

INDIANA HORSESHOE PITCHERS' ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

Effective January 1, 2026

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Indiana Division of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America, hereinafter known as INHPA.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the INHPA shall be to foster, develop, and promote the sport of horseshoe pitching in the state of Indiana both as recreational pastime and a competitive sport.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1

Any reputable person who maintains legal Indiana residence as determined by voting, tax and/or driver's license laws may become a member upon payment of the annual dues as designated in these bylaws. Annual dues include NHPA liability insurance.

SECTION 2 Juniors may join at a reduced fee as designated in these bylaws. Boys and Girls are eligible to compete as Juniors up to and including the entire calendar year in which they turn 18 years of age.

SECTION 3

The dues for adult members are the National dues of twenty-five (\$25.00) plus fifteen (\$15.00) for Indiana dues for a total of forty (\$40.00).

SECTION 4

Dues for Junior members are National dues of five dollars (\$5.00). These fees have been waived by the NHPA

SECTION 5

Dues for Provisional Adult members are Twenty (\$20) with \$10 going to NHPA and \$10 to INHPA. Dues for Trial members are waived. If Provisional members wish to enter into state and or world tournaments they can pay the rest of the cost of full membership and become full members at any time during the first year. Provisional and trial members do not have a vote until they become full members. Trial members are allowed to enter one regular tournament (pay entry fee). They may become full members any time during the year by paying full membership.

SECTION 6

Dues are due and payable January 1 or upon joining, and last until December 31st of the current year.

SECTION 7

Any member may be suspended for:

- a. willfully violating any official playing rule or bylaw of the NHPA/INHPA.
- b. fixing games, cheating, or any other conduct unbecoming a member.
- c. placing a monetary bet of a contestant, or self, when participation in competition.
- d. using unsanctioned horseshoes in a tournament.
- e. forfeiting in a tournament for an unapproved reason.

SECTION 8

For any of the reasons above, a member may be suspended for one (1) year.

SECTION 9

No member shall be suspended until given a fair hearing before the NHPA/INHPA Executive Council or a Board appointed by the same.

SECTION 10

Members who have been suspended for one (1) year may be reinstated after the year has elapsed by a majority vote of the NHPA/INHPA Executive Council.

ARTICLE IV: INHPA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

SECTION 1: Members

The Executive Council shall be made up of the officers of the INHPA.

SECTION 2: Authority

- a. The INHPA Executive Council shall have full power to conduct the business of the INHPA between annual meetings provided such business is not contrary to the bylaws of the NHPA/INHPA.
- b. The INHPA Executive Council shall define and interpret these bylaws and its ruling shall be official unless overturned by the members assembled at the annual meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

SECTION 3: Meeting

- a. The INHPA Executive Council shall meet at the call of the President or any three (3) members of the INHPA Committee.
- b. A quorum for any meeting of the INHPA Executive Council shall be four (4) members.
- c. The INHPA Executive Council may conduct business by e-mail, telephone, or US Mail when necessary.
- d. Official decisions made by the INHPA Executive Council that effect the general membership shall be made known to members within three (3) months of said decisions.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

SECTION 1: The officers of the INHPA shall be

- a. President
- b. 1st Vice-President
- c. Four (4) Area Vice Presidents each representing a geographical area of the state. Northeast, Northwest, Central, and South.
- d. Secretary/Treasurer
- e. Regional Director / Statistician

SECTION 2: Duties of Officers

- a. The President shall:
 - 1. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the INHPA.
 - 2. Preside at all meetings of the INHPA.
 - 3. Have power to assign specific duties to other officers.
 - 4. Appoint a web site manager, any committees, standing or special, name its chair, change the makeup of the committee, fill any vacancies or discharge the committee as is deemed necessary for the good of the organization.
- b. The 1st Vice-President shall:
 - 1. have the same duties as the President but will assume them only in the absence of or disability of the President.
 - 2. assist the President, when requested.
- c. The Area Vice-Presidents shall:
 - 1. carry out any specific duties assigned to them by the President or the 1st Vice-President in the absence or disability of the President.
- d. The Secretary/Treasurer shall:
 - 1. keep a true record of all proceedings of the meetings of the INHPA.
 - 2. receive and collect dues and other money or property paid or donated to the INHPA, which shall be recorded as a complete statement.
 - 3. make a report as necessary to the NHPA Secretary and remit monies for each card issued during the current quarter.
 - 4. keep records of all monies received and disbursed.
 - 5. pay all bills for routine supplies and all other special purchases that have been approved by the Executive Council.
 - 6. submit annually books and records of the previous fiscal year (October 1 to September 30th) to an INHPA Audit Committee for a yearend report by October 31st.
- e. The Regional Director shall:
 - 1. Enter and update INHPA tournament information into e-shoe for each year.
 - 2. Provide Tournament data to each Tournament Director for each tournament.
 - 3. Sanction all INHPA courts as required.
 - 4. Be an advisor, promoter, recruiter and informer of the sport.
- f. The Statistician shall:
 - 1. keep a true record of all stats made in INHPA tournaments.
 - 2. report to website and e-stats as required.

