

RINGER ROUND – UP THIS WEEK IN HORSESHOES #10-2021 – MARCH 25, 2021



EDITOR: Sam Tomasevic
7987 Graham Ave.
Burnaby BC V3N 1V8
Website: www.bchorseshoe.com

Telephone: 604-328-5276
Email: samtom@telus.net



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FROM THE EDITOR – SAM TOMASEVIC

First thanks to everyone for the kind words on our newsletters / this week in horseshoes,

With the uncertainty of when we will be able to host tournaments, and not everyone wishing to participate with on-line tournaments, we hope our clubs will be able to hold **IN HOUSE CLUB FUN EVENTS**, You must be a paid up member for 2021 to participate. All clubs have been sent this information and same was included in previous "This week in horseshoes". The daily numbers issued on the virus are scary.

If someone is having a birthday or anniversary drop me a line with the names and dates



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JUANITA LAYE – INTERIOR / NORTH REGIONAL REP

I will be stepping down from the Interior/ North Rep position for we have sold our place here in Summerland and we will be moving to Mexico. I am sorry to let you know this news but I hope you can all find a great person to step up to this position.

I will miss you all. We will come back up here for the spring and summer, so I hope to be in some tournaments.



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CENTRAL PARK HORSESHOE CLUB – ALLAN CUMMINGS



I went up to the club on Thursday March 11th.and threw some shoes, boy it sure took awhile before I got some ringers it's going to take some good practice to get even close to the level I think I should be.

Saw Bob Salisbury, Victor Chu, Elyse Brunelle and Dave Smith. Bob and Victor played on one pit and me alone with a pit between us.

I heard Harry was up at the club the day before I liked his story as with the rest in the last this week in horseshoes. And well **Jim will always be Mr. Horseshoe guy of Central Park great player and special person.** I hope we can all see each other again. Take care.

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NEWS FROM THE WASHINGTON HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

They have played 2 tournaments in 2021, at Burlington – March 6th and March 20. We have to follow protocol, safe distances, masks, no food service. Our March 6th tournament drew 24 participants, March 20 we had 20.



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ABBOTSFORD HORSESHOE CLUB – ARCHIE RADOWITS

Our president, Jim Williams came home from hospital Saturday March 13. He's doing great. Able to walk around block and is able to breathe again. No horseshoes for awhile yet.

Don Fleming had a heart attack while out ice fishing. Fortunately there were others there and one gave him two baby aspirins and called ambulance which arrived in about forty five minutes. They took him to Kamloops hospital. Had partial blockage in one artery and they put a stent in. Don Should be home shortly and feeling great.

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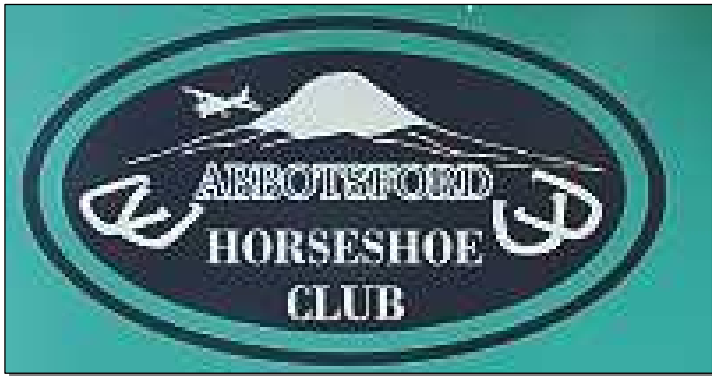


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Ken Smorang had a stroke which paralyzed his right side. Again, fortunately the ambulance got him to the hospital in a hurry. Had a brain scan and a clot buster injection and he regained movement. After four more days of observation he was able to go home. Using a cane for stability but will be ok.

Club is waiting for good weather in April so we can have our inner club tournament. Stay safe and good health.

Our club members are becoming anxious to play in the in club tournament coming up in April. We are getting members to throw 100 shoes to get current percentages. Wishing this covid would disappear so we can get on with regular tournaments.

VERNON HORSESHOE CLUB – DWIGHT COUSINS – PRESIDENT



Hello everyone and welcome to spring, although it snowed a little at our place yesterday, March 24th, so spring is not really here yet

Unfortunately this fall and winter our Club was not able to have our "Socials" which proved quite popular in the last few years.

However, it appears that with the help of new forms of communication many of our members were able to stay in touch with each other if only by sending out various news articles and humorous anecdotes.

