# RINGER ROUND - UP THIS WEEK IN HORSESHOES #7-2021 - FEBRUARY 22, 2021



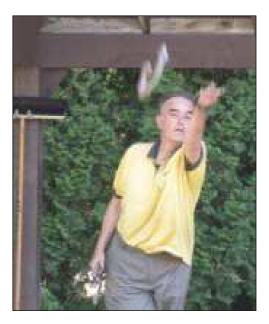
EDITOR: Sam Tomasevic 7987 Graham Ave. Burnaby BC V3N 1V8 Website: www.bchorseshoe.com Telephone: 604-328-5276 Email: <u>samtom@telus.net</u>



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# **HIGHEST WINNING % BC INTERNATIONAL**

# MEN

1971	Danny Kuchinski	79.0	
1972	Syd Lash	71.2	
1985	Clayton English	70.1	
1973	Syd Lash	68.0	
1986	Clayton English	67.9	
1976	Bob Timothy	63.0	
2018	Don Davis	62.8	
1988	Tal Severson	62.1	
1992	Jim Ball	62.2	
2016	Don Davis	61.6	

#### WOMEN

2018	Lindsay Hodgins	77.3
2019	Lindsay Hodgins	73.6
2017	Lindsay Hodgins	72.5
1989	Myrna Kissick	71.1
2016	Lindsay Hodgins	70.0
2000	Bernice Busch	69.9
2003	Elyse Brunelle	68.3
2011	Elyse Brunelle	65.4
2008	Elyse Brunelle	61.8
2004	Elyse Brunelle	61.4

#### ELDERS

1992	Bud Price	67.0
1997	John Reedy	66.5
2014	Jerry Melissa	66.3
2008	Neil Yaskow	65.5
2004	Art Sperber	63.9
2006	Wilf Gregory	63.8
2003	Neil Yaskow	62.1
1993	Bud Price	62.1
2001	Neil Yaskow	61.7
1990	Bud Price	61.5

#### JR BOYS

2004	Buddy Dyrda	69.1
1976	Buddy Pittman	56.5
1992	Brent Colebank	55.5
2009	Mathew MacDonald	53.1
1971	Louis (Tiger) Hoffard	52.8
1972	John Hoffard	52.5
1981	Munj Manhas	47.6
1980	Colin Finnie	47.5
1999 Ryan McHale		44.9
1985	David Caley	43.5

#### JR GIRLS

2014	Lindsay Hodgins	65.7
2006	Raquel Schaefer	49.4
2008	Elycia Thomas	38.6
2009	Elycia Thomas	38.0
2015 Petra Manka		35.0
1997 Erin Topp		33.2
2005 Raquel Schaefer		30.9
2012 Elycia Thomas		30.7
2013 Lindsay Hodgins		28.7
2011	Nicole Dabney	26.8



### **NEIL LAROCQUE - SALMON ARM**



I was a meat cutter for forty years, thirty of those were with the Overwaitea-Save on food group, I started my career in the Overwaitea store in Spruceland Prince George, and then after five years there, I transferred to Fort

St. James as meat department manager for two years, then on to Grand Forks as manager for two

years then on to Kitimat for twenty one years, I retired from the company and moved to Salmon Arm and worked as assistant manager for another ten years for Askews Foods, have since then retired from a very rewarding career in Salmon Arm.

Since moving to Salmon Arm, I was fortunate to get invited to the club to try my hand at pitching shoes, it was off and on for the first year but then decided to make an effort get more involved in the game, and the club, it

has been an awesome journey, I have not played outside the province, but hope to take some out of province tourneys in down the road. So no titles!!! I am single but do have two sons from a previous marriage, both are living in Victoria and doing very well, I also have two of the most wonderful grand kids and am a very proud grandpa Yours in the game of horseshoes! I am the President of the Salmon Arm club.



#### LANCE WHITWORTH VICTORIA

I joined the Victoria Horseshoe Club in 2016 after an invite from Gary Sheppard. Never pitched horseshoes before. Many people at the club gave instructions. Most was from Colin and Ron.