SECTION 3: Eligibility of Officers:

All INHPA Officers shall be NHPA/INHPA members in good standing (dues paid and not in suspension) and have access to the NHPA Magazine NEWSLINE.

SECTION 4: Terms of Office:

- a. All officers shall serve a two-year term.
- b. The President, South Vice-President, Northeast Vice-President and Statistician shall be elected in odd numbered years.
- c. The 1st Vice-President, Northwest Vice-President, Central Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected in the even numbered years.
- d. The newly elected officers shall take office thirty (30) days following their elections.
- e. The Regional Director Is an INHPA Presidential appointed office.

SECTION 5: Removal from Office:

- a. Any officer may be removed from office upon failure to perform the duties of the office or for any reason that brings discredit to the INHPA.
- b. Removal from office shall be by majority vote of the members of the INHPA Executive Committee.
- c. President, 1st Vice President, Central District Vice President, Northwest District Vice President, Northeast District Vice President, South District Vice President. Any officer being removed from will be excluded from the voting process and from the committee meeting.

SECTION 6: Vacancies in Office:

Any vacancies in office except that of the President shall be filled within thirty (30) days by the President with the approval of the INHPA Executive Council.

SECTION 7: Records and Property held by Officers:

Within thirty (30) days of leaving office, all outgoing officers and committee chairs shall deliver to their successors all records and property of the INHPA in their possession.

ARTICLE VI: STANDING COMMITTEES**SECTION 1**

The Standing Committees of the INHPA shall be: Bylaws/Standing Rules, Audit committee. Hall of Fame, State Tournament Committee and Medical Exemption Committee.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SECTION 1: Annual Meeting

- a. The Annual INHPA Meeting is the meeting where the business of the organization is undertaken. The location and the time will be determined by the INHPA Executive Council.
- b. Minimum agenda items of the annual meeting are Secretary report, Treasurer report, Report of officers and committee chairs, Unfinished or old business, new business, Election of officers, and Adjournment.
- c. Items such as the twenty-five (\$.25) per tournament entry added annually to the World Tournament Fund, large cash prizes, and extra-large trophies will be voted on at the annual meeting.

SECTION 2: Special Meetings

- a. A Special Meeting may be called by the President when approved by the Executive Council.
- b. All INHPA members must be notified of this Special Meeting in writing at least thirty (30) days before the meeting and be given the reason for the meeting.
- c. No business except that specified in the notice may be taken up.

SECTION 3: Quorum

A quorum for any meeting shall be at least 51% of the total number of NHPA/INHPA members in attendance, with a minimum of six attending.

SECTION 4: Voting

- a. Only current NHPA/INHPA card holders are eligible to vote on matters pertaining to the election of Charter officers, a sanctioned tournament schedule or anything else that may directly or indirectly involve INHPA business, bylaws, or official playing rules.
- b. The President may decide on the method of voting except that there shall be no voting by mail.

ARTICLE VIII: STATE TOURNAMENT

SECTION 1

The INHPA will hold a NHPA sanctioned State Championship yearly.

SECTION 2

The State Championship Tournament must advertise and provide an entry form stating the intent to crown champions in at least Men, Women, Junior, and Elder Divisions. Other Divisions are an option left to the discretion of the State Tournament Committee. Any Division not receiving at least four (4) entrants can be cancelled but the entrants must be given the opportunity of pitching in another division. All age limitations for Divisions shall be in accordance with Article IX, Section 5.

SECTION 3

The Championship Class of the State Tournament cannot be mixed play. Other classes below the championship can be mixed at the discretion of the State Tournament Committee. Handicap percentage systems cannot be used in the State Championship play where a Division Title is involved.

SECTION 4

The INHPA State Championship Tournament is open only to those NHPA/INHPA members who legally reside in Indiana. An exception to this shall be members of the US Armed Forces and their families who are stationed/reside in Indiana. No one will be allowed to pitch in more than one State Championship per year.

SECTION 5

In State Championships, all ties for first place must be broken by play-off game(s). Ties for other places may be settled by play-off, percentage, or who beat whom announced prior to starting the tournament.

