

THE SPORT OF HORSESHOE PITCHING

www.horseshoepitching.com

Why Pitch Organized Horseshoes?

A Family Sport

Horseshoe pitching boasts of being one of the few sports that has a national champion for men, women, boys and girls and can still be played in one's backyard. It can be played by one or more and by the young as well as the old.

Physical Fitness

In this day of weight watching, what better way to exercise than walking, bending and reaching? These are integral parts of this great sport and doctors have repeatedly stressed the beneficial aspects of horseshoe pitching.

Join the Millions of Participants

It was recently estimated that upwards of fifteen (15) million enthusiasts enjoy pitching horseshoes in the United States and Canada, in tournaments, leagues, recreation areas and backyards.

President George W. Bush, who enjoys pitching horseshoes, had new horseshoe courts installed at the White House.

Sports Origin

The origin of this sport goes back to the days of the Roman Empire. Roman soldiers pitched horseshoes discarded from the horses used to drive their chariots.

Soldiers in the American Revolutionary War pitched horseshoes for recreation on the Boston Common.

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

The NHPA is a federation of sixty charters in the United States and Canada. NHPA memberships total 13,668. 814 are junior members, which are 18 years of age and under. The Kansas Horseshoe Pitchers Association (KHPA), Kansas Charter, at present, has over 200 members, and includes 20 juniors.

The NHPA strives to promote and organize the sport and to standardize the rules. The NHPA is also responsible for organizing the World Horseshoe Tournament.

World Tournaments

The first world tournament was held in Bronson, Kansas in 1909.

For more information on the world tournaments access the NHPA web site at www.horseshoepitching.com .

State and Local Tournaments

This year, Kansas will hold over 60 scheduled tournaments, plus the 3-day State Tournament over Labor Day weekend. There are approx. 20 cities that host these tournaments.

Gage Park Horseshoe Courts

Topeka has one of the best horseshoe facilities in Kansas, thanks to our city leaders, the Topeka City Council, the Topeka Parks & Recreation and the Topeka Horseshoe Association for their commitment to build 18 new horseshoe courts at Gage Park. As a result of having these new courts, the Kansas Horseshoe Pitchers Association (KHPA) selected Topeka to host the 2003 State Horseshoe Tournament on Labor Day Weekend.

Horseshoe Pitchers Wanted

A practice league is held every Wednesday evening from 5:45 PM – 8:30 PM, April – October at the new Gage Park Courts (near 10th and Gage). Call Shirley Owens at 266-5350. Open to beginners and skilled pitchers of any level. We welcome juniors and adults, men and women of any age. If you do not have your own pair of horseshoes, loaners can be obtained from the Topeka Horseshoe Association. Sign up or show up on any Wednesday evening.

For more information access the Topeka horseshoe Association web site at www.topekahorseshoe.com or the Kansas web site at <http://members.cox.net/gudrich/> or the national (NHPA) web site at www.horseshoepitching.com .

TOPEKA HORSESHOE ASSOCIATION

Gage Park Courts

Near 10th and Gage

Contact Shirley Owens at 266-5350