



OHIO HORSESHOE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2026 Vol. 28
Issue 1

The latest news, views, and announcements from the Ohio Horseshoe Pitchers Association, An official NHPA Charter

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What do you think of the new NHPA logo? Read the rest of the newsletter for exciting ways to show it off!

OHPA has a new Secretary/Treasurer



Dale Shelinbarger elected to take over as the OHPA Secretary/Treasurer

If you haven't heard, I have the honor of taking over as Secretary/Treasurer for the OHPA as of the beginning of 2026. I take over for Amy Miller, who we unexpectedly lost last year and sorely miss. She did an outstanding job, and it will be tough filling her shoes, but I look forward to the challenge. It may take me a little while to get up to speed as there is a lot of information that I am going through, but please be patient and feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or if there is something I need to direct my attention to.



For those of you that don't know me, 2026 starts my 50th year since I began playing horseshoes. I started out as a Junior when I was 12 playing in tournaments in Kansas and Missouri. If you know Stan Griggs, NHPA Statistician, he and I had many great games together. My Dad, Wayne Shelinbarger, 1988 KHPA HoF inductee, was known for promoting horseshoes and hope that I can continue his legacy. The US Navy and an 8-year contractor position in Germany took me away from Kansas and horseshoes, but now that I have returned to the States and landed here in Ohio, I look forward to pitching and interacting with the horseshoe family again.

On a personal note, I live in Beavercreek, which is a suburb of Dayton and pitch with the Greene County Horseshoe Club in Xenia. I recently married my wife, Dana, who you will see from time to time out on the courts. The two of us received a great gift this past Christmas with the news that Dana's daughter is expecting a child. We found out recently that it will be a girl with a due date of September 2nd. Can't wait to be a grandfather and teach her to continue the horseshoe tradition! I work as a contractor on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base doing Cybersecurity work which has me traveling from time to time. I will balance work, home, and horseshoes the best I can.

I will be coming up with some changes in how we do business as I gain access and learn over time, so be on the lookout for announcements. As always, if there is something that you would like to see differently, I am open to any suggestions or feedback. Since I work with computers a lot, I may lean more to provide content in the digital world, but I will take into consideration that most of our members are less inclined to be on a computer.



Messages from the OHPA Officers

Darryl Miller, President

I can't believe that spring is finally here. I hope everyone stayed safe through the brutal cold and storms we had this winter and early spring. As we get ready for the summer season, I would urge all pitchers to get out and support these remaining clubs and pitch in as many tournaments as you can. Another way to support them is to go early or stay after you pitch your class and help keep score. It's nice to return the favor for the people that kept your score and it helps the tournament directors and give a break to those that seem to always keep score.

I would like to say thank you to Dale Shelinbarger for stepping up and assuming the Secretary-Treasurer position. Dale has already proven to be a major asset to the executive council and I'm confident that he will continue to learn this role. With that being said please be patient as he didn't have the opportunity to have Amy available to show him the ropes.

Declining membership over the last 20-30 years has been an issue and unfortunately no one has had a good answer on how to fix this problem. We are always open to new ideas but the best way I know is by word of mouth. Talk to friends, family, co-workers or anybody that you encounter. As we all age (some more gracefully than others) it's important to try and gain members to replace those that have passed or just can't pitch anymore. Looking forward to seeing you on the courts somewhere.

Brian Fisher, 1st Vice President

This could be the year that you make a difference! Bring a friend to a horseshoe court. Spend some time with juniors, donate horseshoes, sponsor a fun day, or anything to promote the sport. Our state of Ohio has a long history of greatness. Let's all work together to keep our record moving forward.

Please consider attending this year's World Horseshoe Tournament in nearby Wausau, Wisconsin from 7/13/26-7/25/26. The deadline to enter is 5/15/26. Safe travels and good luck to all of our Ohio pitchers!

Make plans to attend the 66th Ringer Classic here in our fair city of Greenville, Ohio, and at the same time celebrate our 250th Anniversary of our Great United States of America! The Darke County Horseshoe Club will also be celebrating its 70th year during the Ringer Classic so it is the very best year to attend!

As always, call me with any travel questions for the Ringer Classic or the World Tournament. My phone number remains (937) 239-6877.

Fred Sanford, 2nd Vice President

I would like to welcome everyone back to a summer of pitching. Hope we have a great summer and remember Hop and wish him the best.

Ohio Horseshoe Newsletter



Messages from the OHPA Officers (con't)

Mike Byers, 3rd Vice President & HoF Chairperson

Hello to the O.H.P.A. horseshoe family. The indoor season is almost finished and there were many great tournaments and leagues to enjoy.

The weather is slowly warming up for our summer schedule, and time to get the rust off those shoes. Each of us should make it a priority to get new pitchers involved in our tournaments and leagues. Let's really work hard on making the O.H.P.A. bigger and better.

Now is also the time to consider making nominations to the H.O.F. Ohio has many worthy and deserving individuals to promote for this prestigious honor. Anyone can submit a candidate, you do not need to be a current association member.

