

# ILSHPA

## Constitution & By-laws

### PREAMBLE

Knowing that the sport of Horseshoe Pitching affords a healthful, recreational, and competitive game suitable to all persons, young and old, male and female, 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 PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION.

### ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as the ILLINOIS STATE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION, sanctioned by the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION of AMERICA.

### ARTICLE II PURPOSE

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 in a central organization the Horseshoe pitchers in the State of Illinois, standardize its rules, and to authorize and to conduct Tournaments in the State of Illinois.

SECTION 2 - It shall enforce the playing rules of the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHING ASSOCIATION and exercise and discharge all duties and powers granted and required by the Constitution, rules and regulations of the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION and this ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 3 - It shall conduct an annual STATE TOURNAMENT of HORSESHOE PITCHING by the CANCELLATION METHOD PLAY. The winner of each CLASS A Division to be declared the CHAMPION HORSESHOE PITCHER OF ILLINOIS.

SECTION 4 - For Team play in local matches, the COUNT-ALL system of scoring will be recognized by this Association.

SECTION 5 - The Court Reporter will be the official publication for the ILSHPA.

## **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1 - Any Resident of Illinois is entitled to membership in this Association.

SECTION 2 - A member, to be considered in good standing and entitled to vote, must be a paid-up member.

SECTION 3 - Members may be suspended for non-payment of dues, entry fee or for violation of the CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS, or conduct unbecoming a member. Members suspended for non-payment of dues or entry fee may be reinstated on payment of back dues or entry fee. Members suspended for other reasons may be reinstated at the discretion of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. No member shall be suspended, except for non-payment of dues or entry fee, without being given a fair hearing before the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SECTION 4 - The cost of membership shall be \$27.00 per Adult member which is remitted to the Secretary who in turn will issue each member a combined State and National membership card. Of the amount collected, \$17.00 shall be remitted to the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION as the portion of dues for that body. The cost of membership for Junior Boys and Girls is \$5.00 which is remitted to the Secretary who will in turn issue each Junior a combined State and National Junior membership card. Of the amount collected from juniors, all shall be remitted to the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION; there is No State charge for juniors.

# ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1 - The Constitution may be amended or repealed at the annual meeting by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present.

# ARTICLE V ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1 - The management of this Association shall be vested in a board of directors, which board shall consist of representatives who are elected or chosen in a manner here in after prescribed.

SECTION 2 - The Board of Directors shall have full control, shall manage the affairs of the Organization and enforce all of the objectives for which it is organized and shall have power to name such committees as from time to time may be deemed necessary and to define and prescribe the duties hereof, and shall have full power to discipline any of its members for violations of the provisions of this Constitution, the Laws, Rules and Regulations of the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION or for conduct derogatory to the best interests of the organization.

SECTION 3 - The Board of Directors shall be composed of the following officers of this organization, namely, the President, the First, Second and Third vice-presidents, Secretary-Treasurer, Publicity Director, and Junior Director. These Officers shall be known as the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL of this organization. One of the members of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall be a woman.

SECTION 4 - The members of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Association. The President, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president, Publicity Director shall be elected on odd number years and the 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president, 3<sup>rd</sup> vice-president, Secretary-Treasurer, and Junior Director shall be elected on even numbered years for a like term. Voting may be done by written ballot.

SECTION 5 - In the event of death, resignation or removal of an Officer or Committeeman between conventions, the President is empowered to make appointments to fill, the unexpired terms, said appointments to be subject to a majority vote of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL within thirty (30) days.

SECTION 6 - Should the office of the President become vacant due to death, resignation, or removal, the 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president shall become President, and he or she shall appoint a new 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president to fill the unexpired term, said appointment to be subject to the majority vote of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL within thirty (30) days.