SECTION 6

No championship tournament shall be played in the rain. The State The Tournament Committee will decide whether it is raining sufficiently to justify calling the game. In the event of games being called on account of weather, the games are to resume where left off with the State Tournament Committee to decide when the courts are in shape.

SECTION 7

Adult INHPA members must play in at least three (3) separate sanctioned events. A member is allowed to count one tournament from out of state, one sanctioned league, or one out of state sanctioned league and the previous years state tournament to qualify for the State Tournament. Junior members need one (1) sanctioned event in Indiana during the year to be eligible to play in the State Tournament. The previous years State Tournament does count as one of the required events.

SECTION 8

Entry forms and Fees for the State Tournament must be paid 2 weeks prior to the date of the tournament.

SECTION 9

Men, Women, Elders champions and the Regional Director will each be given \$175.00 towards their expenses at the next World Tournament provided they pitch as an INHPA member.

Section 10

In Championship classes there will be an empty court between pitchers if there is 8ft or less between pitching boxes.

ARTICLE IX: ALL OTHER INHPA TOURNAMENTS

SECTION 1

All INHPA tournaments shall be sanctioned in accord with the published guidelines and/or directives for NHPA Regional Directors

SECTION 2

Entry is restricted to players holding a current NHPA/INHPA membership and meeting any imposed eligibility requirements.

SECTION 3

a. All pitcher's averages shall be obtained from the latest posting on the e-Shoes web site which is based on the three (3) highest NHPA sanctioned tournaments pitched in the preceding twelve (12) months or the last ten (10) tournaments during the same period, whichever occurs first.

b. Any member without an average will pitch a minimum of 100 consecutive shoes to establish their tournament seeding percentage. This qualifying must be scored in writing and witnessed by one (1) sanctioned club members prior to entering a tournament. Alternately, an NHPA sanctioned club or league average may be used if it covers 400 or more shoes.

c. Members with less than three (3) tournaments shall use the combined average of the one or two they have pitched.

SECTION 4

Tournament fees will be \$18 for outdoors and \$22 for indoors tournaments. Indoor tournaments will pay \$1 per pitcher to the tournament director and \$5 to the indoor facility to cover expenses. Outdoor tournaments will pay \$1 to the tournament site and \$1 to the tournament director. An additional \$2 will be collected per pitcher for facility maintenance and paid to INHPA Secretary. The remaining \$14 will be distributed as shown in the following table:

Amount	No. in Class	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place
56	4	36	20	X	X
70	5	47	23	X	X
84	6	50	24	10	X
98	7	50	28	20	X
112	8	50	30	22	10

The scorekeeping fee is \$1 per game to be collected and paid to the scorekeepers. Tournament classes should be even numbered 8,6,4, as much as possible. Upon moving divisions, player must throw 100 shoes on a sanctioned court to establish the new handicap. This must be witnessed by 1 INHPA member who needs to sign the scoresheet.

SECTION 5

Tournament entry: Division and age restrictions are recognized where applicable for entry to NHPA/INHPA sanction tournament play.

- a. OPEN MEN – no restrictions
- b. SENIOR MEN - at least 60 years old any time during the calendar year.
- c. ELDER MEN – at least 65 years old anytime during the calendar year. The Elder's Division may include any age man with a verified physical handicap.
- d. OPEN WOMEN –no restrictions.
- e. SENIOR WOMEN – at least 60 years old anytime during the calendar year.
- f. ELDER Woman – at least 65 years old anytime during the calendar year can move up to 27 – 20 feet.
- g. JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS – any who will be 18 years old or less for the entire calendar year in which the tournament is played.

SECTION 6

All sanctioned tournaments shall provide a playing opportunity for all eligible pitchers. Exceptions for special tournaments such as invitational, Juniors Only, Women Only, etc., can be authorized by the INHPA Executive Council.

SECTION 7

All INHPA Sanctioned Tournaments shall be either shoe cancellation or point cancellation.

SECTION 8

All tournament play-offs in all classes are to be included in the totals of Sanctioned Tournament statistics.

SECTION 9

Junior pitchers may compete in an adult division of a mixed tournament without harm to their junior standing provided no separate Junior division is offered in the same tournament. When a junior division is offered in a non-handicapped tournament, a junior may pitch with the adults without harm to their junior standing, only when their average is at least 10% higher than the next junior.

SECTION 10

Junior pitchers who request admittance and are accepted to an adult class outside the conditions set forth in Section 9 above will forever forfeit their junior eligibility. A junior boy who forfeits his junior status must pitch 40 feet.

