

CONSTITUTION

North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NC-HPA)

PREAMBLE

We, the horseshoe pitchers of the North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association, in order to (1) promote, foster, and develop the game of horseshoe pitching, both as a competitive sport and a recreational pastime, (2) provide the proper facilities and (3) ensure the continued growth and existence of the game, do hereby establish this CONSTITUTION for the North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this association shall be to provide an orderly means for its members and prospective members to participate in and enjoy the game of horseshoe pitching.

ARTICLE III – AFFILIATION

This association shall affiliate with and cooperate with the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America, hereinafter referred to as NHPA. All officers and members must join the NHPA. Other organizers and promoters (i.e., tournament directors) shall be encouraged to join the NHPA.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

The requirements for membership shall be the payment of the annual dues and the maintaining of a legal residence in North Carolina as determined by voting, tax and/or driver's license laws.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

The officers of this association shall consist of the following: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Statistician, Hall of Fame Chairman/Historian, and Publicity Director. These shall be elected in the following manner: (1) The President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Hall of Fame Chairman/Historian shall be elected on even numbered years. (2) The Vice president, Statistician, and Publicity Director shall be elected on odd numbered years. (3) All officers shall hold two-year terms. (4) The election shall be by a majority vote of all current members present and entitled to vote at the annual meeting. (5) Their terms shall begin on January 1st and end on December 31st of their prospective years.

ARTICLE VI – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Each of the officers shall seek to do those things that promote the best interests of the association to include maintaining and presenting a positive attitude toward our association, attending as many tournaments as their circumstances will allow and making an annual report to the general membership.

President: The President shall preside at all meetings to administer the business of this association and to present any obligations the association may wish to incur and oversee whatever other duties that may come to his/her attention. The President shall coordinate the work of all the officers and assign to them specific duties to promote the best interest of the association.

Vice President: The Vice President will assume the duties of the President in his/her absence. He/She will develop a new members packet and develop a questionnaire to determine why some members have not renewed their membership. After coordinating with the Regional Director, he/she will provide the association information regarding the official rules of horseshoe pitching. He/She shall perform any specific duties assigned by the President.

Secretary/Treasurer: The Secretary/Treasurer will assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President and Vice President. He/She will keep accurate minutes of all meetings, function as custodian of all funds and properties of the association, sign all obligations for association expenditures, and keep accurate financial reports. He/She will ensure all memberships are accurate and agree with the national eShoe program. He/She will disseminate the new member packets. He/She shall perform any specific duties assigned by the President.

Statistician: The Statistician will keep accurate and current statistics for all NHPA members participating in North Carolina tournaments. He/She will ensure accuracy of tournament reporting on the national eShoe program. He/She will provide current statistics to tournament directors in the form of a database to be used in the HSMaster program or on an Excel spreadsheet for tournaments prepared manually. He/She will perform any specific duties assigned by the President.

Hall of Fame Chairman/Historian: The Hall of Fame Chairman shall accept nomination forms from any member in good standing. He/She will meet with the Executive Board to determine who may be recommended for induction into the Hall of Fame. He/She will gather all relevant information for any candidate and preside over the voting process. He/She will develop an article for every person inducted into the Hall of Fame. As Historian, he/she will accumulate and develop historical information about our association and its members. He/She will perform any specific duties assigned by the President.

Publicity Director: The Publicity Director will use whatever means that are available (e.g., television, newspapers, radio stations) to promote our association and publicize information that will encourage membership. He/She will work with other officers and tournament directors to develop and publish pertinent information. He/She will perform any specific duties assigned by the President.

Regional Director: The Regional Director will perform his/her duties as prescribed by the NHPA. He/She will coordinate with the state officers to promote horseshoes in North Carolina. He/She will give guidance to state officers on the official rules of the NHPA. He/She will not be a member of the Executive Board and will not have voting rights.

Assistant Regional Director: The Assistant Regional Director will perform any specific duties assigned by the Regional Director. He/She will not be a member of the Executive Board and will not have voting rights.

Youth Director: The Youth Director will be appointed by the President and will perform his/her duties as prescribed by the NHPA. He/She will coordinate with the state officers to promote horseshoes in North Carolina. He/She will not be a member of the Executive Board and will not have voting rights.

ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD

The elected officers shall constitute the Executive Board and may act on all matters that may arise on behalf of the association. Meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at such times and places as it may decide. A majority of the officers must be present to constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint such committees as deemed necessary. These committees may be dissolved, and individual members replaced when the President deems it necessary.

ARTICLE IX – BY-LAWS

The association may adopt such By-Laws as it deems necessary. By-Laws shall be adopted when approved by a majority vote of the members in good standing present at any regular meeting.

ARTICLE X – MEETINGS

The North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association shall meet annually (preferably in conjunction with the state singles tournament). Additional meetings may be called by any member of the Executive Board. The Secretary/Treasurer will notify all the members in good standing of the time and location.

ARTICLE XI – VACANCY OF AN OFFICER

Any vacancy on the Executive Board caused by the death, serious illness or resignation of a member shall be filled by a person selected to serve for the duration of the unexpired term of the officer by a unanimous vote of the remaining Executive Board members.

ARTICLE XII – REMOVAL OF AN OFFICER

An officer can be removed from office only for criminal conduct or flagrant misuse or neglect of his/her duties. This must be accomplished only after due deliberation and a two-thirds vote of the members present in a special meeting called for that purpose.

ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS

This CONSTITUTION may be amended by two-thirds affirmative vote of all voting members present at a regular or special meeting providing the notice of the meeting contains a brief announcement relative to the proposed amendment.