Won tournaments in; Powel River, Ladysmith, Victoria, and Burnaby and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Guelph Ontario. Played in Abbotsford but didn't win there.



After playing for 14 months I entered 2017 Worlds in St. George Utah won 3<sup>rd</sup> place Elders G division Trophy (only Worlds trophy in our club) Won second place in 2016



and third place in 2017 in Canadian Championships Elders Division. Having done so well so quickly can only be attributed to all the help and coaching received from members like Colin and Ron Fleet. After wining the tournament at Powel River I was told to change to Snyder shoes to do even better. I did and won the trophy at St. George with them.

I retired from BC Transit as a driver in 2003. Retired from the Core of Commissionaires as Security at the Airport in 2008 when my wife became very ill. I am a widower as my wife of 20 plus years died of Cancer complication in October of 2016. I have no children. I have no pets

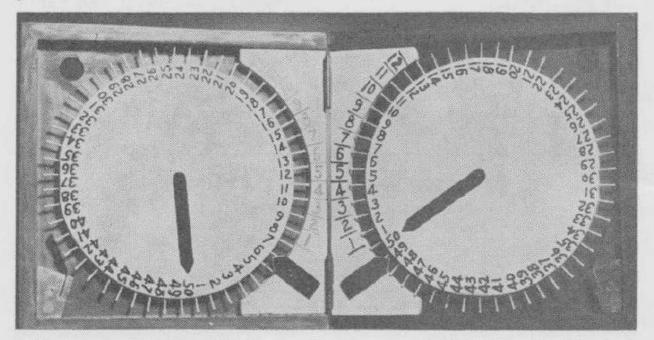
Advice to give: just keep practicing and listen to those who know more than you do. There is lots of advice and coaching out there for those who want it.



THE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S NEWS DIGEST/JULY/1964

# **Canadian Member Designs New Scoreboard**

Mel Campsall, a member of the Vancouver, British Columbia club and also an NHPA member has come up with a new idea in scoreboards. This entire scoreboard is hinged in the centre so it can be folded together for easy carrying and the two disks are secured in the centre so they can be rotated. The numbers from 1 to 12 down the middle of the board or centre piece are used as the counting numbers and the numbers from 1 to 50 around the circular disk define the score. The score on this particular board in the picture is 49 to 6.



Designed and Built by Mel Campsall, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

To start the game both the black arrows on the disks must line up with the arrows on the centre pieces. To give an example in a game of cancellation I will say the first 2 shoes from each player have been pitched and the count is 3 to 0. On one side of the scoreboard you would put your finger in the slot next to the figure 3 on the centre portion of the board and move your finger down to the black arrow on the centre portion of the board and move your stop your finger from moving any farther, thus rotating the circular disk and adding the score automatically. The same procedure is followed on the opposite side of the board for your opponent's score. This procedure is then continued after each end until one player reaches the final score of 50 points.



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#### CENTRAL PARK HORSESHOE CLUB



This scoreboard can be Found at the CENTRAL PARKHORSESHOE CLUB

# Kuchcinski Takes B. C. Centennial International

The 1971 British Columbia Centennial and Canadian International Horseshoe Pitching Championships was a highly successful event with an official entry list of 92 participants and \$2,800.00 in cash prizes plus trophies. Three Provinces from Canada and four States were represented. About 2,000 spectators attended the three day tournament to watch the largest event of its kind in Western Canada.

World Champion, 22 year old Danny Kuchcinski, took the "Diamond" International Trophy and \$500.00 top prize with 80.9% ringers. Bob West of Oregon, in second place with 73.4%, picked up \$400.00, while Roger Vogel of California copped third money of \$300.00 with 71.8%. High single game of the tournament went to Kuchcinski with 88%, followed closely by Bob West and 4th place finisher Alvin Richardson of Oregon with 86%. The current British Columbia champion, Sid Lash of Burnaby, B. C., took a resepctable 5th place with 62.9% and collected \$100.00 for his effort.

Class "B" was won by Paul Russell of Washington with 42.8%, with the trophy went \$150.00. Second spot was nailed down by Al Johnson of British Columbia, good for \$100.00.

