



# Shoes News

VOLUME 41 ISSUE #5

MAY 2016

Shoes News is the official Publication of the Washington State Horseshoe Pitching Association

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### Commentary: *Jerry Clark*

The weather was cool, sunny, and clear, as we got ready for the official start of the 2016 Horseshoe Pitching Season in Washington State. Given the nice weather, it was a little disappointing to only have 24 pitchers on hand at the Tulip Open at Burlington's Skagit Riverside Park. There were three, 8 person mixed classes ready to go, 40 points or 40 shoes, whichever came first. When the dust had settled by mid-afternoon, the Class A and Tournament Champion was Barry Chapelle of Portland, OR with a 7/0 record and an outstanding 66.17 ringer percentage. Jerry Phillips of Bellingham took Class B with a 5/2 record and 32.01%, while Class C was won by Skagit Club member Ross Scott with a 6/1 record and a 20.38%.

We are now entering into that time of year, when the weather is improving, we have a lot more sunshine, and all of our big horseshoe events for 2016 are all out in front of us. We should be bubbling over with enthusiasm for our great game. Because of all the "down time" I've been experiencing the past couple years, it would be very easy for me to lose some of the fire in my belly, but I'm not going to let that happen. There are a number of persons in horseshoes that I love and respect very much that really

(Continued on page 4)

## Spring Splendor at the Tulip Open



Keith Stull, Glen Heistand, Don Davis, Jon Turnbull, Ron McLaughlin, Barry Chapelle



Gerald Stangland, Darrel Jones, Nick Nicholson and Jerry Phillips

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 ELDERS: RAY POWELL  
 CADET: MICALAH RENSHAW



WOMENS: KAITI REEVES  
 JR BOYS: J.T. MCCARTHY  
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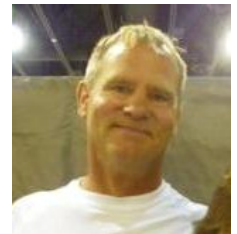




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*Message from  
Dennis*



It was a great kick off to the new season of horseshoes. The Tulip Open is in the books.

Great job and a good tournament. We had great weather and saw a lot of faces that we hadn't seen in awhile.

I personally didn't make it to the Tri City tournament, but heard it went well.

Good job.

The Prez

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One Tenth Page \$40; One Sixth Page \$60; Quarter Page \$80

If Shoes News does not have an ad from your community or your club, the charge for promoting your tournament will be \$10. You can collect smaller amounts from a number of businesses to make up a "composite ad" for your area.

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You can see and download the WSHPA schedule, rules and bylaws, a WSHPA entry form, read Shoes News and see lots of other information on the website. The website is growing.

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# WSHPA News

Shoes News thanks those who contribute articles, pictures, emails, and other items. Your comments, criticism, and input is always welcome. This page is for you to share your thoughts, and concerns of our horseshoe pitching family. . Lets hear from you.



## W.T. ATTENDEES TAKE NOTE

To those who are planning to attend the World Horseshoe Tournament in Montgomery Alabama July 25th to August 6th.

Pitchers that plan to attend the World Tournament, your ringer percentage **cut off is May 13th.**

## Please check your address label



Lately, we have been receiving a few Shoes News back from the postal service for various reasons. I want to ask each and every one of you to please check your address label completely and let me know if there is something that is not correct. I want to get this really cleaned up so we have less returned copies.



## Please remember Brad Zumbuhl

I recently talked with Brad Zumbuhl and he will be starting treatment soon for liver cancer.

Please keep Brad, Cathy and the family in your prayers.

PO Box 43  
Lebam WA 98554

Phyl



## Thoughts and Prayers

### Good News on Larry Getts

Larry has been making great strides in his recovery. He has begun rehabilitation regimens in speech therapy, muscle strengthening, recovering his hand-eye coordination. He will still need more time to completely recover but I am very confident that it will happen.

Thank you for all the prayers in his behalf.  
Lou Jean Getts

### Update on Larry: 4/18/16

Larry has been transferred to St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute for intensive therapy to get him ready to come home. We hope within the next two weeks he will finally be able to do just that.

He would welcome cards from you. The address is:  
St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute  
Larry Getts - Rm 237-2  
711 S. Cowley St.  
Spokane, Wa 99202

Please no phone calls. He has a roommate who needs quiet.

We are grateful for all your prayers and good thoughts.

Thank You,  
Lou Jean



**BC International/Highwayman Open Horseshoe Tournament**— Fellow horseshoe players in Washington: My name is Sam Tomasevic, past President of the BC Horseshoe Association and tournament director for the BC International/Highway Man Open. We will have added money and we will return the entry fees 100%, we do not keep any funds, we rely on our raffle sales and 50/50 draws to cover our expenses. We would love to see players from Washington attend. **Visit our website [www.bchorseshoe.com](http://www.bchorseshoe.com)**

You can view Shoes News online. Go to [wshpa.com](http://wshpa.com) and click on [newsletter](#)



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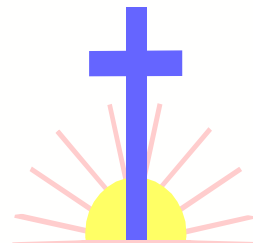
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## Russ Phillips

Pitching

For Jesus



Col: 3:23

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily  
as to the Lord and not unto men

(Continued from page 1)

keep me fired up about the game. Some people who have been involved in our sport for a long time are a real inspiration to all of us. I read an article in last months Ringer Review, OSHPA Newsletter, edited/produced by Robbin Quinn. It was written by Barry Chapelle, reminiscing back over his 50 consecutive Oregon State Tournaments, and soon to be 50 Pacific Northwest Tournaments later this year. At the end of the article Barry said this,