SECTION 7 - The following Committees and Chairperson of said Committees shall be appointed by the President from members of the Association: Constitution and Bylaws, Auditing and Finance, Resolutions, Grievance, Nomination or any committee the President deems advisable for the good of the organization and their duties defined by him (or her). No committee may decide an issue without at least a majority present. Should an occasion arise in which immediate action by a committee is necessary when a majority is not present, the President of the association shall have the power to dissolve the existing committee and appoint a new committee. It shall be the duties of all committees to serve willingly and in the best interest of the association. Any committee member may be removed from office by the President and EXECUTIVE COUNCIL at their discretion.

SECTION 8 - Elections shall be by majority vote. If there is no majority on the first ballot, the top two candidates will be the only ones on the second ballot. When there is more than one candidate for office, voting shall be by secret ballot. When there is only one candidate, the ballot may be dispensed with.

SECTION 9 - Board of Directors may hold such meetings as may be deemed necessary by the President, and the President shall call a meeting of the Board whenever requested to do so by not less than three members of the board. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting of that body in this Association. Voting by mail, written, or oral proxy, shall not be permitted at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

President - The duties of the President shall be to preside at all meetings, to administer the business of this Association and to pass on any obligations the Association may wish to incur and handle whatever other duties may come to his (or her) attention in promoting the best interests of the ILLINOIS STATE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION.

The President shall appoint a nomination committee of three or more Association members. Prior to the annual meeting, this committee will seek out one or more qualified candidates for each office to be filled and will present their selections at the annual meeting; other nominations may be made from the floor.

The President shall insist upon the enforcement of all objectives, purposes and provisions set forth in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the ILLINOIS STATE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION.

VICE-PRESIDENTS - The vice-presidents, in order of their election, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that office.

1<sup>st</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT - The 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president shall have the same duties, as the President but will assume them only in the absence of the President. He (or she) shall carry out any specific duties assigned to him (or her) by the President or Association. He (or she) is responsible for keeping state scrap books up to date and make available for viewing at all State Tournaments.

2<sup>nd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT - The 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president shall be the Chairperson of the Rules committee. This person will appoint four Association members by geographic location to serve on this committee; all members are to be approved by the President.

3<sup>rd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT - This person shall serve as the Association's Tournament Director. He (or she) shall be the chief conductor of the Annual STATE HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT. The Tournament Director shall certify the courts of the State Tournament site for the following year by December 15, of the current year to ensure all requirements have been met. If that site is not found to be in accordance with State requirements, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, the location that received the second number of votes will be named the tournament site for the following year.

SECRETARY-TREASURER - The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a true record of all proceedings of the meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors in the books provided for that purpose, which shall be at all times the property of the Association, and shall keep a true record of all scores made in all tournaments held or sanctioned by the Association. He (or she) shall have charge and conduct all correspondence of the Association, and shall notify the members thereof relative to all meetings of the Association or of the Board of Directors, as the case may be. He (or she) shall certify to the Secretary of the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION the names and addresses of all delegates and alternates elected from this organization in the time provided by the Constitution of the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION. He (or she) shall assist the 3rd vice-president in the running of the Annual State Horseshoe Tournament. As Treasurer, he (or she) shall receive and collect all dues and other money or property paid to this Association and keeps a true account of all receipts and disbursements, and shall render a statement of the financial condition of the Association whenever requested by the President or Board of Directors. He (or she) shall submit at each annual meeting of the Board of Directors, a true report of all the financial transactions made during the previous or current season. He (or she) shall also perform such other duties as shall be required of him (or her) by the President or Board of Directors.

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR - The Publicity Director will be responsible for reporting to All State and Local News Agencies the results of National Sanctioned Tournaments. This person shall report to the Publicity Director of the NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION all publicity that the Association is able to obtain. This person will appoint four associate members by geographical location to serve on this committee. All members are to be approved by the President.