Even though the weather has not been too great, all the snow managed to melt at the club. Some of the hardier members have managed to get together intermittently to throw a shoe or two but, of course, are required to follow the proper protocol.

Since many of our members are eager to get going, we will commence our “normal” routine on April 06/21 right after Easter. Our hours for the time being will be 1:00-3:00 until we have enough daylight to change over to our normal 6:00-8:00 routine. Of course our “Return to Play” has to be sanctioned by the city who owns the land the clubhouse is on and oversees the required protocol. It will prove interesting to see how our members respond since many are still in hibernation and remain concerned regardless of the Vaccination scenario.



On that note, a number of our members have recently had their vaccinations, while several others, like me and my wife, have been able to secure our appointments which will be in early April so some progress in the Interior Health area. Haven’t really heard anything from other clubs but imagine they are probably doing the same.

I have heard from other clubs about the possibility of losing members because of the extended leave of absence and the continuing concern about Covid. We certainly hope that members hang in there and continue to support their clubs. Once things loosen up a bit and members feel comfortable having new people on site, we plan on putting on a membership drive to increase our numbers and try and persuade some younger people to join us. I would appreciate hearing how other clubs have managed to do that!

As you are aware, we are scheduled to host the Provincial Tournament in the fall. We certainly will work to making that happen but the ball is not necessarily in our court (probably should say “shoe in our pit” but sounds funny) so will wait as long as possible to see what happens. Anyway that’s it from Vernon for now. Take Care and Stay Safe!



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AL GUSHTA – KAMLOOPS

AL started playing horseshoes in the late 70s and joined the Kamloops Horseshoe Club in the early 80s (1980-1981).

I have played in over 20 Provincials, over 20 Western Classics, 7 to 8 Canadian Championships, and 2 World Championships.

Over the years my wife, Ann and I have travelled to many tournaments in the province and have met many fellow horseshoe players that have become great friends.

Some of the highlights from my horseshoe pitching are winning gold medals at Provincials in Men's D in 1995, Men's C in 2000 and Men's B in 2005 and 2007. Winning a silver medal in Men's A division in Winfield, and winning the Men's A at the BC International tournament in Abbotsford in 2008.



In 1994 I won a Canadian Championships in the Men's G division in Victoria, BC. I attended my second trip to the Canadians in 2012 in Saskatoon, SK and took first place in the Elders B division. I was 76 years old and playing pretty good horseshoes, throwing 52% ringers. I had a terrific tournament and raised my horseshoe percentage to 56%.



Playing in the World Horseshoe Championships was another great highlight, travelling to Bismarck, North Dakota in 2000, and Red Deer Alberta in 2002. It has been amazing to play against and watch great horseshoe players from around the world.




I have had many enjoyable years being a member of the Kamloops Horseshoe Club. We have had as few as 2 members and have worked hard at promoting to build our membership. Today we have close to 14 active members. For the past few years it has been a pleasure to work with the Kamloops team to host the BC Provincials.

Playing Horseshoes has provided me the opportunity to travel, make wonderful friends, and to stay active playing a sport I have loved to play for over 40 years. My wife Anne, and my children, Debbie, Harold and Jamie, along with their spouses, and my grandchildren, Tiffany, Chelsea, Jordan and Erin, have all come to see me and support me in many tournaments that I travelled too.



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HYUNDAI



FROM JASON RIDEOUT – PRESIDENT HORSESHOE CANADA



Fellow Pitchers,

I hope everyone is staying healthy as we are hopefully moving in the right direction in the battle with Covid.


I wanted to reach out on a few fronts. First, the Horseshoe Canada Executive and the host committee from Guelph are in communication and we will be making an announcement on April 30th in respect of the 2021 Canadian Championships.

Second, Horseshoe Canada will continue to be active in the summer of 2021. The decision on April 30 will determine the path we will take, however if your Club or League is able to get out and pitch, we encourage you to do so.


Looking toward the future, I will be presenting some ideas for discussion and looking for feedback from members of Horseshoe Canada.

We have a huge opportunity with Horseshoe Canada being recognized as a Registered Canadian Amateur Athletic Association. In short, Horseshoe Canada can issue income tax receipts for cash donations. I will be building a plan on how we can utilize this to raise fund. I will be presenting this to the Executive and then out to the Provinces in the near future.

