



BC HORSESHOE ASSOCIATION

FUNDRAISER TOURNAMENT

\$20. Entry

**TONY
RONDOW
BENEFIT**
SAT OCT. 18,
2025
**Victoria Horseshoe
Club**

**No Prize money all
proceeds go to the
family**

**Time to help a
family in need.**



BCHA EXECUTIVE

President: (Acting) June Lazenby

Vice President:

Secretary/Treasurer: Brian Ryder

Mainland Representative: Scott Halls

Interior Representative: Dwight Cousins

Island Representative: Gail Bishop

Past President: Bob McCauley

Webmaster: Linda Leo

Newsletter Editor: June Lazenby

(ACTING) PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JUNE LAZENBY

We would like to give heartfelt thanks to Bob McCauley for all that he did during his time as President, and wish him well as he goes on to new endeavours. I'm quite sure we won't lose sight of him on the pitches in the days to come.

As the call for nominations to take over the President's position was not successful, the Vice President will act as President until someone can be found to take on the position.

I committed to publishing descriptions of the Executive positions in the newsletter, but it won't be this one - watch for something to come out later, likely January when all the busy Christmas season is over.

At the AGM it was also voted that the BCHA would no longer sponsor the International Tournament held in Abbotsford on the May long weekend. Abbotsford is free to put on whatever kind of tournament they would like in lieu of that one. There was lots of support for a two-day tournament even without the BCHA involvement and we all look forward to what will come.

It was apparent that it was difficult for us to meet quorum for the AGM so one of my next tasks is to fully review our Constitution to make sure that it still serves the needs of horseshoe players in today's world. The Constitution was likely last reviewed in 2016 and the last available printed copy is dated 2000 so methinks there's some work to do....

Best wishes to all of the horseshoe family in the coming fall months and the holiday season - fall and winter leagues will be starting up so dress warm and keep those ringers coming!

Yours in horseshoes,

June

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LETTER *FROM* THE EDITOR

JUNE LAZENBY



I have big, big news! I got a letter!

If there's ever a thought that you would like passed on to our fellow horseshoe players, you can always drop me a note. Please see the letter below here and give it some thought...

Not much more for me to add since I already wrote the President's message above :-s

We are still looking to expand the BCHA mailing list. We can be much more effective as a group if we can contact our members directly - we value your input into the things that affect our lives as horseshoe players and we can't get much of that if we only communicate at the AGM. So, please drop me a note at brekitabuddy@shaw.ca and I will add you to a direct mailing list.

Another thing you could do is if your whole club approves of this idea, you could have someone from your club send me a copy of your club mailing list in Excel and I will do what's necessary to update the list from this end.

Sponsor information is still welcome at any time and please feel free to send any pictures of events, tournament results, social gatherings, and in memoriam notices - anything you would like to share with our horseshoe family - to me at brekitabuddy@shaw.ca. There is still no set publication schedule so drop me a note any time!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To all B.C. Horse Shoe Clubs:

We all pitch shoes because we love the game. We don't play because we want to make money, in fact playing shoes costs money. More and more all our clubs are being threatened by outside entities which seem to be trying to force us out of our club areas.

Support from local politicians and Parks Departments is at an all-time low.

Some clubs have had to stop hosting tournaments as their municipalities want to charge them for the use of the courts. It is getting more expensive to play and the cost to attend other clubs' tournaments is so high that many pitchers don't go to away tournaments. The cost for ferry fares, gas, and especially hotel or accommodations is a definite deterrent to travel.

It is time that we got together to do something about it. I believe that if we can cut down on travel expenses we could get more players travelling to away tournaments. The more players we have at a tournament the more exposure our sport gets. The biggest expense is accommodation. I suggest that all the clubs approach their members and start a list for billeting away players. A lot of folks have a spare bedroom, a camper/motorhome in the driveway or those that live in condos often have guest suites available at a very reasonable rate. We need to compile a list of possible free or low-cost accommodations for each club and make it available to our travelling players.