SECTION 11

All junior play, mixed class or otherwise will be conducted the same as all other classes. It is the responsibility of the youth participant and their parent/guardian to check state scholastic sport association regulations/restrictions when determining whether or not to accept an award with any monetary value. The INHPA and/or the NHPA assumes no responsibility for any adverse effect which horseshoe pitching Awards may have on the amateur status of any youth participant.

SECTION 12

Forfeits: In tournament competition, the wins and losses and all statistics accumulated shall remain in the books for a pitcher who has to forfeit one or more games for any reason. A pitcher may miss any number of games due to illness or other legitimate reason approved by the Tournament Director or Committee and still be permitted to return to competition only in multi-day tournaments. If a pitcher forfeits for an unapproved reason, the pitcher will not be allowed to return to the competition and will forfeit all prize money and/or awards. Any person who forfeits games shall finish wherever his record puts him in the standings unless he forfeits for unapproved reasons, then he finishes last.

SECTION 13

Entry fees must be paid in advance for all bid tournaments including the State Tournament.

SECTION 14

All pitchers must wear shoes and shirts with their last name, city and state on the back of their shirts. All contestants competing in any NHPA / INHPA Tournament shall have, as a minimum, their last name and State or County abbreviation professionally lettered on the back of their shirts. Lettering must be 1 – 2 inches in height and needs to be professionally applied. Said shirts cannot be sleeveless.

SECTION 15

A player arriving late for a tournament before the first game ends may proceed playing the rest of the tournament but must forfeit the first game. No warm-up time will be permitted. A player, who arrives after the second game begins, must forfeit all games.

SECTION 16

Any player substituting for another must also pay the entry fee and have the approval of all members of the class to be accepted. No shows are to pay their entry fee unless an emergency prevented their participation.

SECTION 17

INHPA must comply in all ways with the Official Playing Rules of the NHPA. Anything not covered in the INHPA Bylaws shall be referred to the NHPA Bylaws. Deliberate violation of same will be cause for possible NHPA suspension of Charter Officers, the revocation of the Charter, or both.

ARTICLE X: HOST TOURNAMENT SITES

SECTION 1

Host clubs or sponsors may bid for "Money" tournaments.

SECTION 2

It is the responsibility of the tournament host to:

- a. see that each stake extends 14 inches above the level of the pitchers' platform on each side of the stake, with a 3-inch incline towards each other.
- b. has enough scorekeepers for the classes scheduled.
- c. has foul line judges at their tournament. These judges are to be instructed to know the rules and to strictly enforce them.

SECTION 3

The host site will receive one dollar (\$1) per adult entry for hosting a tournament.

ARTICLE XI: COMPLETELY ENCLOSED FACILITIES AND SANCTIONED SELF-SUFFICIENT TOURNAMENTS

SECTION 1

One dollar (\$1.00) will be added to tournament entry fees to cover utility costs at indoor tournament sites; two dollars (\$2.00) for the State Championship Tournament.

SECTION 2

One dollar (\$1.00) per each pitcher (junior and adult) will be returned to the indoor site; two dollars (\$2.00) for the State Championship Tournament.

SECTION 3

The utility fee for the juniors at enclosed facilities will be paid by the INHPA from the World Tournament Fund.

ARTICLE XII: SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

SECTION 1

Tournament Director for the site will be responsible for taking entries, taking entry fees, scheduling players, running the tournament, and giving awards

SECTION 2

The Regional Director will provide tournament sanction certificates and patches. Score sheets and pitching percentages can be downloaded/obtained from the NHPA website.

SECTION 3

Statistics (Results summary from HSMaster) will be returned to the INHPA Statistician and Regional Director immediately following the tournament. Tournament results must be uploaded to eShoes, not more than 7 days after the tournament date.

ARTICLE XIII: MONEY TOURNAMENTS (BID)

SECTION 1

Host club shall pay twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars to the INHPA. (Bid)

SECTION 2:

Tournament Director for the site will be responsible for taking entry fees, scheduling players, running the tournament and giving awards.

ARTICLE XIV: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1

The rules contained in the current edition of **ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED** shall govern the proceedings of the INHPA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE XV: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1

All amendments to the INHPA bylaws must be presented in writing at the annual fall meeting. Amendments to be incorporated will be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all INHPA members present.

SECTION 2

These bylaws may be revised at any fall meeting provided a Revision has been ordered at the previous fall meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

2024 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Chuck Wothke Chairman

Troy Percy

Roger Brown

Sam Payne

Date submitted and approved October 25, to be effective January 1, 2026