ARTICLE XIV – ORDER OF BUSINESS

Robert’s Rules of Order, as revised and listed in the Constitution of the NHPA and the rules of that organization shall govern this association in all cases not covered by this CONSTITUTION and By-Laws.

UPDATED OCTOBER 2022

North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association By-Laws

- BL-1 The North Carolina Horseshoe Pitchers Association will perform business on a calendar year basis.
- BL-2 All NC-HPA tournament schedules shall be drawn up and issued by the charter Secretary/Treasurer and President in affiliation with each tournament director or club president.
- BL-3 The members of the Executive Board may be compensated for incurred business expenses.
- BL-4 An accurate financial and membership report shall be produced at the end of each season by charter Secretary/Treasurer.
- BL-5 A financial report shall be made available to the President or any member upon request.
- BL-6 Any court complex with sixteen or more regulation clay courts is eligible to host the state tournament.
- BL-7 The NC-HPA Executive Board shall determine the next year's location for the state tournament.
- BL-8 Any pitcher dropping out of a tournament without a legitimate reason will not be permitted to participate in that tournament the following year. Legitimate reasons for dropping out of a tournament must be approved by the tournament director.
- BL-9 NHPA rules/regulations, guidelines, and specifications (RGS Booklet) and By-Laws shall take precedence over any issues not addressed in the NC-HPA By-Laws.
- BL-10 Weekly Tournaments:
- Classes at weekly tournaments may be handicapped under the following criteria: (1) the difference in ringer percentage between top and bottom seeds in a class will be greater than 10 percentage points and (2) a majority vote by class participants. If a tie vote occurs, the tournament director will decide how the class is conducted.
 - A "Championship" class will not be recognized or used except for the State Singles, State Doubles and any tournament with all class participants having greater than 50% average. Our format will be A, B, C, D, etc. classes with the "Tournament Champion" patch awarded to the winner of Class A.
 - All first-place ties will be "pitched-off". Ties for other positions will be broken by ringer percentage, then head-to-head win/loss in regular round robin. The head-to-head win/loss match **MUST** be used as a tiebreaker of handicapped classes.
 - All classes will play to 40 shoes with exception of the tournaments that are allowed a "Championship Class" which will pitch 40-point games. The following exceptions will also apply: (1) 30 shoe games to accommodate large tournament attendance or to shorten the tournament due to inclement weather such as excessive heat; (2) 50 shoes to ensure small classes have adequate shoe counts as opposed to playing multiple rounds. A defined number of shoes pitched will allow for "pacers" to be used in the event a player has to drop out. Our goal is to have players pitch 200-300 shoes at each tournament. The forfeit win/loss will still apply.
- BL-11 Tournament Directors:
- Will ensure courts meet minimum sanctioning requirements (foul lines, stake height and lean)

- Will ensure equipment is present to prepare courts.
- Will ensure clipboards and scoresheets are available.
- Will assign classes based on current ringer percentage as listed in eShoe.
- Will function as a tiebreak vote in determining if a class will be handicapped.
- Will oversee all paperwork associated with the tournament to determine class winners and awards.
- Will provide the Statistician the results of the tournament within one week.
- Will provide the Treasurer appropriate fees within one week. Checks will be payable to the NC-HPA.

BL-12 NC-HPA State Singles Tournament:

- Secretary/Treasurer or designee will direct the State Tournaments.
- All State Single Tournaments will be pitched on clay courts.
- All State Single championship classes will be played to 40-point cancellation.
- The defending state champion will automatically be seeded number one.
- State Tournament games called due to inclement weather shall resume at the shoe count when the delay occurred.
- In the event a contestant in any class has no opponent, then he/she will pitch a minimum of 100 shoes and be declared the champion in that class.
- Proper dress is expected at the tournament.

BL-13 Association Voting Requirements:

- Any member 13 years or older may be a voting member of the association.

BL-14 Hall of Fame Procedures:

Nomination Procedures:

- NC-HPA members in good standing may complete a nomination form (Downloaded from state website or obtained from the Hall of Fame Chairman). The nominees must have been an association member for at least 10 years and significantly contributed to the promotion of horseshoes or excelled in the pitching of horseshoes. Submission of the form must be by May 15 to the Hall of Fame Chairman.
- The selection committee will consist of the executive council (elected state officers) and an additional 2-4 at-large members based on total membership. The Hall of Fame Chairman shall appoint the at-large members based on their longevity and knowledge of members. The committee will never be smaller than eight members.
- A committee (made up of 3 individuals selected by the HOF Chairman) shall review all nomination entries for eligibility. They shall accept or not accept candidates as a Hall of Fame nominee by majority vote. If accepted, the individual will be included on the list. After a minimum of three nominations has been received and approved, the selection committee shall vote in the month of August, so results can be announced at the annual State meeting.
- The Hall of Fame Chairman shall be responsible for informing the nominating individual as to whether their nominee has been accepted or not.

- Nominees not selected for Hall of Fame will remain under consideration for five years after a vote has been completed.

Voting Requirements and Procedures:

- There must be a minimum of three nominations for a vote to occur.
- Each committee member can cast two votes, using an 8 and 2 point criteria. All ten points cannot be awarded to a single nominee and a member can decline to vote any or all his/her points.
- A committee member nominated for the Hall of Fame cannot vote for themselves.
- A nominee must receive 30 points (8 member selection committee) or 40 points (10 member selection committee) to be selected.

UPDATED OCTOBER 2022