



ILSHPA

Court Reporter

Issue: June 2026

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President's Pitch

Greetings from Southern Illinois

I write this as I sit in the passenger seat headed for my Easter haircut. It's funny how time passes so quickly some times. Team World is in the books. Congratulations to team 1 for finishing 2nd. A great time was had by all.



Now we are starting to see the heat and humidity funnel into the state and will soon have a stranglehold on us. A friendly reminder to make sure you stay hydrated. Dehydration is a scary thing. Lots of water and a few sports drinks. Remember caffeine and alcohol are dehydrators. Enjoy your beverages of choice but supplement water to rehydrate.

Now that we are hydrated, we can get out there and get ready for World and/or State. Hit those sanction tournaments and leagues, practice, and non-sanctioned leagues and tournaments. We are a little over a month away from the world converging on Wausau. Schedules are out. Me personally I will play against men from 11 different states and a Canadian Province if I recall. If you are going to World, good luck and I hope to see you there.

The deadline for State is rapidly approaching. Get your entry in. I will take my own advice, since I haven't signed up as of writing this. Per the By-Laws, which can be found on our site at <https://ilshpa.org/downloads>, The 1st VP, 3rd VP, Secretary/Treasurer, and Junior/Cadet Director are up for reelection in 2026. To date, I have not been notified that anyone wishes to relinquish their position, but if you believe that you would be a good fit for one of our open positions, please let us know. Our organization is stronger with participation.

I'll leave you on one final thought; if we are to survive as an organization/sport we all must be participants, recruiters, and ambassadors for our great sport. We can start by stabilizing our membership and supporting our tournaments, especially the State Tournament. Then we can start to get sponsors like corporations, local or national.

Then we can grow by promoting and ambassadorship with the help from the almighty dollar. Let's face it our society covets money more than anything else any more. I for one believe that we should participate because we want too, but we shouldn't all go to the poor house because of it. I get that it is expensive to do these events, but there are ways to make it worth your while. Find a local sponsor. I talked to the owner of my local Thursday night tavern and asked them for a shirt to wear for the State Tournament last year. I wore it last year and will wear it proudly at World this year. Although it is a small advertisement it could bring them business in the future. Win-win. Start small and grow from there.

An example of forward thinking...I got to know a few folks from Michigan through Team World. Their state worked with the Lottery to fundraise money for their State Tournament. They sold tickets for \$20 that gave you a 3-digit number. If your number matched the "pick 3" number on any day in a certain month. That number would win a set amount. The rest of the money raised went to their prize fund.

If you have ideas share them with each other. If you have a larger sponsor and need help talking to them reach out to someone to help. I am probably not the person, but plenty of people are good at it. Together we can do this!

Dan

Player of the Year

As of May 30th 2026

Chris Judson 263.5
Kevin James 233.5
Kevin Wilke 182
Daniel Broeckling 148
Rick Weaver 132

Last update before State to keep the anticipation of our 2026 winner.



Learn the Official score calling lingo:

- No score 4 shoes call No score
- 1 shoe in count call 1 point
- 2 shoes in count call 2 points
- 1 ringer call 1 ringer, 3 points
- 1 ringer & 1 shoe in count call 1 ringer, 4 points
- 2 ringers call 2 ringers, 6 points
- 1 ringer each, no shoe in count call 2 dead, no score
- 1 ringer each, 1 shoe in count call 2 dead, 1 point
- 3 ringers call 2 dead, 3 points
- 4 ringers call 4 dead

SECRETARY/TREASURE and PUBLICITY PITCH

Hello from northern Illinois here in full summer now and everything is up and running for our horseshoe pitching season. Here is the run down from me:

- As of 6/6/26 we have 202 members so if you haven't renewed yet lets get to it.
- Practice: We know we all need it
- Vote for our new logo: As of right now we had 54 votes in. Remember to hit the submit button at the bottom of the page.
- Recruit, Recruit and Recruit to help grow our sport
- Send your email address to ilshpapd@gmail.com I have 107 emails for our members but my thinking some might be wrong or changed. You should be getting our court reporter sent to your email.
- If you have photos that you would like to share that i can add to my collection because I have started downloading our photo books to goggle photos please send them to ilshpapiictures@gmail.com
- SIGN UP NOW for our state tournament in Moline over labor day weekend
- Wish our 40 members GOOD LUCK that are going to the World Tournament this summer.
- Send feedback of court reporter, your pitching tip of the month, ideas, to ilshpapd@gmail.com
- Sign up for local tournaments, Pitch, Have Fun and Repeat!!

Happy pitching and see you on the pits somewhere.

Don Goers
ILSHPA Secretary/Treasurer
ILSHPA Publicity Director
ilshpapd@gmail.com
(815)666-9172



RENEWAL OF 2026 MEMBERSHIP HIT HERE!!



