

SHOES NEWS

Volume 51 Issue 4

April 2026

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Wizdom FROM THE Pres

Hello fellow Pitchers!

Thank you all for attending the Winetrout series! This is the first year in a while that we were able to host all 6. I'm sorry to have missed the last one with the wonderful potluck but I was working on becoming retired :)

As I write this month's message, I am officially retired - and boy does it feel great! Retiring marks the start of a new chapter, offering time to pursue passions (more horseshoe pitching), relax and reconnect with everything! I'm so happy

We are still looking for a Tournament Director for the June 6th tournament in Seattle. (My niece is getting married that day, so I will be unable to attend.) We also have a couple of weekends with openings - if you are interested in hosting a tournament on an open date let Ron Burt know so that he can add it to the schedule.

As I wrap up this month's message, I thought it would be a good reminder to post the below about Court Etiquette - it's always a good reminder.

Court Etiquette

1. A player is expected to stand at the back of the court, at least 2 feet behind their contestant. When play is mixed distance the short-distanced player is expected to move back to the rear of the full-distanced platform.
2. Harassment will not be tolerated either by opponents or spectators.
3. Loud profanity is not acceptable, (we all mutter on occasion).
4. Do not pick up your shoes until your opponent has had time to observe the position of all shoes and mutual agreement is reached regarding the point score.
5. You are encouraged to settle point determinations. If you cannot agree on a point, or a ringer, please call for a judge to come to your court number.
6. The decision of a judge is final.

Wizdom FROM THE Pres

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7. Please observe carefully before leaving your immediate court. The courts are dangerous with flying horseshoes, and it is discourteous to walk in the line of vision of a player in the act of pitching a shoe.

8. There may be times when you disagree with the way a host club conducts their tournaments. Please take the issue to the club officers, or tournament committee, as there may be a reason not readily apparent.

9. If the conduct of one of your opponents is other than acceptable for some reason, please do not put your “brand” on him or her. Get the tournament director to straighten things out.

10. Please do not take extended breaks during round robin play, in the interest of saving time and as a courtesy to those groups who follow.

11. If you determine at the morning sign-in that you will not pitch until the afternoon, please ask the tournament director if there is something you can help with.

12. Each player is expected to water (if needed) and turn a court prior to commencing a game.

13. Exit to the right if you are pitching on the left side. Do not be rude & turn and walk into your appointment or brush by them. Be respectful of the court & space & your opponent.

Also shake or thank your opponent at the start and end of the game.

Most of all have fun & make new friends.

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Important Announcements

This is from the NHPA bylaws :

SECTION 7. A membership card must be issued by the Charter in which the member maintains legal residence as determined by the filing of federal and state tax returns, voting, and/or driver license laws. Charters collecting NHPA dues for a non-residence member should give only a receipt, and then forward the dues and address information to the NHPA Secretary-Treasurer who will advise the Charter of record. Residents of a State having no active Charter may become an NHPA member by sending their dues directly to the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer.

Reminder that all tournament directors should download the most current version of HSMaster before you run any tournaments in 2026. The latest updates will include the new "elder women" division. We have several women in Washington state that are in that new division.

May 15, 2026 is the deadline for the World tournament in Wisconsin. If you are not planning on going this year to Wisconsin that is ok. You will have from May 16, 2026 until May 14, 2027 to get 4 tournaments in for world tournament 2027 which will be held in Kennewick Wa. Directors are going to be working on adding more tournaments so that you can qualify early. Excited to have in our area again. Keep up the good work and see you all on the courts.

We will have 4 youth going to world tournament this year. Good luck.

If you are wanting to nominate anyone for Hall of Fame please get your nominations in by May 1st to Bob Sperber so that it can go to the committee and have time to vote on.

Thank you

Bonnie Lewis

News from around the state

the thought and Idea behind this section, which I hope to have as an ongoing section, is to report news from the different clubs in our Association. Any club that has information they want to “spread the news” about just e-mail the editor with your write ups.

2026 Winetrouth Champions

Elder Champ – John Bruhn
Women’s Champ – Melissa Palensky
Men’s Champ – Don Davis

Jr. 2nd – James DeMello
Jr. Champ – Jeremiah DeMello
Cadet Champ – Kaden LaCaze



A big thank you to everyone who brought food for the potluck at the last Winetrouth. I was so impressed by the variety and quantity of food. It was a great day of pitching. We had great weather. Almost everyone stayed around for the potluck. It was a really great time with everyone. Also, thank you for all the help setting up and cleaning up.