Thermo blanket, wind breaker, wireless speakers and ear pods



Funding the Canadian Championship is something that is being reviewed. While the host clubs are responsible for fundraising, I am exploring how we can get sources of funding at the Federal level once again using our Registered Canadian Amateur Athletic Association. I am thinking this would build a Hosting Fund that host groups could access to help with the costs of Canadians. Another part of this is major National sponsors.

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Finally, initial discussions have been had on how to ensure the Canadian Championship provide top level competition at all levels. We want to ensure that top to bottom; classes are competitive and provide a full slate of pitchers. We need to work on this further but we want the Canadian Championships to be a tournament where people strive to be at their best and provide the best competition for a pitcher in Canada. More to come about this

I am always looking for feedback and ideas, so feel free to email me at jrideout.tp@gmail.com or message me on Facebook or via the Horseshoe Canada Facebook. Hopefully we will all be back to the pits.

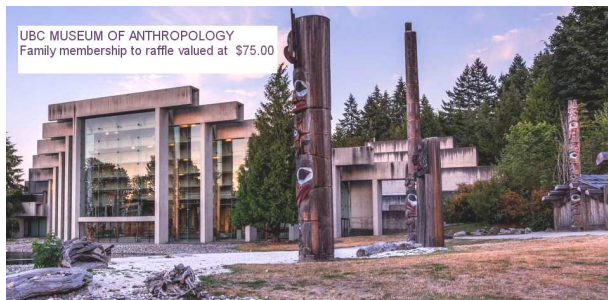


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NEWS FROM SALMON ARM HORSESHOE CLUB – BEN GARTNER



Edwin Krieg and I have discovered that our Club house has been broken into and vandalized between March 16-19, and left quite a mess. I reported the incident to RCMP and have a file number. Damage was less than our Insurance deductible therefore I did not put in a claim. Still, a loss to the club.

Had a membership meeting on March 16th, discussed agenda topics, main one being trying to sign up

more members

Both Ted Peters and Ted Honkola are recovering, from health issues. I have talked with Ted Peters a couple of days ago, health wise he said he was feeling better, however he is unable to hold on to things with his hands, very painful, he did go to the doctor yesterday, Will keep you posted.

.My birthday is March 21st. I had asked if anyone is having birthday this or next month, no reply. I have not contacted the city as to any new restrictions will phone next week to see where we stand. Last fall we played single games, and I don't see a problem holding inter club games that would count towards our average. At this time I do not see anyone interested with online events.



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FROM THE OUT OF TOWN MAIL BOX – MICHELLE AND JIM FEENEY – FORMER BC RESIDENTS

Thanks Sam. I find your newsletters and this week in horseshoes an enjoyable read. Just to let you know Jim and I and our son are trying to get pits put in at our little community in Pilot Butte, Saskatchewan. Hopefully this will bring out some new throwers. Starting with 4 pits to see what interest there is. It's a start. Cheers-Michelle

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VICTORIA HORSESHOE CLUB – JUNE LAZENBY



Seasonal maintenance is the only thing going on at Victoria at the moment. We are building storage for cornhole boards as well.

Our Municipality has us restricted to individual practice play only.

Bob Curtis turned 96 on March 22nd. Bob is still plays horseshoes and he is the oldest active player not only in BC, but, in Canada.

Brenda and Dave Arnold will be celebrating 50 years of marriage on April 3.

If allowed by our Municipality we would hold club fun events - we are not allowed at this time.

Several of our members are taking part in online events.

SOOKE HORSESHOE CLUB – CHANTAL WILSON



The Sooke horseshoe club is doing well we have started casual play on Saturdays weather permitting and only paid members at this time.

We are planning a garage sale and some scorekeeping clinics for our members to learn how to do league and tournament scoring.

We had our first spring clean of the pits and they are ready for action. We still are in good standing with our district and are allowed to play every other pit and use your own shoes with social distancing. We have a hand washing station and we will rent our own porta potty again this year



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Sooke's main concern is trying to grow our club.

I am sure some of our players will want to participate in the online tournaments while holding a tournament maybe something we look into....something that we may get our new members to participate in.

Good Luck to all the clubs in getting your clubs up and running hopefully we can get this all behind us and see each other very soon on the pitches



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Getting things teed up for Cindy's knee replacement surgery on the 30th.

The clubhouse is closed until further notice as per Interior Health. They will most likely allow us to use the washrooms only with one person at a time in each bathroom.

I think the club would partake in inter club fun event bearing in mind we only have a few that can still pitch.

I would say on line events might appeal to a few members.