Also, if anyone is interested in serving on the HOF committee please let me know as we have one at large position open. Nomination forms and HOF guidelines are available on the OHPA website.

See you on the courts!

Randy Shoemaker, 4th Vice President

With winter (hopefully) coming to an end, we look forward to that time of year again- when summer leagues and tournaments begin. We hope to see everyone back out on the courts this season.

Please consider bringing a new pitcher along, new members are always needed and welcome.

Steve Mikesell, 5th Vice President

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and you will have a blessed 2026. Glad to be serving as your 5th VP and will be trying to get our youth more involved in the game of horseshoes. We need your ideas and your help in growing this sport. See you all this summer.

Dale Shelinbarger, Sec-Treas

I am so excited to be your new Secretary-Treasurer. As I take on this new role, I want to thank all the pitchers that I have had the pleasure of getting to know and enjoy seeing at all the tournaments. Without you all, I wouldn't love and enjoy the sport of horseshoes as much as I do. I am always available to help in any way I can, so please reach out to me on the courts, via text, via email, etc. As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of this great country, I hope you will join us on the courts just like the many who have played this great sport before us. See you on the courts!



Ohio Horseshoe Newsletter





Your #

Charter: Ohio
Division: Men

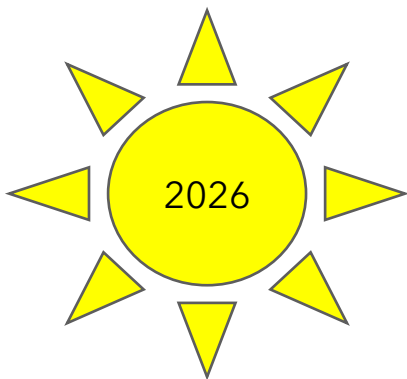
Your Name

The above named is entitled to all privileges afforded national charter members for the year 2026

Sanction Cards

Please note that you must have a valid sanction card for the year that you are pitching in. Sanction cards are available to apply for or renew starting in October of the previous year. There are three ways to apply for or renew sanction cards. They include:

- Via NHPA eShoe
 - <https://www.nhpa-eshoe.com>
 - Enter player name in search bar and click on name
 - When player details appear, click on "Renew" on the Card Year line
- Via OHPA Website
 - <https://ohiohorseshoes.org>
 - Under "Ohio Information"; click on "ONLINE RESISTRATION"
- Via Print/Mail
 - <https://ohiohorseshoes.org>
 - Under "Ohio Information"; click on "OHPA Membership Application"
 - Print, fill out, and sign the application
 - Mail application with check to our PO Box



- Earl Johnson, Carrollton
- John Smith, Jr, Carlisle
- Ricky Graves, McArthur
- Kody Lucas, Chillicothe
- Kyran Pifer, Kenton
- Deborah Conrad, Xenia
- Daniel Wine, South Bloomingville
- Darry Snyder, Plain City
- Robert McGuire, Chillicothe
- Corky Corn, Ray
- Heath Poth, Hicksville
- Julianna Carver, Chillicothe
- Michael Hodge, Chillicothe
- Randy Noe, Cincinnati
- Dustin Ehrnfield, Zanesville
- Susan Dooley, Zanesville
- Chad Grams, Greenville
- Mike Stulock, North Olmsted
- Tim Strohl, New Lexington
- Donald Stoeber, Westerville
- Kim Rose, Marietta
- Brandi Petry, Macksburg
- Mike Ayers, Marietta



Links to Recent OBITUARIES

[Philip G. Karnes \(11/18/42-12/1/25\)](#)

[John L. Brown \(11/1/30-12/2/25\)](#)

[Thomas "Tom" Menegay \(1/4/42-9/23/25\)](#)

[Amy L. Miller \(5/28/67-8/18/25\)](#)

2026 Ohio State Championship

Entry Deadline: Friday, Aug 14, 2026

***** Must have ringer percentage to enter *****

Friday Night Warm Up Tournament

Fri - Sep 4th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

\$20.00 Adults / \$10.00 Juniors

Limited to the first 36 pitchers to enter

Six - 6 Man Classes pitching 40 Shoe Games

Handicapped / Mixed Classes / Alternate Pitch

State Singles Tournament

Sat / Sun - Sep 5th & 6th, 2026

\$35.00 Adults / \$15.00 Juniors

State Walking Doubles Tournament

Limited to first 24 teams that have paid their entrance fee

Applications will be processed in the order received Once

limit reached, you will be placed on a waiting list

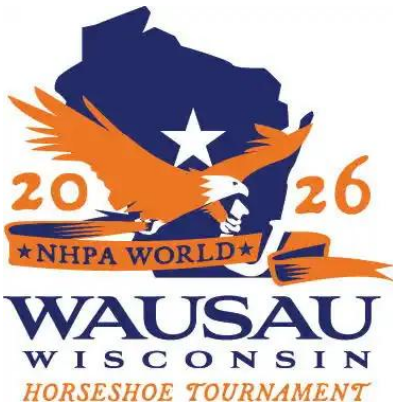
Sat - Sep 5th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

\$50.00 Per Team

*****Team must have combined ringer percentage of 110% or less*****

Mixed Classes

Applications and additional information to follow on the OHPA Website



2026 World Tournament

Where: [Greenheck Turner Community Center](#)
[6400 Alderson Street Weston WI, 54476](#)

When: July 13-26, 2026

Deadline: May 18, 2026
min 4 sanctioned events to enter

Links below for more info:

[World Host Website](#)

[Online Application - NHPA World](#)

[Print/Mail Application – NHPA World](#)

[Lodging Options with Reservation Rate Links](#)



Display the new NHPA logo on the court this season!

