Please continue using AmazonSmile when doing your online buying? As you can see it really helps.** National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation - EIN 62-1671910  
**To date: \$ 612.43 thank you!**

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/568662210169482/>

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION**

### **President**

**Judges Training**  
Joe Summers  
231 Escondido Dr.  
Martinez, CA 94553-3035  
925-260-0915  
[40ftforever@gmail.com](mailto:40ftforever@gmail.com)

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

**New Members**  
George Davis  
1435 W. Vine St.  
Lodi, CA 95242-3861  
209-365-1190  
[guydavis@comcast.net](mailto:guydavis@comcast.net)

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Social/Sec**  
Alan Trusty.  
2734 E. Whitmore Ave  
Ceres, CA 95307-2735  
831-245-9254  
[alant\\_21@yahoo.com](mailto:alant_21@yahoo.com)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President**

**Statistics**  
Mike Anderson  
1614 Longspur Ave.  
Sunnyvale CA 94087-4833  
408-738-4661  
[meanderson99@yahoo.com](mailto:meanderson99@yahoo.com)

### **4<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

**By-Laws/Schedule**  
Lorena Tournour  
PO Box 113  
Calpela, CA 95418-  
707-485-7894 or 707-489-6227  
[latournour@gmail.com](mailto:latournour@gmail.com)

### **5<sup>th</sup> Vice President**

**Paper Supplies**  
Jeff Vieira  
1537 W. Fairmont Apt-D  
Fresno, CA 93705  
(559) 317-0721  
[jvhiker54@yahoo.com](mailto:jvhiker54@yahoo.com)

### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Gail Sluys  
1721 San Ramon Wy  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409-3964  
707-538-3128; 707-486-0594  
[nchpagail@gmail.com](mailto:nchpagail@gmail.com)

### **NCHPA Statistician**

Mike Anderson  
1614 Longspur Ave  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-4833  
408-738-4661  
[meanderson99@yahoo.com](mailto:meanderson99@yahoo.com)

### **Regional Director/Newsletter Editor**

Casey Sluys  
1721 San Ramon Wy.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409-3964  
707-477-8893  
[kclus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kclus@sbcglobal.net)