JUNIOR DIRECTOR - The Junior Director shall promote Junior Boys and Girls participation in the NHPA and ILSHPA. The Junior Director will, in cooperation with the 3rd vice-president of the ILSHPA, supervise the junior classes at the ILLINOIS STATE TOURNAMENT.

# **ARTICLE VII ORDER of BUSINESS**

## **SECTION 1 - Annual Meetings**

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of Minutes and action thereon
3. Reading of the Financial and action taken
4. Reports of Officers and Executive Directors
5. Reports of Special Committees
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
8. Election of Officers
9. Presentation of perspective State Tournament sites
10. Adjournment

## **SECTION 2 - Executive Board Meetings**

1. Roll call
2. Readings of Minutes and action thereon
3. Reports of Committees
4. New Business
5. Adjournment

## **SECTION 3 - Rules of Order**

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings at all meetings of the Association or the Board of Directors, when not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution.

# ARTICLE VIII TOURNAMENTS

SECTION 1 - In any sanctioned tournament, a ringer percentage must be kept on all members of the ILSHPA. Other players are to keep score when not playing to assist the Tournament Director in keeping scores of all games. If no scorekeeper is available, the participants must keep their own score. A player's ringer percentage determines the class in which he plays in an ILSHPA Tournament. Scorekeepers are to be paid \$1.00 per game per player. Junior Boys and Girls are exempt from paying their entry fees and scorekeeping fees in the State tournament. These fees, along with trophy fees, will be paid by the Junior Scholarship Fund.

SECTION 2 - Ringer percentages must be kept on all games in all classes and forwarded to the Secretary of the ILSHPA for the purpose of recording a state ringer percentage average. The state ringer percentage average is to be calculated using the state tournament average and tournament results after for the following year. If a player has no established ringer percentage average, he must throw 100 shoes, scored by a member of the Association, counting ringers only, before competing in his first tournament. A new player may use his / her local club ringer percentage for their tournament.

SECTION 3 - No ringer percentage list will be sent by the Secretary of the Association, unless specifically requested.

SECTION 4 - After a player has competed in three or more tournaments, the average of the three highest tournaments will be the ringer percentage average for the next tournament.

SECTION 5 - After the initial year of the three tournament rule, a player will use his / her previous year percentage average for the first tournament, including the past state tournament. After the first tournament, use the two highest from the previous year and the new one(s) for the present year until three tournaments have been recorded. Thereafter, the average of the three highest tournaments will be the ringer percentage average for the next tournament.

SECTION 6 - To qualify for the State Championship Tournament a member (adult male & female) must have completed three recognized NHPA sanctioned tournaments (may include previous State Tournament) or two National Sanctioned Tournaments and have pitched in one Sanctioned League. Junior girls and Boys must pitch in two sanctioned tournaments, or in a Sanctioned League to become eligible to pitch in the State Tournament.

All players using Sanctioned League play as part of or all of their qualifying tournaments must have pitched a minimum of 400 shoes. Any ILSHPA member attending and pitching in a World Tournament, or other out-of state NHPA sanctioned tournaments, where ringer percentage is kept, and the results are forwarded to the Secretary, will have the tournament count as one of the specified number of tournaments required to be eligible to play in the State Tournament.

Tournaments pitched between August 1 of the previous year and July 31 of the current year will be used to determine the State Tournament Average. For men and women, the average of the three highest tournament percentages will determine placement in a class. For juniors, their highest tournament will determine placement in a class. All classes are to be scheduled by the State Tournament Director.

SECTION 7 - Host Club will conduct ILSHPA Sanctioned Tournaments with the assistance of the Executive Council.

SECTION 8 - The State Tournament Director may have the option to determine the type of play when a shortage of time or courts exists.

SECTION 9 - Horseshoes sanctioned by the NHPA will be used for all tournaments.

SECTION 10 - Players in the State Tournament are to prepare their courts before starting a game.

SECTION 11 - All players in the State tournament shall wear shoes and a shirt with their last name on the back. Letters shall be a minimum of 1" in height and must not be Magic Marker or ink. No sleeveless shirts are allowed.

