



ILSHPA

Court Reporter

Issue: April 2026

[Visit our Website](#)

President's Pitch

Greetings from Southern Illinois

Hard to believe it is only April as I sit here sweating. It feels like early summer instead of spring. That said we are already a quarter of the way through 2026.

It is looking to be a busy and exciting year for horseshoes in our area. In just a couple of short weeks we will be in May and the big tournaments begin. The first weekend in May is the Hall of Fame tournament at Wentzville Missouri. The best 30 foot & 40 foot pitchers will face off.

Two weeks later, Team World will be the feature in Beloit Wisconsin. Once again the world's best will face off, this time in a team format. Illinois plans to have two teams.

We will have plenty of tournaments throughout the state from late May through mid-July.

And then, the horseshoe world will convene at Wausau Wisconsin for the 2026 World Tournament. There is still time to get your entry in for World. It is not very far away and then you will have at least one world tournament in before we host 2028's World Tournament in Springfield.

Only a little over one month later, State is in Moline on Labor Day weekend. Remember July 15th is the deadline to get your entry in. This is right after the World Tournament starts.

Once we crown our state champions, a little over a month later will be World Doubles, which I believe will be hosted again at the Horseshoe Hall of Fame in Wentzville.

With all of these great tournaments coming up, it makes me want to get out and get pitching. Take advantage of this early warm weather to get a jump on your game.

We are a month into our new communication "campaign" with Constant Contact. You will likely see this article in the next email. You should have also seen an email with a poll to determine our official logos for the ILSHPA. Every Illinois member in good standing gets to vote once for the logo they prefer. You have until July 15th to do so.

Let's get out and pack our tournaments, see new places and make new friends. Our Regional Director Kenny Kiefer has reassured me that he and his assistants intend to sanction every court in the state. He said they plan to go to a tournament in Moline in May and start there. As of my writing this, he does not have new forms. If they are not updated he will sanction with the old forms and transpose to the new forms. We plan to upload the forms to our website. According to regulations, all courts must be re-sanctioned every 4 years and the year the courts are used for the State Tournament. If you need your courts sanctioned by a certain date, please contact Kenny at (618) 277-8833 to set it up.

That is all for now. Good luck and as always I wish you good pitching and an increase in your ringer percentage.

Dan



Player of the Year

As of March 30th 2026

Chris Judson 230
Kevin James 169
Kevin Wilke 163
Daniel Broeckling 133
Rick Weaver 103



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

Here we are in spring time and hope the weather is breaking so we can get out and play some horseshoes. Tournaments are starting up all over the place. I would like to wish our 2 teams that we are sending to Team World in Beloit Wisconsin in May GOOD LUCK and represent IL the best you can. If you are reading this and have not received it by email please reach out to me so I can update our email list. With me using Constant Contact with our new way of communication I don't want you to miss out on any news we are sharing. One thing that we have started is voting on a new logo for ILSHPA. Get your votes in. I have used it to send out our Court Reporter in March and will start using it for registration for the IL State Horseshoe Tournament on Labor day weekend in Moline. Hope you are starting to plan that weekend out because I have. It is a great weekend. If you can please send some feedback and ideas you have for me to run with on our website and also use Constant Contact to me. FYI if you have seen in the April newsletter from NHPA you will see my name in there running for office for the NHPA 4th vice president. I want to reassure you if I get voted in that it will not take away from doing my duties here for our state charter. If anything it will make me stronger in all my positions. As I work full time in schools I hear it that the more you are involved with the more you put more effort in. Now a little update on our membership. Right now as of April 5th we have 154 members sign up for the 2026 membership. A friendly reminder to get it done that way you are ready to play. What do I hear: How do I do that? Many ways to get it done: go to eshoe and renew it with a credit card electronically the easiest way to do it, or send a Zelle payment to ilshpapd@gmail.com with your info or just drop a check in the mail and send it to me and I get it done for you. All for now and Happy Pitching to everyone and always remember RECURIT, PITCH, FUN and REPEAT.



Don Goers
ILSHPA Secretary/Treasure
ILSHPA Publicity Director



RENEWAL OF 2026 MEMBERSHIP HIT HERE!!

Here is a link to vote for a new ILSHPA logo. All members can vote once before July 15th. The logo will be revealed at the membership meeting in Moline.

[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

*21 inch monitors

*17 inch lap tops

*25-100 foot outdoor extension cords

*3 to 6 electric splitters

*Plastic bins to store it in

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

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!! It's been said practice makes perfect. But if during practice your game doesn't improve you may be suffering from practice syndrome. The stress of trying to improve your game you have overlooked the basics. I'm not the one to give advice. But try just to relax and enjoy yourself. You may see a difference. See you on the courts. Mike Wood

I would like to see more tips every month. So please send me your tips and I'll 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 ilshpapd@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.

ILLINIOS 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 ilshpapd@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](#)



Hall Of Fame Page

Visit our Website



Shout out to one of our members class of 2024!!