Columbia, good for \$100.00. Class "C" was won by Elmer Anderson of Washington who never lost a game with an average of 33.8%, good for \$150.00. In second place was Alf Dahl of British Columbia, he also went home with \$100.00 for his fine performance.

The Seniors class was easily taken by the former World Intermediate Champion, Francis Winetrout of Washington, his percentage of 64.4% won him \$75.00. Second place was won by Bob Blunt of British Columbia with 55.5%.

In the Junior event eight year old Louis "Tiger" Hoffard of British Columbia, current B. C. Junior Champ, walked through all seven games to win with an outstanding performance of 52.8% ringers. In second place was 13 year old Johnny Hoffard, his only loss was to brother Louis and came in with an overall and very respectable 50% ringers.

The ladies event was won by B. C. Ladies Champ Linda Weese of British Columbia, with an easy clean sweep of all five games. In second place was another fine horseshoe pitcher from British Columbia, Dot Blunt, with her only loss being to Linda.

	W	LAS	SA- %	- GROUP 1	w	L	%
D. Kuchcinski, Ind		0	77.2	G. Alexander, Wash	. 5	6	58.5
A. Richardson, Ore	9	2	68.3	O. Vallen, Wash	. 5	6	50.5
R. Miller, Ore	9	2	61.2	K. Lukens, Ore.	. 3	8	41.2
S. Pachota, B. C.	7	4	60.6	R. Ross, Sask.	. 2	9	44.1
F. Winetrout, Wash	7	4	56.6	A. Oertel, Wash	. 2	9	42.0
J. Reedy, Wash	5	6	60.1	J. Jones, B. C	. 1	10	39.2
				Ore., 11-0-77.0; B. Foss, Was			
M. Rayner, B. C., 8-3-55.8;	H.	Pet	erson.	Ore., 7-4-59.6; E. West, Was	sh.,	6-5-	56.4
R. Jago, B. C., 6-5-56.2	: N	1. N	IcDan	iel, Wash., 5-6-54.6; H. Pi	dde	W .	ash.
				Snyder, Wash., 3-8-35.4; F.			
1-10-33.6; R. Piercy, B. C	., d	efau	It.	and much in month as a second as	Survey of the	TABLES .	ac as

CLASS A — GROUP 3 — R. Vogel, Calif., 11-0-72.5; H. Criss, Wash., 9-2-63.8; S. Lash, B. C., 8-3-59.0; B. VanEgdom, Wash., 7-4-58.1; C. Chapelle, Ore., 6-5-52.3; B. Edwards, Wash., 6-5-50.5; R. Blunt, B. C., 5-6-46.3; J. Sarri, Wash., 4-7-44.0; S. Dahl, B. C., 3-8-41.8; C. Butts, B. C., 3-8-32.7; H. Godfrey, Wash., 2-9-46.9; A. Alexander, Wash., 2-9-38.0.

CLASS B — GROUP 1 — J. Aaskow, Alta., 6-1-43.6; C. Dobson, Sask., 6-1-36.3; E. McKay, Wash., 5-2-40.6; F. Prill, Wash., 4-3-38.6; J. Ruskowski, B. C., 3-4-34.6; B. Cooper, B. C., 2-5-33.3; H. Lemke, B. C., 2-5-33.0; L. Gayet, Calif., default.

CLASS B — GROUP 2 — A. Johnson, B. C., 5-2-45.1; P. Russell, Wash., 5-2-43.7; H. Thompson, B. C., 5-2-40.0; G. Rayner, B. C., 4-3-42.2; H. Janzen, B. C., 3-4-40.2; K. McKenzie, B. C., 2-5-35.7; E. Benoit, B. C., 2-5-33.4; B. Lowry, B. C., 2-5-30.8.

CLASS C — GROUP 1 — E. Anderson, Wash., 7-0-32.5; W. D. Rowe, B. C., 6-1-30.0; C. Neilson, Alta., 4-3-26.5; S. Hoffard, B. C., 3-4-24.8; F. Stirling, B. C., 3-4-20.5; W. H. Rowe, B. C., 3-4-19.7; R. Weese, B. C., 2-5-18.2; R. Moodie, Alta., 0-7-6.8.