Need a new shirt, sweatshirt, tote bag, or water bottle?



Just head over to [Amazon](#) and search for "NHPA".





Ohio Horseshoe Newsletter

2026 OHPA Summer Tournament Schedule

Date	Tournament Information / Location	Deadline	Fee
May 2	Mary Fleenor Memorial , Darke Co Horseshoe Club, Greenville City Park, E Park Dr, Greenville 45331; Brian Fisher 937-239-6877	Apr 26	\$20.00 A: \$30.00 Jrs: \$5.00
May 9-10	Spring Classic , Allen County Horseshoe Club, 115 C. St, Lima, OH 45804, Dwain Klink 419-235-3042	May 3	\$20.00
May 23-24	Chillicothe Open , Chillicothe Horseshoe Club, 15065 Pleasant Valley Rd, Chillicothe, 45601 (Turn at Action Automotive), Carol Sanford 740-703-1452 and Fred Sanford 740-703-9141	May 17	\$20.00 A: \$25.00
May 30-31	West Liberty Lions Club-Charlie Jones Open , Lions Club Ball Park, West Liberty 43357; Don Epps 937-441-1612	May 24	\$20.00
Jun 6-7	Doug Crawford Classic , Kenton Moose Lodge #428, 801 W Lima St, Kenton 43326; Doug Crawford 419-235-0855	May 31	\$20.00
Jun 13	Whetstone Park of Roses , Whetstone Horseshoe Club, 3901 N High St, Columbus 43214; Cindy Rose 614-604-3103 Dave Rose 614-604-3737	Jun 7	\$20.00
Jun 20-21	Bucky Walters Memorial Open , Troy Horseshoe Club, 650 N County Road 25A, Troy 45373; Tom Kirk 937-573-7900	Jun 14	\$20.00
Jun 27-28	Jack Baldwin Classic , Hilliard Horseshoe Club, 3800 Veterans Memorial Dr, Hilliard 43026; Darryl Miller 614-496-7158	Jun 21	\$20.00
Jul 4-5	Ringer Classic , Darke Co Horseshoe Club, Greenville City Park, E Park Dr, Greenville 45331; Brian Fisher 937-239-6877; Apply Online or Mail-In Entry ONLY	Jun 26	\$35.00 A: \$55.00 Jrs: \$10.00
Aug 1-2	Chillicothe Memorial , Chillicothe Horseshoe Club, 15065 Pleasant Valley Rd, Chillicothe 45601 (turn at Action Automotive shop); Carol 740-703-1452 and Fred Sanford 740-703-9141	Jul 26	\$20.00 A: \$25.00
Jul 13-25	NHPA World Tournament , Greenheck Turner Community Center; 6400 Alderson Street Weston, WI, 54476; horseshoepitching.com (minimum 4 sanctioned events)	May 18	\$175.00
Aug 15-16	Miami Co Fair Open , Troy Horseshoe Club, Fairgrounds, 650 N Co Rd 25A, Troy 45373; Horseshoes Saturday-Cornhole Sunday; Tom Kirk 937-573-7900	Aug 9	\$20.00
Aug 22	Marion Memorial , Marion Horseshoe Club, Garfield Park, 1290 E Center St, Marion 43302; Mike Byers 740-602-2933	Aug 16	\$20.00
Sep 4	Friday Night Warm Up , Greenville City Park, E Park Dr, Greenville 45331; Cindy Rose 614-604-3103 (No early entry needed but it is helpful. Limited to first 36 entries. This is a handicapped tournament.)	Sep 4	\$20.00 Jrs: \$10.00
Sep 5	Ohio State Championship-Doubles , Greenville City Park, E Park Dr, Greenville 45331; Cindy Rose 614-604-3103 (Mail in entry only. Limited to first 24 teams that enter and payment received.)	Aug 22	\$50.00 per team
Sep 5-6	Ohio State Championship-Singles , Greenville City Park, E Park Dr, Greenville 45331; Cindy Rose 614-604-3103 (Mail in entry only)	Aug 22	\$35.00 Jrs: \$15.00
Sep 12-13	Chad Mays Classic , Kenton Moose Lodge #428, 801 W Lima St, Kenton 43326; Doug Crawford 419-235-0855	Sep 6	\$20.00
Sep 19-20	Gary Roberts Memorial , Chillicothe Horseshoe Club, 15065 Pleasant Valley Rd, Chillicothe 45601 (turn at Action Automotive shop); Carol 740-703-1452 and Fred Sanford 740-703-9141	Sep 13	\$20.00