SECTION 12 - Warm-up pitches between games shall be limited to four shoes after the scorekeeper and both players are on their scheduled court.

SECTION 13 - State Tournament sites shall include a minimum of twenty (20) lighted courts of which at least twelve (12) are provided with concrete pads for 30' pitchers, and at least two (2) are provided with concrete pads for 20' cadet pitchers, equal in construction to those provided for 40' pitchers. The ends of all courts shall be enclosed by a fence whose height and placement from the pegs is in accordance with the NHPA recommendations.

SECTION 14 - In any NHPA/ILSHPA Sanctioned Tournament, except for the State Tournament, Women, juniors, 30 ft men shall be allowed to pitch in a class compatible with their ringer percentage average.

SECTION 15 - The entry fee for each adult male entering the State Singles Tournament shall be \$37.00 and for each adult female \$35.00 and for each 30 ft. male \$35.00. \$25.00 of these fees will be used for Trophies and Prize money. Pitchers in classes other than 12 for men and 8 for women will have their fees adjusted at the State tournament. Prize money shall be paid to the top finishers in each class, as follows, one person less than half (12 Man class- top 5 will be paid) this applies to all Adult singles Classes. The entry fee for each person entering the State Doubles Tournament shall be \$10.00 to be used for Trophies for the doubles classes. All entries for the State Tournament must be received by the Secretary with a post mark date of July 31<sup>st</sup> of that year.

SECTION 16 - The Annual State Tournament shall be held each year in the City approved by a vote of the entire membership on the State Tournament entry form. All members shall have the opportunity to vote whether pitching in the State Tournament or not. Clubs or Towns wishing to Host the State Tournament for the following year shall make a presentation at the Annual Spring Meeting. They will need a deposit of \$500 or more payable at the Spring Meeting. If (2) or more clubs are bidding for the State Tournament only the losing bid or bids will receive their \$500 back and the winning bid is non-refundable. They must have a minimum of twenty (20) lighted courts of Blue Clay or similar material, the same material required for any portable courts used. They must hold at least one (1) Sanctioned Tournament in the year they hold the State Tournament prior to the State Tournament. No Club or City may host the Tournament two (2) years in a succession unless no other City or Club bids on the tournament. The Illinois State Single Tournament will be scheduled on Labor Day weekend. Host sites must abide by all ILSHPA rules and by-laws.

SECTION 17 - All 1st place ties are to be decided by a play-off game, other places by ringer percentages. Three (3) players tied for 1st place will be decided the two (2) lowest percentage pitchers pitching one game, the loser taking third (3<sup>rd</sup> place) while the winner plays the highest ringer percentage player for first (1st place) and second (2<sup>nd</sup> place). Four players tied for first (1<sup>st</sup>) may be decided by Round Robin play. In the event that time does not permit three (3) and four (4) way ties to be played, the final placement shall be decided by ringer percentage.

SECTION 18 - All other circumstances not covered by the Constitution will be decided by the Executive Council. Four (4) Council Members constitute a quorum. In the case of a tie vote, the President will cast the deciding vote.

SECTION 19 - The Host site shall provide Judges for the State Tournament with a Judge for each eight (8) courts on duty at all shifts. The Host site will provide scorekeepers for the first shift of each day. Also, to provide name boards to all participates in the State Tournament.

SECTION 20 - The Men's Championship Class will consist of the top twelve (12) percentage men pitcher's of those entering the State Tournament. They will pitch a twelve - (12) man Round Robin with the one with the most wins becoming State Champion for that year.

SECTION 21 - Single entries only will be accepted for the State Doubles Tournament. Entries will be placed in descending order of their percentage. In each group of sixteen (16) pairing to make up teams will be done by pairing 1 with 16, 2 with 15, 3 with 14, etc. State Doubles will be mixed and walking.