CLASS C — GROUP 2 — E. Hehr, Alta., 6-1-32.2; A. Dahl, B. C., 5-2-31.1; T. Jevne, B. C., 4-3-26.8; H. Rowe, B. C., 4-3-25.7; B. James, B. C., 3-4-25.7; M. Anhorn, Alta., 3-4-21.1; F. Spilchen, B. C., 2-5-17.4; B. Knight, B. C., 1-6-18.0.

SENIORS — (60 years and over) — F. Winetrout, Wash., 9-0-64.4; R. Blunt, B. C., 8-1-55.5; S. Pachota, B. C., 6-3-59.7; E. Enefer, B. C., 6-3-49.7; S. Dahl, B. C., 5-4-49.7; J. Wallingham, B. C., 5-4-45.1; H. Lemke, B. C., 3-6-37.7; B. Lowry, B. C., 2-7-28.4; R. Harper, B. C., 1-8-25.3; A. Howg, Alta., 0-9-14.0.

JUNIORS — L. Hoffard, B. C., 7-0-52.8; J. Hoffard, B. C., 6-1-50.0; J. Reid, B. C., 5-2-36.7; D. Hoffard, B. C., 4-3-28.4; S. Ross, B. C., 3-4-24.1; R. Jones, B. C., 2-5-12.5; M. Kalynchuck, B. C., 1-6-12.0; S. Wenlock, B. C., 0-7-4.2.

LADIES — L. Weese, B. C., 5-0; D. Blunt, B. C., 4-1; J. Moore, B. C., 2-3; V. Spilchen, B. C., 2-3; T. Hoffard, B. C., 2-8; L. Ross, B. C., 0-5.

1971 B.C. International group photo with Bob Blunt, President of the B.C. Horseshoe Assoc. on the mike. In the forefront on the right of Bob Blunt is Rob Roy Gray, rep for the Diamond Horseshoe Co.and Danny Kuchcinski, 1969 &1970 World Men's Horseshoe Champion. The little guy in the front left is Brian Lepper.



# Elmer Hohl 1970 Champion Of Dominion Of Canada

A ringing sound broke the stillness of the atmosphere, and folks, both young and old, stood up and cheered. It was another ringer.

Some 2,500 curious spectators went through the Dauphin Memorial Community Centre turnstile here on the weekend to witness the Canadian horseshoe championships and the top pitchers from coast to coast.

A total of 118 competitors battled it out in the event.

While two-time world champion Elmer Hohl of Wellesley, Ont., walked off with the Canadian crown, local hero Bert Snart also drew some accolades.

However, as far as horseshoe circles go, Snart was not a forgotten man. For his many years of contribution to the game, Snart received a special award from the Manitoba government, and he was named "Mr. Horseshoe 1970."

"It came as a real surprise to me, but it sure was a happy occasion." expressed Snart.

At a banquet Saturday evening, at least one horseshoe pitcher from each province represented rose to congratulate and thank the Dauphin committee for what many referred to as, "the best championships ever."

It was the first time the national horseshoe championships had ever been decided outside Ontario, and for the first time there was a great representation from the West.



Some of the dignitaries present at Canadian National. Left to right: Adams, Pence, Snart, Pakota and Hohl.

