

I.L.S.H.P.A.

ILLINOIS STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

Constitution & Bylaws

PREAMBLE

Knowing that the sport of horseshoe pitching affords a healthful, recreational, and competitive game suitable to all persons and to desiring to encourage the development of clubs, leagues, and other horseshoe pitching activities throughout the State of Illinois, we do hereby establish the following Constitution and Bylaws of the ILLINOIS STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be known as the ILLINOIS STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION (ILSHPA), sanctioned by the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION of AMERICA (NHPA.)

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE/OBLIGATIONS

SECTION 1 - In as much as the art of horseshoe pitching affords a healthy, pleasant, and competitive sport suitable to all persons, at a cost comparable to that of other sports, this organization is formed for the purpose of uniting horseshoe pitchers in the State of Illinois in a central organization, standardize its rules, and to conduct tournaments in the state.

SECTION 2- The ILSHPA executive council (EC) will enforce the playing rules of the current edition of the NHPA's Rules, Guidelines, and Regulations (RGS) book.

SECTION 3- The ILSHPA executive council will conduct an annual STATE TOURNAMENT.

SECTION 4- The official publication of the ILSHPA will be the *Court Reporter*.

SECTION 5- The official website of the ILSHPA will be www.ilshpa.org

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1- Any resident of Illinois is entitled to membership in this association per the NHPA RGS book membership requirements.

SECTION 2- A member is to be considered in good standing, when he/she has no membership revocations and his/her dues are paid.

- a. Dues memberships can be purchased starting October 1st of the current year for following year.
- b. Members MUST have dues paid by the time of his/her first sanctioned tournament/league pitched after the New Year, January 1st.

SECTION 3- Members may be suspended for non-payment of dues, entry fee(s), or violating the ILSHPA and/or NHPA rules or bylaws. Members suspended for non-payment of dues or entry fee(s) may be reinstated upon paid in full. Members suspended for other reasons may be reinstated at the discretion of the ILSHPA executive council. No member shall be suspended, except for non-payment of dues or entry fee(s) without given a fair hearing before the ILSHPA executive council.

SECTION 4- 1. The cost of a full adult membership shall be forty US dollars (\$40.00) per adult member which is remitted to the ILSHPA Secretary/Treasurer. Of the amount collected, twenty-five US dollars (\$25.00) shall be remitted to the NHPA. The remaining will stay with ILSHPA.

- a. The cost of a full youth membership shall be five US dollars (\$5.00) for Junior/Cadet players, 18 years of age and younger. This will be paid out of the Junior/Cadet Fund. If you do your membership on line you will be reimbursed by the Junior/Cadet Director after they are notified and if you mail it to the Secretary/Treasurer the Junior/Cadet Director will reimburse the ILSHPA.
- b. The cost of membership shall be zero US dollars (\$0.00) for lifetime members, holding membership for fifty plus (50+) years with the ILSHPA/NHPA.
- c. The cost of membership for provisional members, new members only, shall be ten US dollars (\$10.00) which will be remitted to the NHPA. These members will be able to compete in tournaments, after paying entry fees, for one (1) year, after which time, they become full members. They may upgrade to full membership status anytime within that first year upon paying the additional NHPA dues of twenty-five US dollars (\$25.00)
- d. The cost of membership for trial members, new members only, shall be FREE. These new members can pitch in one (1) ILSHPA sanctioned event, after paying the entry fee(s). If the member would like to compete in additional sanctioned events, they must purchase a membership listed above.

ARTICLE IV. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1- The ILSHPA Constitution & Bylaws may be amended or repealed at the annual membership meeting by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the members present. However, if the ILSHPA executive council deems the ILSHPA C&B need immediate change, a majority vote of this council is required. The membership will be notified of changes in the following Court Reporter.

ARTICLE V. ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1- The administration of this association shall be vested in an executive council, said council shall consist of representatives, in good standing, who are elected/appointed in a manner here in after described.

SECTION 2- The executive council shall have full control, manage the affairs of this organization, and enforce all objectives for which it is organized. The EC shall have power to name committees as they deem necessary and assign duties hereof. The EC shall have full power to discipline any of the ILSHPA members for violating any provisions of the ILSHPA and/or NHPA rules and/or bylaws, that may be derogatory to the best interest(s) of this organization.