SECTION 22 - Women's Champion will consist of the top ten to twelve (10-12) depending on entries for the State Tournament. They will pitch a ten to twelve - (10-12) women Round Robin with the Woman having the most wins becoming the Women's State Champion.

SECTION 23 - All entrants into any sanction Illinois Tournament shall collect \$1.00 to go into the Junior Scholarship Fund. Junior Scholarship awards will be given as follows for both boys and girls Class A. \$300.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$150.00 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and \$75.00 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. It is eligible for anyone with the completion of high school and going to college or trade school with it being used by the age of 25.

SECTION 24 - State Tournament games are to be 40 shoes with the exception of Championship Class for Men, 30ft Men & Women shall be 40 points.

SECTION 25 - Rain out for the State Tournament shall continue two weeks following the original date at the same site. If the second date would be rained out, the Executive Council would decide how to proceed.

SECTION 26 - If a player is late for the beginning of their session at the State Tournament, they will be required to forfeit the first game of the session, and allowed to continue after that.

SECTION 27 - Secretary/Treasurer will be reimbursed expenses up to \$200.00 for the State tournament.

## **ARTICLE IX RULES of GAME**

SECTION 1 - The rules of play shall be governed by Article VI of the NHPA OFFICIAL Rules for Horseshoe Pitching, except for Rule 23.

## **ARTICLE X HALL of FAME**

SECTION 1 - A Hall of Fame Committee, appointed by the President shall make selections of members to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Committee Members will be ILSHPA members in good standing and shall serve no more than two (2) years.

SECTION 2 - Selections by the Hall of Fame Committee of members or past members will be elected by a majority of the Hall of Fame Committee.

SECTION 3 - Selection of inductees shall consist of not more than two (2) players or non-players each year and their names placed on the Hall of Fame Plaque.

# ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 1 - Advertising rates for the Court Reporter are as follows: \$30.00 full page, \$20.00 ½ page, \$15.00 ¼ page, \$10.00 business card per issue and \$6.00 each tournament listing for the season.

SECTION 2 - Henry Franke award to be given out at the State Tournament and to be decided by the Executive Council.

SECTION 3 - Pitcher of the year to honor the most active pitcher in Illinois and to be given out at the State Tournament. This award is based on a point system for entries into a sanctioned tournament including World and State Tournaments. Points are given for tournament and league directors. If you pitch in Class A for a tournament, points are given for placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th in Class A. Points are given out for participation in a sanction league.

SECTION 4 - Korte award is given to someone who best promotes the sport of horseshoes. It is to be given out at the State Tournament and to be decided by the Executive Council.

Approved and accepted: September 5, 1981  
Bob Wells-Chairman By-laws Committee, Bob Switzer-President  
Amended April 25, 1982

Amended and revised: April 30, 1985  
Tari Powell-Chairperson By-laws Committee, Bob Switzer -President

Amended and revised: March 29, 1987  
Tari Powell-Chairperson By-laws Committee, Pete Rankin -President

Amended and revised: March 20, 1988  
Marilyn Korte -Chairperson By-laws Committee, Dave Shreve -President

Amended and revised: March 12, 1989  
Marilyn Korte -Chairperson By-laws Committee, Dave Shreve -President

Amended and revised: February 25, 1990 & March 10, 1991 Marilyn Korte -  
Chairperson By-laws Committee, Dave Shreve -President

Amended and revised: March 12, 1995

As directed by the Executive Council, Charlie Marit-President

Amended and revised: March 12, 2000

Larry Long - Chairman By-laws Committee, Floyd Tennill – President

Amended and revised: March 31, 2008

Floyd Tennill - Chairman By-laws Committee, Leo Bratland - President

Amended and revised: March 29, 2009

Floyd Tennill - Chairman By-laws Committee, Leo Bratland - President

Amended and revised: March 28, 2010

John Press - Chairman By-laws Committee, Leo Bratland - President