Survey for our new Logos. It can be done online. One entry per a ILSHPA member before July 15th. Winners will be revealed at the state meeting in September. Vote for one banner and one shield. Need Help casting your vote you can contact Don Goers at 815-666-9172.



Banner 1



Banner 2



Shield 1



Shield 2



Shield 3

[Survey for new ILSHPA logo!!](#)

ALERT DONATIONS WANTED!!

Would like to go to electronic scoring for state tournament. If you have stuff to donate or like to donate money to this great cost contact any of our state officers. This will help out on our shortage of score keepers

*25-100 foot outdoor extension cords

*3 to 6 electric splitters

*Plastic bins to store it in

Big thank you to Beloit Horseshoe Club from Wis. in donating 30 monitors to us.

If you did not get a email from ILSHPA or constant contact please send your email address to Don Goers at ilshpapd@gmail.com. I have only entered emails that the member has renewed their membership for 2026. We are gathering the up to send out bulk emails to get the news out about ILSHPA.

Pitching Tip for the Month

Most people go way too fast with the back swing and causes you to hurry your release and you don't hit it correctly. Remember to take your time.

Kenny Keifer

I would like to see more tips every month. So please send me your tips and Ill work them in. Can send them to ilshpapd@gmail.com.

Court Reporter: If you would like to submit anything into the court reporter please send it to Don Goers at ilshpabd@gmail.com by the 10th of the month. I will be producing the newsletter and Deanna Marvin will be helping out by printing it off and sending it out to the ones that like it by paper form.



ILLINOIS STATE TOURNAMENT MOLINE

SEPTEMBER 4th-7th

Friday Night Doubles starts at 6 pm sign in at 5:30 pm
Saturday and Sunday singles for all groups
Monday is Rain day just in case

3 ways to enter

- 1st by online. Payment with credit card. Hit link below
- 2nd send a Zelle payment to ilshpabd@gmail.com put name and division on it.
- 3rd fill out paper form and send it with a check made out to ILSHPA to Austin Bailey or Don Goers

[Sign up here online](#)

[Download the Paper form](#)

[Hotels in Moline](#)



Photo link to 2025 State Tournament!!

Hall Of Fame Page

Visit our Website



Shout out to one of our members class of 1985!!

When Labor Day is given some consideration in June, the hall of fame committee is pondering and reviewing information for this Illinois State Hall of Fame award.

The fact that our sport is related or associated with horses seems to take us back in time. Some of the truly deep believers in horseshoe playing were those who did it the hard way. In fact this person never got over it, and just this year at the World Tournament in Lafayette he was there and was trying to get some good old competition with his old "Nellie" horseshoes. "Why the nails in the shoes?" This cling has over the years had a very lasting hold on this person. As a farm youth, playing horseshoes was a self-made activity. In 1958 he played in his first tournament and became an active league member in a nearby city. After two years he was so enthusiastic that he acquired permission from his park board to build eight courts and form a horseshoe club in his home town. He was elected president and has held that office position since 1960.

September 8, 1985 will mark the 25th year that he has directed open tournaments. He has played an active part in state tournaments since 1960, not only as a contestant but as score-keeper, judge and other ways. Milage seems to have no barrier as he has attended World Tournaments since 1972 including Eureka, California in 1973. Trophies are many in his hall-of-memories, but he places his local club trophy for being dedicated and faithful as his favorite.

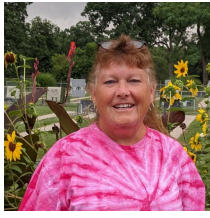
His wife, Mary Helen and 2 sons have been great moral supporters, not to mention 5 grandchildren.

He has always had a positive attitude, a smile, a hearty hand-shake, and welcome to the realm of horseshoe activity. His endless effort to promote horseshoe playing has displayed 25 years of loyalty.

On behalf of the [I.L.S.H.P.A](#) and as Chair of the Illinois Hall of Fame Committee, it gives me great honor to ask Bob St. George of Monmouth Illinois to come forward to receive the Hall of Fame Award for 1985.

Hall of Fame Committee Members

Contact anyone of these people to animate a person to the hall of fame. Deadline is July 15th.



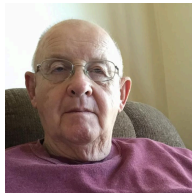
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National Horseshoes Pitchers Association

Keep up with more information and checking your stats with eshoe!!