Congratulations to the Winetrouth plaque winners.

Congratulations to the junior boys and cadet pitchers. They were awarded with trophies after the pitching was over.

Rhonda

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We had the most beautiful weather for the Tulip Open on Saturday April 4th.

A huge shout out is needed to Bob Sperber and Don Davis for helping repair a stake that was broken last year during the State tournament. The club really appreciates your help with these types of repairs!

The courts were all prepped and the daffodils were in full bloom :)

We had 14 pitchers show up to strut their stuff and enjoy the beautiful day.

All 3 Class winners went undefeated against their opponents. Cindy Clausen won n A Class winning her first Tournament Patch of 2026 pitching 58.33% with a high game of 70%. Bob Sperber finished first in Class B winning his first patch of 2026, pitching 49.5% for the day with a high game of 58% and Duane Gates won his first patch of 2026 winning Class C with an average of 29% and a high game of 42%

We look forward to hosting the 2 tournaments in June and State in August.

Skagit Valley Horseshoe Club



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This is from Curt Lee. My 30 ft practice court. All recycled materials. Wood pitching platform was left over mahogany from Poulsbo boat museum build.



Get Well and Memorials



Vicki's Obituary

Vicki Lee Winston, 86, of La Monte, MO, passed away on Saturday, April 4, 2026, at the Good Shepherd Care Community in Concordia, MO.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 9, 2026, at Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home in Sweet Springs with William W. Harlow officiating. No visitation will be held, and a private burial will be held in Blackwater Chapel Cemetery in rural La Monte. Memorials are suggested to Blackwater Chapel Cemetery, and an online guestbook is available at www.campbell-lewis.com

Vicki was born on June 10, 1939, in Portland, OR, the daughter of the late Cletus and Daisy Chapelle. She grew up in Portland where her father taught her how to pitch horseshoes. She went on to become a 10-time world champion in the Women's Division of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association and was inducted into the National Horseshoe Pitching

Get Well and Memorials

Association and was inducted into the National Horseshoe Pitching Association Hall of Fame in 1970 and the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in 2021. She served in many different capacities and held various office positions as a member of the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association and National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Vicki competed in yearly world tournaments that took her to many states and Washington, D.C. In 1989, she was invited to pitch horseshoes with President George H.W. Bush on the White House lawn.

It was through a shared love of pitching horseshoes that Vicki met Earl Winston. They were married on June 10, 1960, in Portland, OR, and then she moved with Earl to rural LaMonte, MO, where Vicki quickly learned about life on a farm.

Vicki was a member of Blackwater Chapel United Methodist Church until it closed. She then attended LaMonte United Methodist Church and Bethel United Methodist Church. She enjoyed playing the piano and being active with her church families.

Vicki is survived by two sons, Keith Winston (Deb Jantsch) of Desert Hot Springs, CA, and Carl Winston (Amy) of Sweet Springs, MO; and several grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Earl, Vicki was preceded in death by her brother, Barry Chapelle.

For those of you who knew her our thoughts and prayers be with you and with everyone that she touched.

Washington Tournament Results

Event: Wine Trout 5

Player	Shoes	Ringers	Ringer %	Points	Class	Finish	Wins	Losses	Hi Gm %
John Bruhn	240	159	66.25%	477	A	1	5	1	72.50%
Cindy Clausen	240	146	60.83%	438	A	2	4	2	75.00%
Don Davis	240	136	56.67%	408	A	3	2	4	75.00%
Jon Martin	240	123	51.25%	369	A	4	1	5	57.50%
Ron Burt	200	113	56.50%	339	B	1	4	0	66.00%
Ed Ludwig	200	91	45.50%	273	B	2	3	1	52.00%
Derek Young	200	63	31.50%	189	B	3	1.5	2.5	42.00%
Bob Sperber	200	72	36.00%	216	B	4	1	3	46.00%
Bonnie Lewis	200	53	26.50%	159	B	5	0.5	3.5	36.00%
Bill Hadley	200	72	36.00%	216	C	1	4	0	40.00%
Stan Speers	200	42	21.00%	126	C	2	3	1	26.00%
Melissa Palensky	200	52	26.00%	156	C	3	2	2	30.00%
Patrick Donnelly	200	35	17.50%	105	C	4	1	3	26.00%
Fritz Oberst	200	13	6.50%	39	C	5	0	4	16.00%
Gerald Stangland	280	76	27.14%	228	D	1	6	2	35.00%
Dennis Tutewiler	260	73	28.08%	219	D	2	4	3	40.00%
Allan Kettle	260	65	25.00%	195	D	3	4	3	35.00%
Charlie Tapper	240	33	13.75%	99	D	4	0	6	27.50%