A Class:	W-L R%	B Class	%			
1. Elmer HOHL, Wellesley, Ont.	9-0 76.0	1. AL ROSS REGINA SASK,	49.1			
2. Robert RIEHL, New Hamburg, Ont.	8-1 68.0	2. STUART LAING BERTHUNE, SASK	48.8			
3. Ken SMITH, Monkton, Ont.	7-2 66.6	3. TOM SWMITH, KILLARNET, MAN	38.1			
4. Lloyd GEMMELL, Portage La Pr., Man.	6-3 60.4	4. SIMBI HELGASON MOZART, SASK	38.0			
5. Alf SMITH, Birch River, Man.	5-4 61.0					
6. Murray RAYNER, Youbou, B.C.	5-4 60.2	C Class	00			
7. Jack ADAMS, Ottawa, Ont.	4-5 56.8	1. NORMAN LAW, MCCREARY, MAN	41.8			
8. Ted LOZANSKI, Brandon, Man.	3-6 53.2	2. JOH SIMMONS GALT, ONT	37.0			
9. Roy McCANN, Carberry, Man.	3-6 50.5	3. ERV SCHNEIDER, ELLAND ONT	36.5			
10.Bob MOODIE, Lethbridge, Alta.	2-7 48.2	4. DENNIS HOHL WELLESLEY, ONT	36.0			
NOTE: Win-Loss record is wrong from 4th or 5th place.						

# **Canadian Horseshoe**

#### by R. G. Pence, NHPA Secretary

Following the World tournament in California, it was the pleasure of my wife and I to take a vacation trip through the beautiful Candadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba and to end the trip by attending the Canadian National Horseshoe championships played in Dauphin, Manitoba.

This was an unusual and highly successful tournament. Played indoors on a ten court layout of portable courts in a hockey arena with more than ample seating. The Dauphin Horseshoe Club of Manitoba did a wonderful job of promoting, organizing and conducting the event. Bert Snart of the Dauphin club and his cohorts and the city of Dauphin worked hard and long and should be congratulated.

This was the first truly Canadian National tournament for it marked the first time the event was held outside the province of Ontario and the Toronto area and the first time the tourney had a comprehensive entry list coming from all parts of Canada.

The tournament in Dauphin attracted players from one end of Canada to the other and was the first time that Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia players competed. It was a big entry list and the caliber of the players was excellent.

The important aspect was that for the first time players from widely separated areas met in both horseshoe competition and fellowship and became acquainted with each other and thereby laid the groundwork for a truly effective organization in the future.

True the tournament itself had its problems as is only natural under the conditions. The entry list was much larger than anticipated and the playing schedule was too ambitious resulting in problems timewise. Lack of clay available in the area made sand courts necessary and many of the players were unaccustomed to this. They were the best sand courts this writer has ever seen. In fact the composition was not really sand and was far superior to the ordinary sand courts. But it was not clay and this cut down the effectiveness of the players. Perhaps the stakes were too rigid with absolutely no give, but this can be corrected in the future and was far better than loose and wobbly stakes I have seen in some Canadian indoor tournaments in Ontario.

Many of the players had never participated in this type of round robin competition before which added to the problems of administration and caused delays in the time schedule. Scorekeeping details were taken care of in excellent fashion and visible scoring setups were provided on each court. The fiber glass portable containers of the courts were by far the best this writer has ever seen and were actually beautiful.

TV and radio coverage was excellent and the Manitoba Department of Tourism staged a dinner for the players and their families which was an affair to be long remembered by everybody.

Bud Prange, secretary of the Ontario Association, made the 1500 mile trip to Dauphin and worked hard and long with the Dauphin Club in the administrative details of the competition. It is this kind of cooperation that will build a strong Canadian Association in the future.

The good and outstanding aspects of the tournament far outweighed the problems encountered and all the problems are of the type that can be corrected in the future as a result of the experience gained. An informal and unofficial meeting of key individuals from each of the six provinces represented at the tournament was held. The consensus of this meet-

An informal and unofficial meeting of key individuals from each of the six provinces represented at the tournament was held. The consensus of this meeting was that the Canadian Horseshoe Pitchers' Association should be re-organized and an official constitution adopted along the same lines as the NHPA in the United States.

This setup would call for the players in each province to form a provincial association. Each province would thus arrange its own schedule of events and tournament but would do so in co-operation with the other provinces in the matter of schedule dates and the distribution of publicity and information.