70 th. Birthdays this year: Don Reeves Jan 29 / Linda Saunders Sept 15

80 th Birthdays this year: Bill Heber March 16 / Helen Heber April 24 / Sue Helgeson June 25 / Larry Kerr Sept 16 / John Whitlock August 31. / 90th Birthdays this year: Henry Dyck

Following received today, March 24, 2021 from Doreen Muloin. Bill is in the hospital at the moment .hernia surgery...should be in recovery as we speak...expect he will be home by 3 or 4 today...Glad he doesn't have an overnight there, with COVID all around us much safer to have him home...

Thanks for all your emails re shoes...I'm hoping to get back into the game this year...even if just pitching at practise time...sure missing the game...hugs Doreen/Bill



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NOT A HORSESHOE STORY BUT STILL INTERESTING FROM STEVE BISHOP

On August 17, 1957, future Hall of Fame centerfielder Richie Ashburn of the Philadelphia Phillies hit spectator Alice Roth with a foul ball, breaking her nose. As Roth was being carried off the field on a stretcher, Ashburn hit her with another foul ball, breaking a bone in her knee. The odds of a fan being hit by a baseball are 300,000 to one. The odds of the same fan being hit twice during the same at-bat, and breaking bones both times, are beyond astronomical. Via "Weird Baseball Facts and Trivia Strange but True Baseball Stories"

PRESIDENTS REPORT – TOM MOFFAT



Spring is here, everyone is getting anxious to start some horseshoe pitching competition. But we are still under some protocols with covid that some districts can play singles or doubles in just club formats and others can only play 1 player per court. So as things warm up and people get vaccinated we will see some easing up of restrictions. What can be done now; well again depending on your area some in house small tournaments can happen. Or you can enter a email tournament.

I will be starting my first email tournament starting now and deadline to get your 10-20 shoe games emailed to me by April 15. This is called April Foolish email tournament. You pitch 10 games of 20 shoes count all your ringers and single points then email to me xpostiex@gmail.com Placement in groups will be in classes of 6 as best I can. Percentages for grouping will be taken from Canstats backyard averages or NHPA Natstats. Please scan your 2021 registration card and send to me so I know you're a paid up member for this year

Please be honest and don't restart because you are not playing well. Once you start please finish that game and then you can stop and start up next game as long as games are completed by the deadline. I have a scoresheet that you can email me for this. We had success with lots of people from Canada and USA pitching in the Canada 20 series so let's have some fun and pitch some shoes. No entry fee and no prizes just bragging rights. Scoresheet included on the last page of this edition

QUEEN CHARLOTTE

While looking through some old horseshoe material in BC I came across that there was a horseshoe club in QUEEN CHARLOTTE back in the 70's, so I sent an email and here is the information I was given.

Yes there was a club when I was younger. Horseshoe contests were very popular and they were a part of our annual hospital day celebration. In our community we have celebrated our hospital for over a hundred years.

The pits were removed over a decade and a half ago when they rebuilt the playground at our community club. Billy Galt from Charlotte Island Tire in our community would most likely know the most about the club. You can look the business up in the directory. I hope this helps. Kris Olsen

I was able to get a hold of Mr. Galt regretfully he was not able to assist me but suggested I contact Fran Fowler. Contacted Fran, had a nice chat, she said as per the above the courts were taken out, mainly cause everyone was getting old, the interest was not there and several had passed away. She will search and see if she can find any pictures. That's where we are, waiting too what she can come up with.

SUMMERLAND HORSESHOE CLUB – JUANITTA LAYE

No action at the club yet. Water still turned off till near end of April, all members are doing well.

APRIL 2021 SHOP (ON LINE) EVENT – MICHAEL BROWN

The April 2021 SHOP events, the April Thaw RR Sap Open (singles round robin) and the April Single-Double are taking entries. Both events will be from April 2 - 25 (4 weekends). Deadline to enter both events is 10 pm Eastern Monday April 1st. Games must be completed by 10 pm Eastern Sunday April 25th. Each event is a \$20 entry fee. If only entering one event, specify which one. Send your entry fee using PayPal or Venmo to Karen Aley Graham at kbgra@aol.com, Steven Gibson at sg124sg@gmail.com or bank transfer for our **Canadian friends to Tom Moffat at xpostix@gmail.com**. Use friends or family setting so that a fee is not taken out. The April Thaw RR Open will be singles using a round robin with at least 10 20-shoe games that are "Video Live" and taken a picture of your scores on SHOP Facebook Page. The player numbers will be draw after everyone has completed their play. Round robins will be posted after the groups are set up. The more that enter, the closer the averages will be in the groups. W-L-T (ties are 1/2 win) will be the determining factor for the finish in each group. Games tied after the 20 shoes will remain tied. Ties for all spots will be broken by total points first, total ringers second, who beat who if tied for wins, points and ringers. Entering average will be point averages using SHOP average or a converted e-Shoe average if the player has no SHOP average.