SECTION 3- The following officers shall be composed of and known as the ILSHPA executive council: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Publicity Director, Junior/Cadet Director, and Statistician.

- a. At least one (1) of the members of executive council must be a woman.

SECTION 4- 1. The members of the ILSHPA EC must be elected at the annual membership meeting, of the members present.

- a. The President, 2nd VP, Publicity Director, and Statistician shall serve two-year terms and be elected in odd numbered years.
- b. The 1st VP, 3rd VP, Secretary/Treasurer, and Junior/Cadet Director shall serve two-year terms and be elected in even numbered years.
- c. Elections of any executive council position shall be a majority vote. Voting will follow Roberts Rules of Order.
- d. Current officers and those whom intend to seek election may submit intent to the ILSHPA President to have the membership be known of the said intent.
- e. New Officers will take office the following January 1st, after the annual state meeting election, except for those instances described in Article V, Section 5.

SECTION 5- 1. In the event of resignation, removal of office, or death of an executive council member or committee member, between meetings, the President shall make an appoint to fill the interim position. These appointments are subject to final approval by a majority council vote. This appointment must take place withing thirty (30) days.

- a. Any current ILSHPA executive council member considered for removal of office, must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the executive council. The member under investigation is not included in this vote. In the case of a tie, the member continues to sit on the executive council. The President must vote and does not decide the outcome in case of a tie.

SECTION 6- Should the President of the ILSHPA office become vacant due to any reason, the 1st Vice President will become President. The appointment of the next 1st Vice President will follow Section 5, 1.

SECTION 7- 1. The following committees shall be appointed by the President from members, by geographical location, of the ILSHPA: Constitution & Bylaws, Auditing & Finance, Resolutions, Grievance, Nomination, or any other committee deemed advisable for the good of the ILSHPA.

- a. No committee shall decide on matters without at least a majority of the committee members present.
- b. In the case immediate action is required and there is no majority of a committee present, the current committee members may decide to phone or other means of communication those members not present, to decide action. If a committee cannot reach a decision on any given issue, it shall be turned over to the ILSHPA EC to decide the final resolution.

SECTION 8- 1. The executive council may hold meetings as deemed necessary by the President; he/she shall call a meeting of the EC whenever requested by not less than three (3) members of the EC.

- a. A majority of the EC shall constitute a quorum to transact ILSHPA affairs.
- b. Voting by mail, written ballot, or proxy, shall not be permitted at any meeting of the EC.

SECTION 9- 1. Junior members of the ILSHPA can hold any of the following positions on the EC: 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Publicity Director, Statistician.

- a. If the office of President becomes vacant, the next adult VP will assume the position as President.

ARTICLE VI. DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EC

PRESIDENT- The duties of the President shall be to preside at all ILSHPA meetings, to administer the business of this association, to pass on any obligations the association may incur, and to handle any duties that may come to his/her attention in promoting the best interests of the ILSHPA. He/She will appoint a Court Reporter editor and obligate duties to said person as needed. The President shall insist upon the enforcement of all objectives, purposes, and provisions set forth in this constitution & bylaws and the RGS of the NHPA.

1st VICE PRESIDENT- The 1st VP will assume the duties of the President if the office becomes vacant or the President is absent. He/She is responsible for keeping the state scrap books up to date and make them available for viewing at all ILSHPA State Tournaments. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT- The 2nd VP will be responsible for processing medical exemptions for the ILSHPA. The 2nd VP must appoint a committee of at least three (3) ILSHPA members, by geographical location, to assist and review the approval/denial of all medical exemptions. This committee will be published in the Court Reporter. He/She will be advisor for the ILSHPA/NHPA rules and bylaws enforcement, seeing these rules are followed and handling any rules/bylaws complaints brought forth by members. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT- The 3rd VP shall be responsible and serve as the ILSHPA State Tournament Director. He/She shall certify the courts of the State Tournament site for the following year by December 15th of the current year to ensure all state tournament requirements have been met. He/She will receive the entries for the state tournament and compose the schedule for this event. The 3rd VP will be reimbursed the cost of lodging for the annual state tournament. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