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E Clas	s:	R%	SENIOR MEB
1.	Bill MOUNTENAY, Bethune, Sask.	30.0	1. ED DAVIES, AUBUR, ONT
2.	Ernie HEHR, Crossfield, Alberta	28.8	2. R. HARPER DUNCAN BC
3.	G. MUNDY, Fort Rouge, Manitoba	28.1	3. SID HURT, SWIFIT CYRRENT, SASK
4.	Sid MURI, Swift Current, Sask.	27.5	4. BILL NOUNTENAY, BERTHUE, SASK.

NOTE: Other known participants are:

Casey VanderLinden, Alberta who played in the C Class; Clayton Neeb, Ontario, Fred Harburn, Ontario, and **Stan Pachota from B.C.** Bill Morley from Dauphin was announced as a probable entrant in the Seniors...Part of the local committee were Bert Snart (President), Charlie Bentham (secr.-treasurer), Bob McGimpsey (referees and score keepers), Stan Wilson, Jack Hunter, Doug Bond, Dave Ross, Harold Mobberly, Ken Ready, Alan Snart and Blanche Brown.

#### TOM MOFFAT – ON LINE TOURNAMENT



Received in mail today; my first patch for winning a tournament in USA. Was an online Facebook sanctioned tournament in January.

#### LOUISE HAMEL / SANTE MICHELIN - VICTORIA

Met up with Sante Feb 22 2010... Turned me onto horseshoes... I was horrible... My 1st shoe went straight up into the air and almost hit me in the head. Didn't let go of the shoe, or forgot to let go of it. That spooked me.

That big Tournament in Victoria 2010 was my 1st big meet with the up Horseshoe family. Sante had been playing a few more years prior to that with a year off because of a shoulder injury and surgery



I moved from Langley in Nov 2009 to be closer to my Mom after losing my husband in Oct 2007.

I worked Real Estate and Land Appraisal / JD Bosdet and Boorman Investment in the early days... Then moved on to Economic Development with the Ministry of Industry and Small Business Development until meeting up with my husband in 1985 wherein moved to Langley.



Got my Pilots License PPL through the Victoria Flying Club. My husband was a floatplane instructor at Skyway on the River so got lots of air time

during that time. Abbotsford Air Show was fun... He flew the Stearman (Blue and Yellow) off the ramp on train with other war birds and alike, Involved with the Air Museum at Langley Airport etc. During that time I worked at the Surrey School District for the Curriculum and Instructional Services (Mathematics / Science / Physical Education / Fine Arts portfolios) I was lost when Dave was gone so focused on Mom and sold out to move back home to Victoria to care for my mom at any rate. Worked for Canada Post (Station 1/10), before retiring. Love gardening Growing things, nature and Animals. What more can I say. Looking forward to our new world fast approaching with med beds, Magnetic Technology, Free Energy and the Quantum Financial System releases the end of Covid it will be.



Sante and I met through the Legion. Playing Monday night Cribbage.

Sante tells us he was born in Santi Angeli Del Montello 40 Kilometers North West of Venice, Italy. Arrived in Victoria January 1955 after leaving Italy and hasn't left.

Started the drywall trade in 1968 as a summer job and returned to the trade the



following year after graduation. I had found my calling. Married twice; with four year as a single parent between wives.

I played beer league slow pitch until I broke my wrist in a home accident. This led me to horseshoeing; I was introduced to the game of horseshoe pitching through a Victoria member Dave Dickie at the time in 2003 and didn't do a tournament till 2005. I won five out of six tournaments that year and was hooked on horseshoeing. It took over two years to win my next one. It didn't matter as I found a game I enjoy and a lot of great people with the same attitude and love of the sport. After not pitching in 2009 due to shoulder surgery I went to my first BC's in Prince George and won the Men's B in a playoff against Al Gushta. I have won the Bs five times and three seconds over the eight years in that class. I always enjoy tournaments and attend as many as possible. In 2018 I pitched in 17 tournaments and had most wins by a 40ftr that year. I have had good luck at the international in Abbotsford too. I volunteered to be club president and ended up doing two terms. I am still involved with things at the club from recycling to maintenance and lots in between.