Washington Tournament Results

Event: Wine Trout 6

Player	Shoes	Ringers	Ringer %	Points	Class	Finish	Wins	Losses	Hi Gm %
Donald Lindbo	200	130	65.00%	390	EA	1	4	0	72.00%
John Bruhn	200	125	62.50%	375	EA	2	3	1	66.00%
Jon Martin	200	102	51.00%	306	EA	3	1	3	58.00%
Mike Barrett	200	98	49.00%	294	EA	4	1	3	56.00%
Tom Burt	200	93	46.50%	279	EA	5	1	3	52.00%
Ron Burt	200	97	48.50%	291	EB	1	4	0	56.00%
Larry Parsons	200	91	45.50%	273	EB	2	2.5	1.5	50.00%
Bill Hadley	200	78	39.00%	234	EB	3	2.5	1.5	46.00%
Stan Speers	200	56	28.00%	168	EB	4	1	3	32.00%
Fritz Oberst	200	32	16.00%	96	EB	5	0	4	26.00%
Curtis Lee	200	71	35.50%	213	EC	1	5	0	40.00%
Duane Gates	200	52	26.00%	156	EC	2	3.5	1.5	40.00%
Gerald Stangland	200	54	27.00%	162	EC	3	3	2	37.50%
Charlie Tapper	200	45	22.50%	135	EC	4	2	3	25.00%
Patrick Donnelly	200	40	20.00%	120	EC	5	1	4	30.00%
Gary Shinpaugh	200	35	17.50%	105	EC	6	0.5	4.5	20.00%
Jeremiah DeMello	200	74	37.00%	222	JC	1	4	0	48.00%
James DeMello	200	13	6.50%	39	JC	2	2	2	8.00%
Kaden LaCaze	200	2	1.00%	6	JC	3	0	4	2.00%
Don Davis	200	117	58.50%	351	MA	1	4	0	68.00%
Ed Ludwig	200	98	49.00%	294	MA	2	3	1	56.00%
Bob Sperber	200	82	41.00%	246	MA	3	1	3	44.00%
Derek Young	200	74	37.00%	222	MA	4	1	3	44.00%
Rick Bidwell	200	73	36.50%	219	MA	5	1	3	44.00%
Bill Martino	200	63	31.50%	189	MB	1	3.5	0.5	38.00%
John DeMello Jr	200	39	19.50%	117	MB	2	2.5	1.5	26.00%
Dan Green	200	60	30.00%	180	MB	3	2	2	44.00%
Michael Watcher	200	25	12.50%	75	MB	4	1.5	2.5	14.00%
Jeffrey Saunders	200	26	13.00%	78	MB	5	0.5	3.5	14.00%
Laurie Dale	200	86	43.00%	258	W	1	4	0	48.00%
Melissa Palensky	200	67	33.50%	201	W	2	3	1	38.00%
Dawn Clark	200	72	36.00%	216	W	3	2	2	40.00%
Peggy (PJ) Shinpaugh	200	25	12.50%	75	W	4	1	3	14.00%
Kaiti Reeves	200	21	10.50%	63	W	5	0	4	12.00%