The April Single-Double will be the same format as previous events and you will have 4 weeks to complete your 10 20-shoe count-all games using NHPA rules and are "Video Live" and taken a picture of your scores on SHOP Facebook Page. Hi-Lo pairing for doubles. 4 events in one: Handicap Doubles, Scratch Doubles, Handicap Singles, Scratch Singles. Entering point average will be point average in SHOP events or a converted e-Shoe average if the player has no SHOP average or using 100 shoes qualifying. Handicap will be 95% of difference from 600 ($6 * (100 - \text{point average})$). 1/7 cash in Handicap Doubles, 1/7 cash in Scratch Doubles, 1/7 cash in Handicap Singles and 1/10 cash in Scratch Singles. Both events are NHPA sanctioned and will count for e-Shoe averages and World Tournament entry. If you enter both events, you will need to pitch each event separately.

You must have a NHPA Card to play! To purchase, go to horseshoepictching.com, click on "e-Shoe" & follow the steps or go to your State Secretary to purchase the Card. All Games are NHPA Sanction and NHPA Rules Apply!

New Venue Locations for 2022 and 2023 World Tournaments



Changes have been made for the upcoming 2022 and 2023 World Horseshoe Tournaments. Due to the availability and change of venue locations for Lansing, Michigan, the Monroe, Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) has been more than happy to work with us and Lansing Michigan to accommodate those changes.

The new venue locations for the World Tournaments for 2022 and 2023 will be:

Monroe, LA – 2022
Lansing, MI – 2023

Everyone will need to update their personal information and plan accordingly. More information will be forthcoming in the next few months. NHPA Council

Responding to Questions about 2022/2023 Venue Changes

The NHPA Council, particularly myself have the memberships overall needs and finances in mind when soliciting cities to host the World Tournament. This also includes any amenities that these cities offer. With the Covid pandemic and the destruction it has caused for much business across the US along with the toll it has taken on everyone, including tourism and the hospitality industry, some cities are now beginning to charge daily rates for parking fees at venues and hotels.

Lansing is now one of these cities because of the economic impact that Covid has caused on the city. The City of Lansing has sold the venue that we originally planned to be in, and we had to revisit the possibility of canceling altogether or going back to the drawing board, which we did and came up with a solution.

In order for Lansing to host at all, we had to buy time to get this parking fee situation worked out. That is why we had to rotate the years for these two locations. We still will have to pay for parking in Lansing, but at a much reduced rate.

Please try to understand that the membership may not need to know all of the behind the scenes business details that we work on daily, but we do have the membership interest at heart and are working very hard to keep you and your families' financial needs in mind when we put these tournaments together.

The purpose is that these cities, for many reasons, are trying to keep their local taxes down, re-coop losses from the pandemic because no tourism in the cities, etc. As part of my job duties and responsibilities for the NHPA, I try my best to keep these costs down and negotiate for our membership because, as you know, many are retired on a fixed income, families on a budget for vacations, etc., and cannot afford to spend the extra money for parking fees.

Unfortunately, when going to these sports conferences to solicit cities to host a World Tournament (which this past year were cancelled due to the pandemic) cities will begin to charge for parking at hotels and venue locations. This "Free" parking that we have negotiated for, and have in our contract and have worked so very hard to avoid in the past, will no longer happen going forward. As always, as long as I have this job, I will continue to fight for anything I can get comped from these cities, but we also have to understand we may or may not get these things Free in the future.

Going forward, there is a strong possibility that parking fees will be mandatory at some of the facilities, and hotels. We as a membership need to understand this and plan accordingly. I truly do not think the membership would like to go back to having a "World Tournament" outside any more after having these nice large indoor venues with A/C with Hotels nearby or connected to the venues.

Please try to understand that the NHPA council are working for you and the entire membership and that we are trying our very best to take into consideration everyone's financial needs as well. This World Tournament experience should always be a memorable one for you and your family and not a financial burden. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Thanks Laurie Lampkin laurie_r@bellsouth.net 2nd -VP NHPA 278 Chaplin Rd. Bloomfield, KY 40008 502-507-2597

