OHIO HORSESHOE NEWSLETTER

Volume 28, Issue 2, Fall-Winter 2026

Dale Shelinbarger, Editor

A PUBLICATION OF THE OHIO HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION, AN OFFICIAL NHPA CHARTER

2027 NHPA/OHPA Sanction Cards

Adults - $45.00 | Juniors/Cadets - No Charge

Link to Pay Membership Online to OHPA

Additional fees apply

Link to Print/Mail your 2027 Membership Application

Link to NHPA's eShoe-Renew Membership Online

All debit cards, credit cards and PayPal are accepted
Additional fees apply
(Search for your name or card number, click Renew for Payment)

Link to 2026-2027 Winter Tournament Schedule

We need your input!

Please take a few minutes to fill out this two question survey.

1. Do you like having the Friday Night Warmup tournament during the Ohio State Championships?
2. Would you be in favor of allowing pitchers from another state to become OHPA members (pay OHPA dues, be OHPA voting members, pitch in the Ohio State Championships, and follow OHPA by-laws)?

Click here to take the OHPA Fall 2026 Survey

Darryl Miller - President

Well another summer season is in the books. It was another hot summer with a few rainy tournaments but over all a good season. I would like to say if you don't normally get into tournaments over the winter months, I would challenge you to try a couple. We have a number of great places to pitch indoors.

We have had a recent development with a group of pitchers from Indiana wanting to join Ohio. They are having trouble with their Executive Council not listening to the membership. They have asked to purchase their cards from Ohio and maybe have some of their tournaments sanction by Ohio. At this time it is not possible to except them because of how our By-Laws read. As a council we

have discussed this at length and want to talk to the membership to determine if we want to try and make this change. Click on the link in this newsletter to take the survey to provide us feedback from you to see if this is something we want to pursue. Since next year is an odd year we have the ability to change our By-Laws to except pitchers from other states. We know making a big change like this will always have pros and cons to it and this is why we need to hear from our membership. If you should have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone of the officers.

I look forward to seeing many of you this winter and the rest of you next summer. Have a safe and happy winter season. And don't forget to invite a friend, co-worker or family to join our horseshoe family.



NHPA World Horseshoe Tournament

2027 World Tournament

Three Rivers Convention Center
7016 W Grandrge Blvd
Kennewick, WA 99336
509-737-3700
July 19-24, 2027

Link to 2027 NHPA World Venue Info



Brian Fisher - 1st VP and Travel Agent

Make a difference and bring a new pitcher to play this great game. Better yet, introduce a youth to the game. Our youth day at the great Darke Cty fair was a success as we had 20 attendees. I heard Ross Cty had 20 too. Let's take it a step further and pay the entry fee to enter our state tournament for any interested! This was Darke Cty clubs 70th yr and we have four leagues committed for winter pitching. Please consider going to the world tournament next yr in Kennewick WA., July 19-24. Also consider getting a Delta gold card. My whole flight will be paid for with the rewards I have.

Call me with any questions or concerns.
937-239-6877 Safe travels!
Brian Fisher
email: brian.fisher6877@gmail.com

- ***I am in dire need for someone who is driving to Kennewick net year to transport a few totes of Jukskei equipment. I would need it by Friday the 16th as our international match will take place on Saturday the 17th. Please! Thanks.***

Mike Byers - 3rd VP, HOF Chairman



Hello O.H.P.A
A big Thank You to everyone who entered and helped make our State Tournament a success. Even with some weather interference it was a very good weekend. Our great office people and scorekeepers made all the classes run smoothly.
Congratulations to Delbert Fourman as he was elected to the H.O.F. A well-deserved honor for Delbert.
As the summer season comes to a close and we move indoors don't let your shoes get rusty as there are many indoor tournaments and leagues to participate in.

Rember and get friends and family involved in horseshoes by inviting them to join you seasoned veterans.
Also, if any member is interested in being on the H.O.F. Committee, there is one at large position open at this time. Just call or e-mail me if you would like to be part of the important process of voting for H.O.F. nominees.

See you on the Courts!



Randy Shoemaker - 4th VP, By-Laws Chairman, Medical Exemption

As our summer leagues and tournaments come to an end, I would like to encourage all pitchers to visit one of our fine indoor courts throughout the state. They host tournaments all winter long and are great places to continue pitching!

I would also like to add that our state tournament went very well this year! Even with the rain delay, everyone jumped right in to help dry the courts and get things going again. Great job everyone!

Our silent auction continues to grow, helping us with tournament payouts. Thank you to everyone who has contributed!

Finally, I encourage everyone to invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to one of our events this coming year. It's a great way to introduce others to the sport and keep horseshoe pitching growing!