2026 Tournament Schedule

Date	Tournament	Location	City	Director	Director Phone	Entry	Sanction #	Check in	Start
17-Jan	Winetrou I	Woodland Park	Seattle	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
17-Jan	Executive Board Meeting	Woodland Park	Seattle	Clausen, Cindy					8:00AM
31-Jan	Winetrou II	Woodland Park	Seattle	Davis, Rhonda	253/831-0111	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
14-Feb	Winetrou III	Woodland Park	Seattle	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
28-Feb	Winetrou IV	Woodland Park	Seattle	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
14-Mar	Winetrou V	Woodland Park	Seattle	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
28-Mar	Winetrou VI	Woodland Park	Seattle	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
4-Apr	Tulip Open	Skagit Riverside Pk	Burlington	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
11-Apr	Columbia Basin Open	Eastgate Park	Kennewick	Magnus, Mindy	509/366-9909	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
18-Apr	Open Date								
25-Apr	Kitsap Open	S. Kitsap Cnty Pk	Prt. Orchard	Lewis, Bonnie	360/876-1055	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
2-May	Open Date								
9-May	Open Date								
16-May	Tri-City Open	Eastgate Park	Kennewick	Magnus, Mindy	509/366-9909	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
18-May	Deadline for World Tournament	Wausau	Wisconsin						
23-May	Rehard Open	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
23-May	Non Sanctioned All American Money Tournament (Following Ed Welch Open with BBQ)	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781				
30-May	Kitsap Open 2	S. Kitsap Cnty Pk	Prt. Orchard	Lewis, Bonnie	360/876-1055	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
6-Jun	Hansen Brothers Memorial	Woodland Park	Seattle	??	??	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
13-Jun	Ed Welch Open	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
20-Jun	Strawberry Open	Skagit Riverside Pk	Burlington	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
21-Jun	Skagit Memorial ***	Skagit Riverside Pk	Burlington	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300	\$20		8:30 AM	9:00 AM
27-Jun	Kitsap Memorial	S. Kitsap Cnty Pk	Prt. Orchard	Lewis, Bonnie	360/876-1055	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
4-Jul	Open Date								
11-Jul	Open Date								
13-Jul	World Tournament Starts	Wausau Wisconsin							
26-Jul	World Tournament Ends	Wausau Wisconsin							
31-Jul	Paid entries for WSHPA Singles must be to WSHPA T.D. Forms on WSHPA.com website			Davis, Rhonda	253/831-0111	\$40			
31-Jul	Cut Off date for State Singles eShoe Entry Percentage								
8-Aug	WSHPA State Singles (Day 1)	Skagit Riverside Pk	Burlington	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300			8:30 AM	9:00 AM
8-Aug	WSHPA Annual Meeting, Auction, & Banquet			Burlington	Davis, Rhonda	253/831-0111			
9-Aug	WSHPA State Singles (Day 2)	Skagit Riverside Pk	Burlington	Clausen, Cindy	206/240-5300			8:30 AM	9:00 AM
15-Aug	Hot August Nights Open	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
22-Aug	Seattle Open	Woodland Park	Seattle	??	??	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
28-Aug	Paid entries for WSHPA Doubles must be to WSHPA T.D. Forms on WSHPA.com website			Davis, Rhonda	253/831-0111	\$20 each			
29-Aug	Lake Fair Open	Yauger Park	Olympia	Tutewillier, Dennis	253/405-5524	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
5-Sep	Kitsap Bracket Tournament	S. Kitsap Cnty Pk	Prt. Orchard	Lewis, Bonnie	360/876-1055	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
6-Sep	State Doubles	S. Kitsap Cnty Pk	Prt. Orchard	Davis, Rhonda	253/831-0111	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
6-Sep	Entries for Pacific Northwest Close at 9:00 PM			Watkins, Russ	503/804-1929				
12-Sep	Pacific Northwest (Day 1)		Oregon City	Watkins, Russ	503/804-1929	\$30		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
12-Sep	PNW Annual Meeting			Oregon City	Watkins, Russ				
13-Sep	Pacific Northwest (Day 2)		Oregon City	Watkins, Russ	503/804-1929			8:30 AM	9:00 AM
19-Sep	South Puget Sound Open	Yauger Park	Olympia	Tutewillier, Dennis	253/405-5524	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
26-Sep	Earl Kettleesson Tournament	Franklin Park	Spokane	Reeves, Kaiti	509/389-7781	\$20		9:30 AM	10:00 AM
	Entry Deadline is 9:00 PM Thursday before tournament unless posted otherwise above.								
	*** Tournaments have \$250 Added Prize Money								



This is the latest Inventory list.

Item	Quantity	Price Each
Bronco Thoroughbred horseshoe (Blue)	1	<u>\$50.00*</u>
Bronco Pro-Flip horseshoe (Blue)	1	\$50.00*
Stickers: Shoes you'll never outgrow	47	\$1.50 each
Washington State Window Sticker	Many	\$1.50 each
Percentage Books	9	\$4.00
Measuring Tool with abrasive	1	<u>\$11.00</u>
World Ink Pens	Many	\$1.00 each