

The Pitcher's Pulse

Official Publication of the
Western Pennsylvania Horseshoe Pitchers Association



<http://www.pitchwithus.com/wphpa>

WINTER ISSUE 2013

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The President Speaks:

I would like to thank the membership for electing me President of the WPHPA. I would also like to thank outgoing President, Cindy Hoffman, for her services to the Association over the last two years. As all of these charter officer positions go, President is much the same in that it is largely a thankless job. But we all know there's much more going on behind the scenes and Cindy deserves a big thanks from every member for all those things she did that we never saw that kept things within the Association running along. There's one thing, though, that she accomplished that did not go unnoticed and that's winning the 2013 Women's World Championship in St. George, Utah... Wow! What an accomplishment! I certainly want to congratulate her on the victory of a lifetime... amazing! I hope you all do the same. By the way, the Erie Horseshoe Club is honoring Cindy's World Championship victory by holding a one time tournament in her name in mid October at their indoor courts. If you can, please show your appreciation for her accomplishment by attending that tournament.

I want to assure you all that I have the administrative experience to run this Association effectively. In the past, I've served as an executive council member, junior director, secretary/treasurer and also vice-president for this State Charter. I've served at the local level in Erie as Club President and most all subsequent officer positions. I served several years at the national level as the NHPA Junior Promotions Director. Currently, in addition to this new position as WPHPA President, I am the secretary of the Erie Horseshoe Club and am the President of the Horseshoe Pitching Pro Tour. As a player, I've slowly worked my way up through the lower classes to become a top men's pitcher in recent years. I pitch in many sanctioned tournaments across the state and all over the country every year, including the world tournament. I say all this not to boast, but rather to hopefully instill some confidence in you that I can effectively lead this charter through any situation that may arise. I want you all to feel comfortable in coming to me with any problems or issues you may have and I want you to know that you've got

someone here who will take care of business for you swiftly and completely.

Going forward, there will be no bigger concern to this Charter than membership growth. We need more horseshoe clubs holding sanctioned tournaments and leagues and we need more sanctioned members. That's our purpose and we will take it very seriously. I promise you, this Association will grow! Tournament participation will grow... we will get things back on track. It's going to take work at every level, particularly within the clubs themselves. I am a results oriented President and yeah, you're going to see things in the WPHPA that you've never seen before. We're going to grow this membership and we're all going to have a whole lot of fun doing it! This is a very challenging sport that we all compete in for different reasons. But the one thing we have in common is that we're all doing this for the fun of it more than anything else. It's hard to be good at this sport and this struggle that we all know so well, combined with the enjoyment we get from this amazing challenge bonds us together and gives this sport that family feel that you just don't get in other activities. This is our greatest strength and our most useful tool in promoting growth. But you all need more than just that to make this Association grow.

It all starts with good leadership and you are definitely getting that from this President and staff. In closing, I also want to thank Bobby Faidley and Jean Olsen for retaining their positions as Vice-President and Sec/Tres/Stats, respectively. Being that I've held both those positions in the past, I am uniquely qualified to direct and assist both of them. You will soon see that the three of us will make a great team and will work more effectively together than any other group of officers this Association has seen in recent years. Our first duty is to serve you, the existing membership, and you will certainly be able to rely on us for that. Beyond that, we hope to work together and grow this membership. With your help, I'm sure we'll get this done.

Sincerely,

Bobby White
WPHPA President

Thank you to all who competed in the state tournament, helped in whatever way possible and to those who offered support. We ended up with 80 pitchers is all a lot of Western PA pitchers were missing from this event. We talk about supporting clubs and trying to grow Western PA, the division between east and west was 41 – 39, not a good showing for the tournament being on this side of the state.

Congrats to all who won their class, or placed, a special congrats to our State Champions:

Men's Steve Kuchcinski – Erie

Elder's Kurt von Kleist – Warren

Women's – Cindy Hoffman – H.O.P.E.

Juniors – Asa Mast –Eastern PA

Notes from the meeting:

The point challenge will be discontinued after the 2013 Summer schedule. We are looking into other options used by many of the other NHPA states.