Billeting someone does not mean you have to feed them. It is just a place for them to sleep and possibly have a shower. It is also a great way to get to know players from somewhere else and a great way to make new friends. Even a one day tournament could bring in more players if they could stay a night for free or reasonable cost, and not have to rush back home the same day.

For those clubs that now have to pay for the use of the courts, they may be able to a little more for entry fees and use some of the money to cover that cost.

Please consider this suggestion as we all want to continue pitching shoes, meeting new people, making new friends and having fun.

Brian Rickaby
Abbotsford Horseshoe Club



Victoria is hosting the first ever Team tournament. It is a 4-person team but you can have up to 2 extra players as spares. Ideally, we will have 6 team divisions so each team will play 5 other teams.

Each match will be worth 4 pts - one point for each game won by your player. Games will be shoe limits. Matchups will be determined by a coin toss. The losing team will place their players on 4 assigned courts and the other team will decide the match up of players. Lots of strategy involved.

Tournament is limited to 24 teams. There will be some teams playing in the morning and some in the afternoon.

Cost is \$80 per team (\$20 per player).

First come first served till 24 teams are filled.

Get your team in soon with your players listed. Contact Tom Moffat at email below.

Got questions? xpostiex@gmail.com

NANAIMO HORSESHOE PITS RECLAIMED

Submitted by Jerry Melissa

Many thanks to Bob, Wei and Tom for making a special trip to Nanaimo to attend a special meeting with the Nanaimo Parks and Recreation Department Supervisors. The meeting was in response to my request to resurrect the Nanaimo Horseshoe Pits that have been neglected for almost 15 years.

With the help of Ken Buckle we trimmed, raked, scraped and salvaged backboards for Pits 1 and 2. We left the other 7 Pits alone.

The meeting was very positive and ended with a visit to the Pits, just a short walk from the Senior Complex at Bowen Park.



Everyone took turns throwing shoes including Wei who accomplished a 'photo' op while playing Bob! Pitching second she was able to score 2 dead 1.

Hopefully the neglected pits will be renovated soon or a new 'site' will be found for future play.

BC PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT 2025

Abbotsford Horseshoe Club put on the Provincial Tournament this year - it was a great opportunity to meet up with the horseshoe family from all across the province. From the fabulous raffle prizes to the scrumptious meals, a great time was had by all - many, many thanks to Abbotsford for all their hard work!