[Visit our Website](#)

[eshoe](#)

Lets Pitch in some Tournaments

June 13th - Tremont Turkey Festival Tournament (sanctioned) Tremont Park corner of Harris Rd and Tazewell Rd. \$20 entry Contact Anna Thornquist (309)989-0793 to sign up by June 7th 9:30 am sign in and 10 am to pitch 24 pitchers limit

June 13th - Riverside Horseshoe Club June Open 3300 4th Avenue Moline IL
Sign in at 8 am and pitch at 9 \$22 entry Contact Dave Anderson at (309)631-5662

June 20th - Bill Marvin and Lee Watkins Memorial (Sanctioned). Lincoln Park, Springfield \$22 entry fee. Sign up at 9 am and pitch at 9:30 am. Bring a scorekeeper. Soft drinks available for purchase. Contact Austin Bailey (217) 891-6531 or Deanna Marvin (217) 741-6839.

June 27th - Danville Open (Sanctioned) \$500.00 ADDED SPONSORSHIP, Douglas Park, Danville Illinois. **PRE-REGISTRATION AND PRE-PAYMENT REQUIRED.** Send entry and fee, \$20 to: Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Dr, Danville, Illinois 61832. Ph 217-260-7594. Entries must be received by MONDAY, JUNE 22. Classes may be mixed and may be morning 9am, or afternoon 1pm. Scorekeepers to be paid \$1.00 per game by each pitcher. Concessions will be available on site. Pitching schedule to be posted on Facebook, Illinois Horseshoe Community site by Wed evening before the tournament.

July 4th - 4th of July Open (Sanctioned) Fred's Place 2017 E. Walnut St. Millington IL \$20 entry fee 9:00 Am Start time Call Fred Morel 815-483-9530

July 4th - Casey 4th of July, Casey IL Fairview Park Entry \$20 Check in 9 am Pitch at 10 am Contact Wayne Davis 217-932-2787 for more info

July 4th – Larry Long Memorial (Sanctioned). Lincoln Park, Springfield \$22 entry fee. Sign up at 9 am and pitch at 9:30 am. Bring a scorekeeper. Soft drinks available for purchase. Contact Austin Bailey (217) 891-6531 or Deanna Marvin (217) 741-6839.

July 11th - Tom Wilke Memorial Tournament (Non-sanctioned) St. Rose Park , Doubles change partners each game. Registration 12:00p.m. play starts at 1:00p.m. Concession on site Questions call Kevin Wilke (618) 780-3227

July 11th - Riverside Horseshoe Club July Open 3300 4th Avenue Moline IL Sign in at 8 am and pitch at 9 \$22 entry Contact Dave Anderson at (309)631-5662

July 13th-25th World Horseshoe Tournament Wausau Wis.

For more info links below

<https://www.whpahorseshoes.com/world-tournament>

<https://www.horseshoepitching.com/>

August 7th - Friday Night Special (Sanctioned) Mascoutah Homecoming Scheve Park Park Dr. Mascoutah IL entry fee \$22.00 7 courts 15 player max. Payouts 1st,2nd,3rd and to the one with the highest ringer % above their average per class. Play starts 6:00p.m. Homecoming concessions available. Questions call Kevin Wilke (618)780-3227

August 8th - Ervin Starwalt Memorial Tournament, Casey Fairview Park Casey IL All pitchers check in at 9 am and Pitching begins at 10 am. Entry fee \$2.00 If scorekeepers are available each pitcher pay them \$1.00 Contact Wayne Davis for more info at 217-932-2787 or 217-251-5172

August 8th - August Open (Sanctioned) Fred's Place 2017 E. Walnut St. Millington IL \$20 entry fee 9:00 Am Start time Call Fred Morel 815-483-9530

August 15th – Duby Erickson Memorial (Sanctioned) Lincoln Park, Springfield (Sanctioned) \$22 entry fee. Sign up at 9 am and pitch at 9:30 am. Bring a scorekeeper. Soft drinks available for purchase. Contact Austin Bailey (217) 891-6531 or Deanna Marvin (217) 741-6839

September 4th-7th IL State Tournament in Moline More info to come

September 12th - Ellis Cobb Memorial (Sanctioned) Fred's Place 2017 E. Walnut St. Millington IL \$20 entry fee 9:00 Am Start time Call Fred Morel 815-483-9530

September 13th - May Open in Litchfield (Sanctioned) Sign in Noon Pitch at 1:00 Entry Fee \$20 Limited to 15 players Call Mike Woods for info (217)851-5623

October 3rd - Fred's 13th Annual (Sanctioned) Fred's Place 2017 E. Walnut St. Millington IL \$20 entry fee 9:00 Am Start time Call Fred Morel 815-483-9530

October 10th - Riverside Horseshoe Club Fall Open 3300 4th Avenue Moline IL Sign in at 8 am and pitch at 9 \$22 entry Contact Dave Anderson at (309)631-5662

Tournaments Results For May 2026

Trigg Invitational 5/2/2026

29-26-047 __ TD: Bill Devlin

Class A:

George Huntington 6-0 51.11%

Bill Devlin 2-4 35.56%

Dale Westendorf 2-4 33.89%

Wayne Davis 2-4 26.11%

Class B:

Dwen Firpo 4-0 36.00%

Larry Thomason 2-2 14.00%

Joel Hicks 2-2 24.00%

Don Bartoszewski 1-3 20.50%

Jesse Starwalt 1-3 7.00%

May Open 5/3/2026

29-26-042 __ TD: Mike Wood

Class A:

Gary Bardelmeier 4-0 30.63%

John Bates 2-2 15.00%

Kelly Haxton 2-2 10.00%

Jason Loyd 1-3 11.25%

Bob Laskowski 1-3 8.13%

RHC Spring Open 5/9/2026

29-26-009 __ TD: Dave Anderson

Class A:

Kenneth Schaver 5-0 48.50%

Roger Doering 4-1 41.50%

James McCord 3-2 28.00%

Robert Schaver 1.5-3.5 32.00%

Michael Cathcart 1.5-3.5 27.50%

Melissa Holden 0-5 29.50%

Class B:

Gail Ropp 3-1 25.00%

Michael Strader 2-2 26.88%

Justine Bell 2-2 25.63%

Scott Holden 2-2 24.38%

Robert Richardson 1-3 19.38%

Class C:

Jeannie Holden 3-1 25.00%

Edward Goff 3-1 16.88%

Jack Rudd Jr. 3-1 13.75%

Zackary Glenn 1-3 12.50%

Deborah Johnson 0-4 3.75%

Annual Charles Cook Classic 5/23/2026

29-26-021 TD: Wayne Davis

Class A:

Bob Vandivier 5-1 52.78%

Dale Westendorf 4-2 47.78%

Dwen Firpo 2-4 36.11%

Wayne Davis 1-5 29.44%

Class B:

Bob Laskowski 5-1 22.83%

Jesse Starwalt 4-2 20.65%

Don Bartoszewski 2-4 19.15%

Larry Thomason 1-5 13.83%

Don Bailey Memorial 5/9/2026

29-26-025 TD: Austin Bailey

Class A:

Austin Bailey 3-1 77.38%

Kevin James 3-1 69.27%

Steve Denault 3-1 67.93%

Glen Briley 1-3 58.05%

Linda Roach 0-4 45.98%

Class B:

Michael Knop 5-1 38.75%

Terry Murray 4-2 50.00%

Jim Spidle Jr. 3-3 42.92%

Kevin Wilke 0-6 23.33%

Class C:

Bill Winchester 6-0 15.83%

Steven Spedle 3-3 13.33%

Bob Laskowski 3-3 10.83%

Lillian Thornquist 0-6 5.42%

Danville Club May 5/11/2026

29-26-014 TD: Leo Bratland

Class A:

Mickie Peterson 4-0 39.17%

Walter Meeker 2-2 28.33%

Linann Riggelman 2-2 8.33%

Glen Laird 1-3 35.83%

Mike Schroeder 1-3 27.50%

Class B:

Ronald Phelps Jr 4-0 12.50%

Alli-jo Rodgers 3-1 8.33%

Bob Heaton 2-2 2.50%

Michael Larson 1-3 0.83%

William Fares 0-4 2.50%

Jim Metzger Memorial 5/16/2026

29-26-035 TD: Larry Thomason

Class A:

George Huntington 3-1 47.50%

Dale Westendorf 3-1 46.88%

Dwen Firpo 0-4 25.63%

Class B:

Joel Hicks 2-2 21.25%

Don Bartoszewski 2-2 19.38%

Jesse Starwalt 2-2 12.50%

Memorial for Dave Shreve 5/23/2026

29-26-048 TD: Kenny Kiefer

Class A:

Paul Littlefield 5-0 62.50%

Karen Maxville 3-2 26.50%

Katherine Moore 3-2 19.00%

Dale Maxville 2-3 12.50%

Fred Pratt 1-4 12.50%

Gary Moore 1-4 12.50%

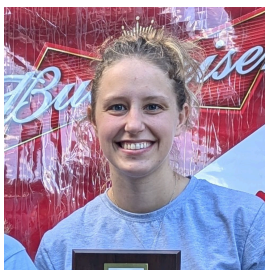
Last in May 5/29/2026
29-26-049 TD: Kenny Kiefer
Class A:
Paul Littlefield 6-0 66.67%
Kevin James 2-4 59.17%
Steve Denault 2-4 54.58%
Gary Wiederhold 2-4 46.25%
Class B:
Katherine Moore 5-0 16.00%
Fred Pratt 4-2 14.17%
Jessica Howell 2-3 8.00%
Gary Moore 0-6 4.17%

[Click here to Visit our Website Tournament Results](#)

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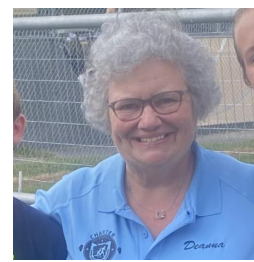
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