SECRETARY/TREASURER- As Secretary he/she shall keep a true report of all meetings of the association. These reports are accessible to members upon request. He/She shall have charge and conduct all correspondence for the association and shall notify the members thereof all meetings. He/She will correspond with the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer all membership requirements and payments. As Treasurer he/she shall receive and collect all dues and other monetary property paid to this association, except regarding Junior Trust Accounts, and keep a true account of all receipts and disbursements. He/She shall render a true financial statement of the association whenever requested by the President, EC, and will present this statement to the members at the annual membership meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer will be reimbursed lodging for the annual state tournament. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

JUNIOR/CADET DIRECTOR- The Junior/Cadet Director shall promote youth participation in the ILSHPA/NHPA. He/She will supervise the youth members, while pitching during the ILSHPA State Tournament and will handle all monetary correspondence regarding Junior Trust Accounts. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR- The Publicity Director shall be responsible for maintaining the ILSHPA website and posting the Court Reporter when received from the Editor. He/She will be responsible for reporting to all state and local news agencies the results of ILSHPA sanctioned tournaments. This person shall report to the Publicity Director of the NHPA all material the association is able to obtain. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

STATISTICIAN- The Statistician will be responsible for receiving the results of all ILSHPA sanctioned tournaments and forward them to eSHOE, in the event the tournament director is unable to report the stats using the token number and HSMaster. He/She shall keep a true record of all scores made in the ILSHPA State Tournament and keep state records. He/She shall report to the Publicity Director the results of each ILSHPA sanctioned tournament to be published on the website and to the Court Reporter editor to be published. He/She is responsible for keeping records to determine ILSHPA Most Improved Pitcher and ILSHPA Player of the Year. He/She shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him/her by the President.

All EC members shall assist in the direction of the State Tournament under the 3rd VP.

ARTICLE VII. ORDER of BUSINESS

SECTION 1- Annual Meetings

1. Roll call
2. Reading of minutes and action thereon
3. Reading of financials and action thereon
4. Report(s) of executive council members
5. Report(s) of appointed committees
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Election of officers
9. Presentation of perspective state tournament sites and state site voting
10. Adjournment

SECTION 2- Executive Council meetings

1. Roll call
2. Reading of minutes and action thereon
3. Reports of committees
4. Old/tabled business
5. New business
6. Adjournment

SECTION 3- Rules of Order

1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings at all meetings of the association or EC, when not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution & bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII. ILSHPA STATE TOURNAMENT

SECTION 1- To qualify for the annual State Tournament, an adult member must have on eShoe record three (3) NHPA sanctioned tournaments (may include previous state tournament) or leagues. Youth participants must have on eShoe record one (1) NHPA sanctioned tournament (may include previous state tournament) or a league.

- a. A member's eShoe average as of July 15th of the current year will determine seeding into the state tournament.
- b. All entries to either state singles or state doubles tournament must be postmarked to the 3rd VP no later than July 15th of the tournament year.

SECTION 2- The entry fee for the state tournament is as follows:

Adult Singles: Forty US dollars (\$40.00)

Youth Singles: Free (\$0.00)

Adult & Youth Doubles: Ten US dollars (\$20.00)

- a. Classes will be schedule as twelve (12) person round robins for 40' Open Men in singles.
- b. Classes will be scheduled as eight (8) person round robins for Open Women and 30' Open Men in singles.
- c. Beginning 2024, the State Doubles tournament will be non-sanctioned. State Doubles will be mixed classes and walking doubles.
 - i. The State Doubles partners will be paired as #1 with #16, #2 with #15 and so on. The

State Tournament Coordinator will decide the class size(s) for State Doubles based upon entries.