Hall Of Fame - Male Player
Rick Britz of Port Alberni



PeeWee
1st Nolan Drexler



Elders G
1st Frank White 2nd Don McSwain
3rd Brian Ryder



Elders F
1st Tony Powell 2nd James McGrail
3rd Doug Williams



Elders E
1st Brian Foss 2nd Bob Salisbury
3rd Bill Olejarnik



Elders D
1st Hart Drexler 2nd Robin de Graaf
3rd Norman Roy



Elders C
1st Brian Rickaby 2nd Barry deVocht
3rd Ken Bradley



Elders B
1st Spence McCalla 2nd Brian Leo
3rd Steve Bishop



Elders A
1st Bob McCauley 2nd Tom Moffat



Men's A
1st Parri Kirk 2nd Anthony Sawada
3rd Chris Blouin



Ladies E
1st Kate Potvin 2nd Jane Smithson
3rd Lora Smart



Ladies D
1st Marilyn Thomas 2nd Cindy Halls
3rd Sandra Gallant



Ladies C
1st Linda Bradt 2nd Linda Leo
3rd June Lazenby



Ladies B
1st Jenna John 2nd Joy DeVocht
3rd Wei Xiao



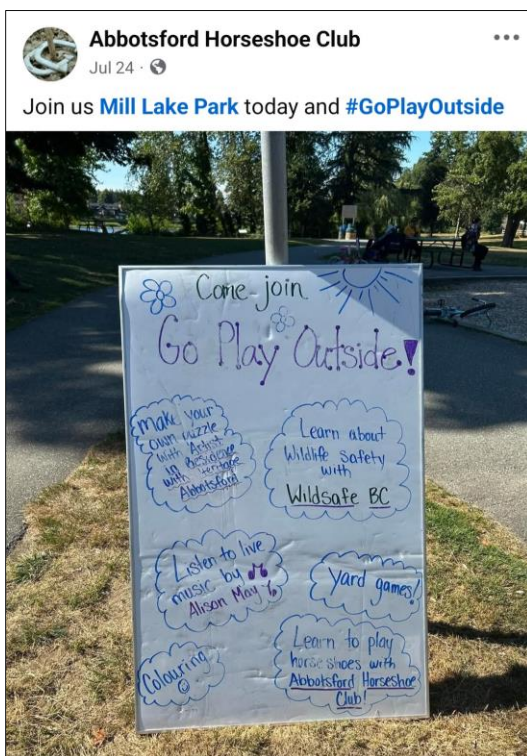
Ladies A
1st Heidi Haraga 2nd Val Andres
3rd Catheryn Rogers

CLUB NEWS - ABBOTSFORD

Abbotsford Horseshoe Club has had an active summer. Many members attended the Western Classic and Canadian Championships. Three members of our club, Linda Leo, Teresa White, and Gary Sandau won third place in their classes in Canadians. Our club held 3 tournaments during the summer.

Our club has connected with our city to become an active participant in our community. The Abbotsford Horseshoe Club participated in the Canada Day festivities, Agrifair and more than five "Go Play Outside" events.

We look forward to the Lower Mainland Championships in September and our Fall Open in October.



CLUB NEWS - CENTRAL PARK

Well, the club is alive and well even though we did not host any tournaments this past season. We were actively trying to sign up new members and I think we did the best we could and now have 31 members. Gaetan who is at the club 6 days a week was a big reason as he is always inviting people to come and try throwing shoes. He encourages them to come back and bring their friends.

Gaetan maintains the courts and pit areas in perfect condition. This past summer Gaetan & Victor repainted all the lines in the pitching area and it looks great.

We held a bbq on Canada Day offering a free lunch for all the members. It was a great turnout and afterwards Gaetan organized a small horseshoe tournament.

We are planning on putting up a new banner on the outside of the clubhouse this fall advertising we are always welcoming new members and mention that we are the Home of the BC Horseshoe Hall of Fame. We have included a picture of the latest HOF inductee Rick Britt.

We are hoping 2026 will see more horseshoe pitching at the club.

As always it is good to see everyone at the tournaments.

We want to say congratulations to Bob Salisbury for going 6-0 and winning his class in the Lower mainland Championship in Abbotsford.

Well it is almost that time of the year to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and we look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Thanks

Allan Cummings



CLUB NEWS - COMOX

The Comox Valley Horseshoe Club has shut down for the year having held our windup in September. We finished the season with 22 members. We will start up again next April.

Pictures below of our trophy presentations.

Wayne Rushton



CLUB NEWS - SALMON ARM

Greetings from Salmon Arm Horseshoe Club

Tournaments are over for us for another year. However we are still practising every Tuesday and Thursday, and will be until the snow flies.

Our AGM is set for October 5th. Little BBQ and small tournament will be happening then. A good way to end our year.

Our club remains healthy, no "sad" news to report, thankfully.

Hoping other clubs remain healthy too. Have a good year everyone and see you next year.

Mavis Norquay

CLUB NEWS - SOOKE



SOOKE CELEBRATED THEIR 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR !!!!

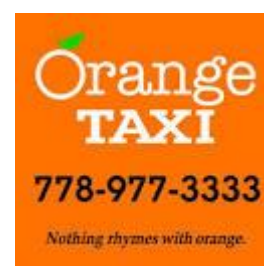
What a great accomplishment for us. We had our 10-year Memorial Tournament with a great attendance.....THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED OUR CLUB THROUGH THESE 10 YEARS. We are always learning and it is great. We participated in several community events this year. Great promotional education for the community of Sooke. We did Canada day and Sooke Senior Spectacular, Sookearama, helped with the fall fair and several other events that really puts us out there. We held a wonderful fundraiser for Canadian Diabetes which may become an annual event as the organizers and all the participants were very happy and had soooo much FUN!!!!