Current Officers are:

President: Bobby White

bobby.white@wphpa.com

Vice-President: Bobby Faidley

bobby.faidley@wphpa.com

Sec. / Treas. / Stats : Jean Olsen

jean.olsen@wphpa.com

Besides the new website that Bobby is working on we also are setting up a facebook page, Western Pennsylvania Horseshoes, check it out. We are still looking for ideas to put on both.

Remember we want it to be user friendly and informative, neither is set up to criticize or ridicule. Send all ideas to Bobby or Jean.

Tournaments at HOPE

Entry Fees : Regular tournaments \$25.00 adults

Juniors none make checks payable to : H.O.P.E.

Team/Club Championships \$200.00 per team

All entry fees must be sent with entry, if you enter by email please send check before tournament date. All tournaments have a 10 day deadline.

Mail to: Ron Weiss 3897 Edge Road Pittsburgh, PA 15227
(412) 884-7092 email: Director3897@aol.com

Notices of pitching times will be sent via e-mail when possible all others will be by post cards.

Payouts Regular tournaments: All classed 6 person when possible

1st place \$40.00 all 6 person classes

2nd place \$30.00

3rd place \$15.00

If any class is 5 person

1st place \$40.00

2nd place \$30.00

Any class with 4 pitchers

1st place only \$40.00

Team/Club Championships is being revived after a long absence from the WPHPA schedule. Limited to 4 person teams of NHPA sanctioned adult pitchers only . Team % Limited to 200% total team %. All pitchers must have NatStats average to enter. 20 shoe count-all alternate pitch. All clubs are invited to enter a team. 4 individual pitchers can form a team you do not have to belong to a club to pitch in this tournament. Total team % taken from NatStats on deadline. 1st 8 teams to send entry fee will pitch.

Pay out

Team/Club Championships

1st \$600.00 & plaques for the 4 team members who win 1st place (plate on traveling trophy)

2nd \$400.00

3rd \$300.00

Ron Weiss

We need to have information sent to Jean from the different clubs to put in the Summer Pitchers Pulse. This book is to supply informative information that the pitchers can use.

We finished the year with 148 pitchers

2 Lifetime

136 Adult

10 Juniors

Balance prior to the State Tournament: \$6762.07

Good Luck to all in the Winter Season, safe travels to all. Take time to check out a club you might not have pitched at.

Dubois Horseshoe Club

If you haven't been to Dubois in awhile you need to check out their remodeled facility. From the updated restroom facilities to the beautiful new interior. Here is a dedicated club, working hard to make their facility a place to come and pitch. Even though they have had low tournament attendance and have even had to cancel they are putting money and hard work into their club. Check out their schedule and make it a point to get to one of their tournaments

Just a Note:

Congrats to our outgoing President Cindy on a job well done at the World Tournament. Also a big thank you for the past two years and your dedication to Western PA. On another note our incoming President Bobby White is ready to work and has started by helping create a new website. For those who missed the meeting or didn't see the message we received from our past web host, we were paying way too much for the work that was being done. Again I remind you that was the main reason the site was not always up to date along with not knowing if everything we sent was put on. We will notify everyone once the site is done and up and running. The officers will each have an email address so you can contact us right away.

A reminder to all tournament directors, you must submit your results to natstats upon completion of your tournament along with sending them to me. If you have a problem getting them on please contact me ASAP so we can get it taken care of, along with your check for the fee for each pitcher. I have been in contact with Rob Hagman the stat guy from the NHPA, he has shown me some new updates to the HS Master program that makes sending the results easier. Along with that please keep in mind that the stats are not updated every week so you might not see results for a week or two depending on when they get sent in.

A reminder to all: the new cards will be available in October for the 2014 season. They are \$25.00 for adults and \$8.00 for Juniors, there is no non-pitching card, after talking to the NHPA we were not in compliant with the rules for acquiring our sanctioned cards.

The winter schedule once again has tournaments doubled up, this will not be happening in the future. Please show consideration to other clubs and be willing to change dates if needed.

Start looking at your summer dates as we will need these in Feb. so we can get the schedule completed early.

Also remember that the World Tournament is in Buffalo, NY

Jean