- d. All classes except the Championship 40' Open Men, Women, and 30' Open Men will be 40 shoe games, cancellation scoring. The three championship groups listed above will be played to 40 points using cancellation scoring, no shoe limit.
- e. All ties for first (1st) place in any class at the state tournament will be played off.
 - i. A ladder playoff will be enforced for ties more than two (2) players.
- f. Ties for any other places besides first (1st) will be broken by ringer percentage.
- g. The State Tournament Director, (3rd Vice President) shall adjust pitching schedules and format as they see fit, when presented with a time shortage, number of participants, or other reasons deemed necessary by the Tournament Director.
- h. Prize money will be paid to the top finishers in adult classes, which is determined as one less than half.
- i. All other matters regarding the ILSHPA State Tournament not covered by this constitution & bylaws will be decided by the ILSHPA EC using the NHPA current edition RGS book and/or the NHPA bylaws.

SECTION 3- The annual state tournament shall be held each year at the club, in the city approved by a majority vote of the ILSHPA members. Before a club can bid for the state tournament, a court layout must be completed and presented to the 3rd VP and membership. The club must also present their bid at the membership meeting and present a minimum five hundred US dollar (\$500.00) monetary bid to the 3rd VP at this time.

- a. If two (2) or more clubs are bidding for the state tournament, it will go to a majority vote of ILSHPA members by ballot in Court Reporter with State Tournament Registration. The winning location will be announced at the next years state tournament.
- b. The losing bid will be refunded to the club.
- c. Bidding for the ILSHPA State Tournament shall be two (2) years in advance.
- d. The ILSHPA State Tournament will be held over Labor Day weekend each year.
- e. In the event the ILSHPA state tournament is cancelled due to weather, it will be re-scheduled for two weeks following. If cancelled due to weather once again, the ILSHPA EC will determine how to proceed.
- f. In the event the ILSHPA state tournament is completely cancelled, the state tournament will automatically return to the cancelled site in two (2) years.
- g. If a winning bid state tournament site has been deemed unsuitable, by a majority vote of the EC, to host the state tournament, the winning site will forfeit the bid and it will stay with ILSHPA and be converted as payment for the next site receiving the second highest number of votes.

SECTION 4- State Tournament sites shall include the following:

- a. Twenty (20) lighted full paved walkway horseshoe courts
- b. All other requirements will follow the NHPA RGS current edition for FULL sanctioned facilities.

NOTE: Grants are available through NHPA

SECTION 5- The host club shall provide judges for the state tournament. One (1) judge per each eight (8) courts being used. The host club shall also provide scorekeepers for the first shift of each day of the state tournament.

SECTION 6- Junior and Cadet scholarship awards will be given for Class A only as follows regardless of division:

- a. First (1st) place: Three hundred US dollars (\$300.00)
 - b. Second (2nd) place: Two hundred US dollars (\$200.00)
 - c. Third (3rd) place: One hundred US dollars (\$100.00)
1. These funds may be requested when the recipient graduates from high school and upon proof of enrollment into higher education. This includes but is not limited to college, university, junior college, or technical school.
 2. Funds must be requested prior to the recipients Twenty-Second (22nd) birthday.

The Junior/Cadet Director will be responsible for tracking the youth athletes for the scholarship awards.

ARTICLE IX. ILSHPA TOURNAMENT RULES

SECTION 1- All rules and bylaws of the NHPA not covered in this constitution & bylaws will be enforced.

SECTION 2- For all Illinois Sanctioned tournaments held in 2025 and after, \$2.00 will be collected from each player to go toward State Tournament prize money. This should be collected by Tournament Directors and sent to the Secretary/Treasurer.

SECTION 3- Players are required to pay scorekeepers one US dollar (\$1.00) per game in any ILSHPA sanctioned tournament provided scorekeepers are available. Players may be required to keep own score if scorekeepers are not present.

ARTICLE X. ILSHPA HALL OF FAME

SECTION 1- A Hall of Fame (HOF) committee of at least three (3), by geographical location, shall be appointed by the President. This committee shall make selections of members to be inducted into the ILSHPA Hall of Fame. Committee members will be ILSHPA members in good standing.*see Attachment A.

SECTION 2- Selections by the Hall of Fame committee of members to be inducted will be elected by a simple majority of the HOF committee.

SECTION 3- Only two (2) members, past or present, will be elected each year to the HOF. Their names will be displayed on the ILSHPA HOF plaque.