This year the hall of fame committee would like to recognize a person who was a member of Illinois Horseshoe Pitching Association for 32 years. He started pitching in his late teens early 20's when his father was unable to pitch one night in the Clinton County League. St. Rose Park was built in the early 70's which had 4 pits. His brother Romans and he added 8 more pits and ran

many tournaments there till the mid 90's. His sons then stepped into his shoes to help run the pits till 2022 which was his last tournament. He started going to sanctioned tournaments with friends Ken Wellen, Dennis Greisbaum, Dumstroff brothers Leseter and Jerry to name a few in 1983. He was a class B pitcher in the state tournaments. He loved the sport so much that when his entry fee was lost one year he still showed up to the State Tournament to see his friends pitch. When he did this class A had a drop out and they asked him to pitch that year with class A and thought that was a great honor to pitch the best pitchers. During his time of pitching he has received the Henry Franke and Jim Korte awards in 2017. Before moving up to 30 feet he was blessed to play in the Charlie Webb's Invitational Tournament for more than 10 years. Before his passing of March 2023 his best buddy let him know that the tournaments will still run at St. Rose Park in his honor and they have been running for 2 years now. For all of this and many unspoken words this year 2024 Hall Of Fame inductee is Tom Wilke. Receiving this award in his honor his son Kevin Wilke

Hall of Fame Committee Members

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



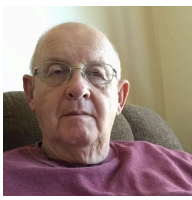
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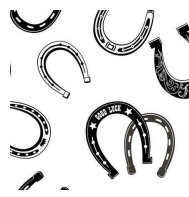
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National Horseshoes Pitchers Association

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

[Visit our Website](#)

[eshoe](#)

Lets Pitch in some Touranments

May 3rd - 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

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

May 9th - Don Bailey 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 at (217) 891-6531 or Deanna Marvin at (217) 741-6839.

May 23rd - Annual Charles Cook Classic Casey IL Fairview Park Entry \$20 Check in 9 am Pitch at 10 am Contact Wayne Davis 217-932-2787 for more info

June 6th - Ken Huff Classic (Sanctioned) Fred's Place 2017 E. Walnut St. Millington IL
\$20 entry fee 9:00 Am Start time Call Fred Morel 815-483-9530

June 7th - 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

June 13th - Tremont Turkey Festival Tournament (sanctioned) Tremont Park corner of Harris Rd and Tazewell Rd. \$20 entry Call Anna Thornquist (309)989-0793 to sign up by June 7th

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

Tournaments Results For March 2026

March Madness Invitational 3/7/2026

29-26-003 __ TD: Dennis Griesbaum

Class A:

Mark Dulle 5-1 47.97%

Daniel Broeckling 4-2 50.68%

Lester Dumstorff 4-2 51.37%

Kenneth Keifer 4-2 47.28%

Kevin Wilke 2-4 38.46%

Robert Donjon 1-5 36.13%

Dennis Griesbaum 1-5 40.46%

Out Like a Lion 3/21/2026

29-26-034 __ TD: Dennis Griesbaum

Class A:

Lester Dumstorff 5-1 53.96%

Daniel Broeckling 5-1 53.74%

Mark Dulle 5-1 48.01%

Charlie Webb 2-4 36.27%

Robert Donjon 2-4 34.06%

Dennis Griesbaum 1-5 39.94%

Allan Moallankamp 1-5 32.41%

Spring Fever 3/22/2026

29-26-024 __ TD: Tara Kinsella

Class A:

Kevin James 5-0 60.00%

Glen Briley 3-2 50.49%

Ann McNelly 3-2 48.53%

Tara Kinsella 2-3 34.00%

Gary Wiederhold 2-3 50.00%

Debbie Pearl 0-5 28.50%

Class B:

Khamsing Vilaysack 4-1 31.00%

Amanda Roustio 4-1 28.50%

Michael Mickelson 4-1 25.50%

David Mothershead 1-4 12.50%

Fred Pratt 1-4 10.50%

Timothy Descher 1-4 8.50%

Trigg Invitational #3 3/28/2026

29-26-007 __ TD: Bill Devlin

Class A:

George Huntington 5-1 59.24%

Bill Devlin 3-3 47.28%

Bob Vandivier 3-3 46.11%

Dale Westendorf 1-5 45.56%

Class B:

Dwen Firpo 4-2 32.78%

Joel Hicks 4-2 32.22%

Don Bartoszewski 4-2 29.44%

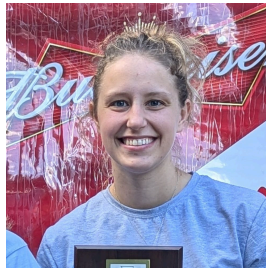
Jason Hazlet 0-6 11.11%

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

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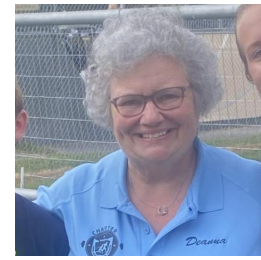
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