I've been to the worlds three times with a 5th and 6th finish in my class. Good enough to make it into the money. Canadians in Saskatoon came 3rd and Calgary came 2nd. I have been doing Thursday night cribbage at the club in the off season for 12 years as well. I am missing the tournaments and league play and all the players very much. Looking forward to seeing everyone and competing again

I have 4 kids, 8 grandkids, 3 great grandkids

#### 2021 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS - JASON RIDEOUT – PRESIDENT HORSESHOE CANADA



The dates for the 2021 Canadian Championships are set for **August 17 -21, 2021.** The Canadians are set to be held in Guelph, Ontario.

The Horseshoe Canada Executive and the Organizers in Guelph are working together and an **official statement will be released on April 30<sup>th</sup>;** whether, the event will happen.



We wanted to put the dates out so folks having to plan vacation and such can do so. I hope everyone is staying healthy. Take care.

### 2021 N EW VICTORIA EXECUTIVE – JUNE LAZENBY

Our new Executive is:

Derek Thorpe – President / Bob McCauley - Vice President / Sharon Dunn – Treasurer / June Lazenby – Secretary / Past President - Sante Michielin

**Directors:** Marie Farmer / Doug Bowman / Pat Stevens / Dick Stevens / Wei Xiao / Mel Smith / Lance Whitworth / Colin Nicholson / Tom Moffat / Barbie Hudock

Our Municipality still only allows us to play individual practice only - hoping for better things next month.



### DON FLEMING – ABBOTSFORD

I was a process server for a couple of year- and then a correctional officer for 23 years, and worked at okala prison in 1988 and on to Surry pretrial when okala closed down 1992. I worked up till 2009 when I got seriously hurt at work.

It was at this time that I new I needed something to do to keep my sanity. While watching some chain saw carving on you tube I thought that I would like to try it out,



I started out with just carving walking sticks, I had no knives to carve with so I made my own knives and started carving, I did ok for a newbie, but I thought joining a carving club would greatly benefit me so that I did, and this is where I learned about horse shoes. At the carving club I met Daryl Olson and Ken Smorang. They had mentioned that they played horse shoes some where in Abbotsford, and I thought that would be fun as well, but, but nothing ever came of it. Then one day I phoned Ken and his wife told me they where at horse shoes. So I headed off to Abbotsford to find them and see what it was all about. The rest is history, I shortly there after joint the club, not ever throwing horse shoes before I soon found out there was more to it than just throwing a piece of iron at a peg, as I was continuously getting my ass handed to me by most every one at the club I thought to my self if I am going to do this some thing had to change. I don't think I won any tournaments in my first year, as there was only a few I could play in ,and that didn't sit well with me , so I went out and bought my own shoes and started practicing in the second season I won five out six and quickly moved up in class, by the end of the season I had moved up to top of the c division and bottom of the B division, where I found myself getting beat 50 % of the time so I practised more and got even better. By this time I was now playing in the top of the B division and some times against players in the a division, and I was guite struck by how good every one was in the a division, as I moved up so fast I never really had time in the lower divisions to get any tittles as I was always moved up and found myself in the bottom of the next division up. I do have several badges and my name on several trophies as well as 3rd place in the Canadians in Saskatchewan and 3rd place in the BC Champs in Kamloops.

During my time at the club I found my self right at home coming to the club early to set up for tournaments and keeping the club pits and club house in good order and helping out where ever I could as I quite enjoyed the responsibility of getting things done. I have always been a early arrival at most tournaments, and found myself helping them set up as well. All the clubs I have played at have great folks and work hard to put on great tournaments, so any time you can help that happen is a good thing. Now I find my self doing some chain saw carvings for prizes, it's very nice to know that folks like your carvings and you can raise some funds for the club.

If I was to give advice to anyone that was interested in horse shoes it would be come out and try it don't worry about how well your doing compared to others just have fun and stick by it for a while, it dose get easier, and it can be a complete family activity, when I can get my grandchildren into it I will bring them they are just a bit to young yet. You get a lot of exercise playing horse shoes and you meet lots of good folks, as well as being a very inexpensive sport to get into. I now live in Merritt and am still part of the Abbotsford club and they are a great bunch.