Spring and Summer League were successful this year. We continue to do our dropins Tuesday and Saturday mornings at 10 AM and always welcome new members. During the Fall we plan on doing some seminars on judging, scorekeeping and other items that need to be addressed so that our members are always prepared for tournaments and other events.

THANK YOU TO THE COMMUNITY OF HORSESHOES FOR ALWAYS SUPPORTING OUR CLUB !!!

Sooke Horseshoe Pitching Association

The companies below are sponsors for Sooke Horseshoe Club - please support them whenever you can!



CLUB NEWS - VERNON

The club enjoyed a great season in spite of some withering temperatures. On June 7 we hosted our spring tournament which was preceded by considerable refurbishment of the pit edges and foul boards on our pits.

On Aug 17 we hosted the historic Interior Kootenay North Tournament. The tournament will be hosted by the Salmon Arm Club in 2026 and 2027.

The latest event was the closing of our horseshoe area on Sept 18 to allow the City of Vernon access to install a new irrigation system. We hope to continue pitching by October.

Regards...

Rich Velocci, President



Above - new irrigation system in progress

Below right - Spring Tournament held June 7, 2025

Below right - Interior North Kootenay Tournament



CLUB NEWS - VICTORIA

This has been a banner year for the Victoria Horseshoe Club. We are celebrating our 90th year of operation! On New Year's Day we had an anniversary kick off party. We made a video and put it on YouTube and FB and so far we have had over 2000 views. We promoted the 90th Anniversary theme in all of our tournaments and Club events. Later we had a Festival Week featuring guest speakers from Saanich city Hall, a First Nations performance, themed costumed league play, team talent showcase, a recycle challenge and a giant yard sale. We had a lot of fun but we're not sure if we attracted any new members!

Another event that has captured our attention over the summer has been the 100th birthday celebration for one of our members. Bob Curtis is now recognized as the oldest active horseshoe pitcher in the world. Bob remains active at the Club, pitching shoes and helping out where ever he can. A videographer came out to our Club party for him and took a lot of footage. He then boiled it down to 20 minutes, and the results of which are on the Victoria Horseshoe FB page and on YouTube. Check it out - Bob is amazing, and is quite a hit with the ladies!

We had 12 summer league teams representing about 56 players and it is wrapped just before the Provincials. Our Wednesday evening Cornhole group sees about 25-35 associate members coming out each time. The computerized scoring system has a lot of carryover to Horseshoes and we are slowly incorporating this feature into our horseshoe activities.

We've had five tournaments over the summer, with a couple more coming up before the snow flies. As well as the mainland, our members have gone to tournaments on the island in Sooke and Ladysmith. We are also one of the clubs whose members participate in on-line Horseshoe games on Facebook.

With the 55Plus Games being held in Nanaimo this year Ladysmith was asked to host the Horseshoe component in early September. However, due to lack of entries that effort has been cancelled.

The companies below are sponsors for Victoria Horseshoe Club - please support them whenever you can!



Ethical
B O T A N I C A L S



ROYAL OAK

ALL VICTORIA VACUUMS



Speaking of the World Tournament and the turmoil that the US political situation is causing us, we did have two diehards from our club go to Utah for that competition. Tom Moffat successfully defended his world title, while Bob McCauley finished in twelfth place in the Elders A category.

The Canadian Championships held near Montreal this year, saw five of our members joining our mainland friends creating our B.C. team. We had a varying amount of success with Tom finishing second, Bob fifth and Heather third in their divisions. Those Quebecois put up quite a battle, just like Wolfe and Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham!

Victoria Horseshoe Club extends best wishes to all in the coming months. Oh no, it'll soon be Christmas season! Anyway, whether it be tournament success or simply getting together with old friends and enjoying life, we wish all of our brother and sister horseshoe comrades the best for the coming months.

Westland Insurance

