

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, we are now into the 2009 pitching season with some indoor tournaments. I hope that everyone helps support the tournaments that are near to where you live. Be sure and take along a friend, neighbor, or relative to show them what HORSESHOE pitching is all about. You never know what will get someone turned on to the game of Horseshoes. Tournament directors you need to be organized and you can help promote the upcoming tournaments by simply announcing times and locations of up coming tournaments.

I want to say a few words about our juniors. Neal Craig is putting on the second junior – adult tournament in Grand Island again this year. This is not a sanctioned tournament but a promotional tournament. We want to introduce juniors to the game. The thing you can do is find a junior that is willing to try something new and bring them to the tournament. It really is a doubles tournament where you pitch with the junior. It is a lot of fun and may be the beginning of a great experience for you and a young person. I expect to see you there **JUNE 21,2009 1:00 P M Grand Island.**

The 2009 World Tournament is coming up and it will be time before we know it. Entry deadline is May 14th 2009, and you need **4 sanctioned tournaments** to enter. If you need an entry form let me know and I will do my best to send you one. Springfield Illinois is not that far so think about pitching. If you have seen the Horseshoe Pitching Newslite, (the National Horseshoe Pitching Association publication) you see that there are some rule changes that will be voted on and some new National Officers, so if you have any opinions on these issues, let me know how you would like me to vote.

Well, this is our first time putting the newsletter on the computer and I have a lot of confidence that this will work. There are other states that have been doing this for a while and it just takes time to work out the details. I know that some of you have let Steve Barry know that you would like to have copies sent to you and that is good. If we can keep the majority of the members getting the Newsletter on line it will certainly save us money. This is our most important way of communicating with all of you pitchers.

Its time for you to be thinking about people that you feel would be good candidates for the Nebraska Hall of Fame and the Fleharty Awards. We need you the pitchers to be sending your choices because the officers should not be doing this every year. You can get a form from John Wemhoff or let one of the officers know and they can get one for you.

Tournament Directors you need to be doing 50 – 50s at your tournaments to help support the NHPF. John Wemhoff has done an outstanding job but we can all help. As of January Nebraska was 17th in donations to the NHPF. We need to keep this going, because this is how the Hall of Fame for Horseshoes is supported. I have been there twice and it is a very nice building and has some great displays of the history of Horseshoes.

My final thoughts are about some of our very own pitchers that pitch in Sanctioned Leagues. Congratulations go out to Dave Lawrence of the Pawnee Ringers for having third place in high points over average 39.74 and Seth Limbach of the Pawnee Ringers for having third place in high point average 88.17, 7th place in high point game, and 7th place in high ringer average for juniors. Great job keep up the good work.

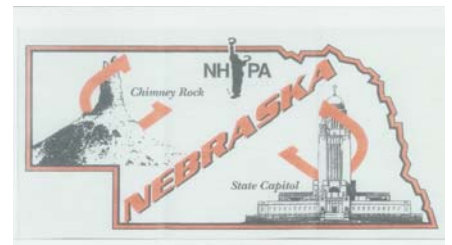
A LETTER FROM STEVE DROZD

Hi, my name is Steve Drozd. I am 14 years old and live in a small town called Duncan, Nebraska. Believe it or not I don't play horseshoes all the time, I also like to play basketball, football, golf, and bowling, but I am best at horseshoes because I play it almost every day.

I attend Columbus middle School in Columbus, Nebraska, because Duncan has a population less than four hundred, therefore we don't have a school. My favorite subject is math, and after school I play football.

This is my sixth year throwing horseshoes as an NHPA member. I started throwing horseshoes because my family did, started out with the plastic ones (They break real easy!) and the real ones. (They also break.) I am on my second pair of horseshoes. I use Mustangs. My first ones were Diamond Super Ringers. I hope we can get some more juniors playing so we can keep this game alive and more exciting!

Steve Drozd Nebraska Junior



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Dear Steve:

I have included a copy of the article that was in the National publication for you to read. It gives you the information that is required and you can write your own story. There is no guarantee that this will get published but we can try. I will see to it that it gets put in the Eastern Nebraska newsletter. It's always fun to get your name in the print. If this gets published I'll get you a copy. I would add your school name and some things about school. I am sending an envelope and stamp, you can send this to Justin Sipma and me or to me and I will send it to him, but I would like to have a copy. Thanks for working on this I think you're a great kid, keep up the good work.

Sincerely

Boyd Hageman President