Steve Mikesell - 5th VP



Hello everybody, well we made it through another summer and it was a hot one. It was good to see all of you at the courts again this year. I hope you all made aa lot of ringers and won a few games but more important we all had a good time. Next year let's all try to bring at least one new pitcher with us when we start our leagues, that would be great! Thanks to all for your help this year, it was greatly appreciated. Until nex sason may God bless and keep you all.



Dale Shelinbarger- Secretary/Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Membership Director

Membership Report for 2026 is a total of 232.

As another successful season comes to a close, I want to thank all of our members, club officers, and tournament directors across the state for making this year a great one for the Ohio Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

On the financial front, our accounts remain healthy and in good standing thanks to your timely renewals and active tournament participation.

Please see the top of this newsletter for membership renewal details for next season. If you have moved, changed your phone number, or updated your email address, please reach out to me so we can keep our roster current.

Thank you all for your dedication to the sport, your camaraderie on the courts, and your continued support of OHPA. Hope you get the chance to check out an indoor tournament over the winter, otherwise we look forward to seeing everyone back in the pits next spring!

Congrats to all the State Awardees and all the State Tournament winners!

WELCOME new members

Larry Vandemark, Lima
Donald Elad, Trenton
Brian Arledge, Chillicothe
Kenneth Short, Trenton
Kent Morris, Circleville
David Stoever, Columbus
Jeremy Schinkle, Chillicothe
Bobby Stoever, Columbus
Kurt Proegler, Dublin
Jacob Miller, Plain City
Travis Carter, Chillicothe
Kevin Ehrnfield, Adamsville
Terry Taylor, Chillicothe
Malachi Mitchell, Chillicothe

2026 Ohio State Championships



Cadet State Champ
Jensen Alexander, Greenville
(3-0 / 33.33%)

Jr Boys State Champ
Cameron Hogue, Adamsville
(3-0 / 23.33%)





Mens State Champion
Darryl Synder, Plain City
(4-1 / 51.17%)

Womens State Champion
Donna Shoemaker, Londonderry
(6-1 / 60.36%)





Elder Mens State Champion
Don Epps, West Liberty
(6-1 / 69.54%)

Elder Womens State Champion
Ginger Hundt, Kenton
(3-0 / 49.17%)





Doubles State Champions
Steve Mikesell / Austin Hill
5-1 Combined 45.52%

Link to State Singles Results

Link to State Doubles Results

Link to Friday Night Warmup Results

2026 STATE AWARDS



[Youngest Pitcher Award]
Jensen Alexander, Greenville
(10 yrs old)



[Oldest Pitcher Award]
Tom Kirk, Casstown
(86 yrs old)



[Sportsmanship Award]
Wayne Baker, Whitehouse



[Jim Knisley Traveling Award]
Steve Mikesell, Lewisburg





[Gary Roberts Memorial Award]
John Brown, Lancaster

Randy Shoemaker, Londonderry





Hall of Fame - Promoter/Organizer
Delbert Fourman, Arcanum

Tournament Director of the Year
Theresa Hogue, Adamsville

MEMBERSHIP LONGEVITY PATCHES

10 years
Theresa Hogue, Adamsville
Randy Parcell, New Concord
Margaret Potter, Piketon

20 years
Jim Brandenburg, Greenville
Pat Lucente, Spring Valley
Phil Turner, Jamestown
Doug Singer, Dayton

30 years
Ray Welsh, Louisville
Dan Reinke, Cleveland
Bev Hittle, Zanesville

40 years
Bob Johnson, New Concord
Dave Tabler, Columbus
Jim Walters, Johnstown

60 years
Jim McCombs, Greenville



Link to Recent OBITUARIES

Paul Buttari, Sr (1/27/56 - 9/2/25)

Bob Jewett (11/5/35 - 9/4/25)

Shirley Jewett (6/15/37 - 7/6/26)

Tom Mengay

Phil Karnes (11/18/42 - 12/1/25)

John Brown (11/1/30 - 12/2/25)

Ruth Dodson (4/27/41 - 12/5/25)

Chuck Warner (1/22/38 - 3/16/26)

Frank Rowe (1/4/29 - 3/31/26)

Larry Barga (11/5/49 - 5/16/26)

Joe Adams (7/21/47 - 5/27/26)

Woody Melick (4/10/39 - 11/25/25)

Jan Melick (6/12/40 - 5/26/26)

Frank Hale (11/18/46 - 6/12/26)

Curly Tackett (4/26/39 - 6/13/26)

Dave Shellhaas (6/1/39 - 7/22/26)

Pins for Sale

The sale price is $1.50 per pin.
To place your order,
please contact Dale Shelinbarger at ohpasecretary@gmail.com or 937-829-2217



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