SECTION 4- The following are the guidelines for nomination and election into the Hall of Fame:

- a. Must have been an ILSHPA member for at least ten (10) years.
- b. Must have courteous, positive minded, example of good sportsmanship, dedicated time involvement in the promotion of horseshoe pitching.
- c. Nominations are for 1 year only. If not elected, the person will have to be re-nominated. Re-nominations can be done simply by calling or a letter to the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee to consider the nominee again.
- d. Up to 2 inductees each year.
- e. Excelled as a pitcher in the state competition or noted longevity in years of pitching.
- f. Nomination information should be detailed as possible (Example – years of service; what office (s) held during which years; ringer percentage in local, state, national tournaments, etc.
- g. The above guidelines should be followed as much as possible but should not limit election to the Hall of Fame if the Committee finds some unusual circumstance to warrant such action.

- h. Nominations must be in by July 15th each year.

ARTICLE XI. MISCELLANEOUS/STANDING RULES

SECTION 1- Advertising rates for the Court Reporter are as follows: Thirty US dollars (\$30.00) for full page per issue.

Twenty US dollars (\$20.00) for half page per issue.

Fifteen US dollars (\$15.00) for one quarter (1/4) page per issue. Ten US dollars (\$10.00) for business card per issue.

SECTION 2- The *Henry Franke* and *Jim Korte Memorial* awards to be given at the annual state tournament will be selected by a majority vote of the EC.

- a. The Henry Franke award is given to a member who has went above what is expected in ILSHPA horseshoe pitching the past three to five (3-5) years.
- b. The Jim Korte Memorial award is given to a member who has promoted ILSHPA horseshoe pitching vigorously in the past three to five (3-5) years.

SECTION 3- The following awards are given each year at the annual state meeting and they are point based. The ILSHPA Player of the Year is based on the following criteria:

1. All tournaments for Player of the Year must be in person sanctioned tournaments or leagues.
NOTE: virtual events are not considered.

i. Points earned for a sanctioned tournament

- 5 points for participation of a sanctioned tournament
- 5 points for placing 1st in any class
- 3 points for placing 2nd in any class
- 1 point for placing 3rd in any class
- 1 points for each win

ii. Points earned for a NHPA sanctioned league

- 10 points for participation of a NHPA sanctioned league
- Points for league play if placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd for 8 people_ in league
 - 5 points for placing 1st in league play
 - 3 points for placing 2nd in league play
 - 1 point for placing 3rd in league play
- Points for 12 people in league play
 - 7 points for placing 1st in league play
 - 5 points for placing 2nd in league play
 - 3 points for placing 3rd in league play
 - 1 point for placing 4th in league play
- Points for 16 people in league play (and so on with more players, points continue in the odd numbers)
 - 9 points for placing 1st in league play
 - 7 points for placing 2nd in league play
 - 5 points for placing 3rd in league play
 - 3 points for placing 4th in league play
 - 1 points for placing 5th in league play

iii. Points earned for STATE and WORLD Tournament

- 10 points for participation of a state or world tournament
- 10 points for placing 1st in any class
- 8 points for placing 2nd in any class
- 6 points for placing 3rd in any class
- 4 points for placing 4th in any class
- 2 points for placing 5th in any class
- 2 points for each win

a. The ILSHPA Tournament Director of the Year is based on the following criteria:

- 10 points for hosting any tournament
- 10 points for hosting any NHPA league session
- One sanctioned charter number is equal to one tournament or league.

b. The ILSHPA Most Improved Player of the Year is based on the following:

- Player must be a current ILSHPA member
- Player must pitch in at least 3 sanctioned tournaments or league or have a combination of both in the awarded and previous year.
- Player must have improved his/her average over the awarded year

SECTION 4- Beginning in 2017, the ILSHPA treasury shall pay the Team World entry fee of two hundred US dollars (\$200.00) for the top three (3) teams entering to this tournament from Illinois.

SECTION 5- Beginning in 2026, the ILSHPA treasury shall pay the World entry fee for any Cadet or Junior competing in the tournament if required.

- Player must contact treasury of intention of playing in World by June 1st.

SECTION 6- Members requesting a printed copy of the Court Reporter must include an additional twenty US dollars (\$20.00) with their annual dues.

*****END OF BYLAWS*****