*"My time will soon come when I won't be able to pitch anymore, but I plan to hang on as long as I can. I love the sport itself, and the competition, and the people over the years that I have had the privilege of competing against. I don't care whether I pitch against another Elder pitcher or a 40 footer, I just want to play. I have developed many deep and meaningful friendships with many of you, and continue to make more as I meet new people. That's what keeps me going in this sport."*

*That's what should keep all of us going, Barry. To play a game we love very much, with friends that we love very much, for as long as we are able. At the end of many years, we won't remember the wins and losses very much, but we will definitely remember our friends and all the fabulous memories and experiences we shared with them. The 2016 season is just getting started, let's go out and make some memories.*

#### Single Points:

- ◆ *I know it's early, but so far Oregon is taking us to the woodshed in the race for the Columbia Cup. After two tournaments, Washington trails Oregon 11-2.*
- ◆ *Please report any out of state tournaments that you attend to the Shoes News Editor after you play for the TPOY points.*
- ◆ *I think Russ Phillips is serving notice after the Columbia Basin Open in the Tri-Cities on April 16th. He went 8/0, his opponents scored a combined 24 points in eight games. He also had three skunks, and a percentage of 83.91% and high game of 96.15%. Great pitching, Russ!*
- ◆ *Because of the Odessa Spring Fling and the Kitsap Open being played on the last day of April the results from these two tournaments will be posted in the June Shoes News. We are getting to the time of year when we have to juggle the printing results of some of the tournaments.*
- ◆ *Pitchers, please make a note, there has been a couple of schedule changes. **The Lakefair Open in Olympia that was scheduled for the 9th of July has been changed to the 16th of July.** The 9th of July is now an open date.*

Ninety-nine percent of all lawyers give the rest a bad name.



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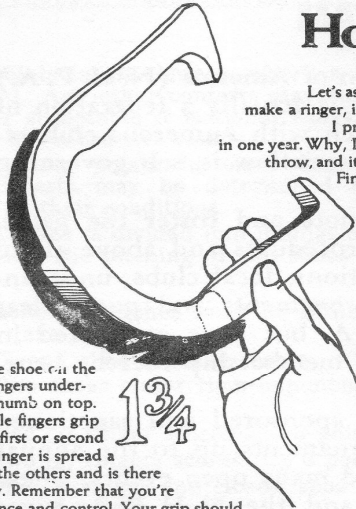
# How to improve your horseshoe game.

By Danny Kuchinski, 1969 World Horseshoe Pitching Champion.

Let's assume you are the average picnic pitcher. You don't really know how to hold or release the shoe. When you make a ringer, it's more a matter of luck than science.

I promise you, if you'll follow these tips and practice a few times a week, you can raise your average by 25% in one year. Why, I've known beginners who got their averages up to 50% within that time. (That means a ringer every other throw, and it will make you the star of most picnics.)

First, get the right horseshoes. Ask for professional shoes, not "picnic shoes." The professional shoe is flatter, has longer hooks at the ends, and most important of all, is better balanced. You can't become an outstanding pitcher with poorly balanced shoes. Now your grip. Many beginners hold the shoe at the back and flip it end over end. You'll never get very far that way.

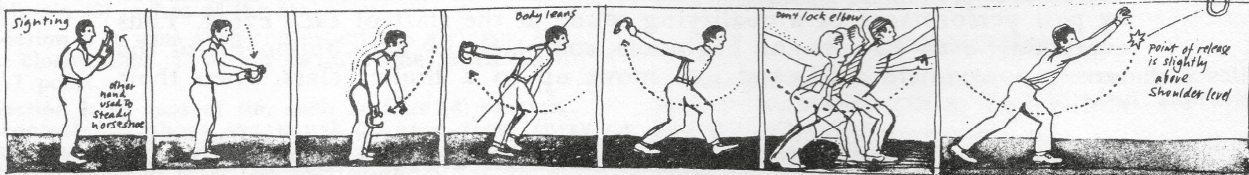
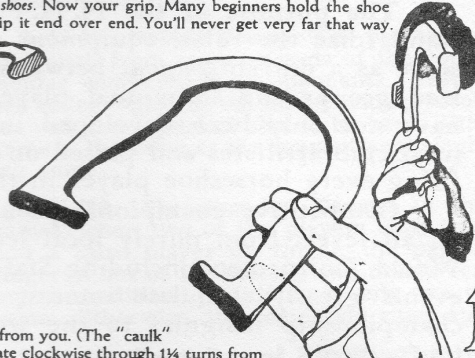
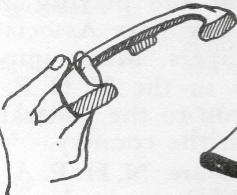


Instead, hold the shoe on the side, with the fingers underneath and the thumb on top. The three middle fingers grip the shoe at the first or second joint; the little finger is spread a little way from the others and is there for balance only. Remember that you're striving for balance and control. Your grip should feel natural—not too tight, not too slack.

You can hold the shoe on either side—with the open end facing toward you or away from you. (The "caulk" at the back of the shoe is always down.) With the open end toward you, the shoe will rotate clockwise through  $1\frac{1}{4}$  turns from the moment of release, before it reaches the stake. With the open end away from you, it will go through either  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $1\frac{1}{4}$  turns.

You have to experiment and find which is best for you. The shoe gets its rotation from the movement of your wrist upward and to the right at the moment of release. To slow down the rotation, grip it a little tighter. (This is all stated for right-handers. Left-handers just reverse things and give the shoe a counterclockwise rotation.)

The first thing you should practice is to get the shoe to "open up." You can worry about hitting the stake after you have mastered that.



To start your pitch, stand at the left of the stake if you are right-handed. This narrows your angle at the far stake and cuts a couple of feet off the distance you have to throw. Stand at a point where one natural stride will take you right up to the foul line.

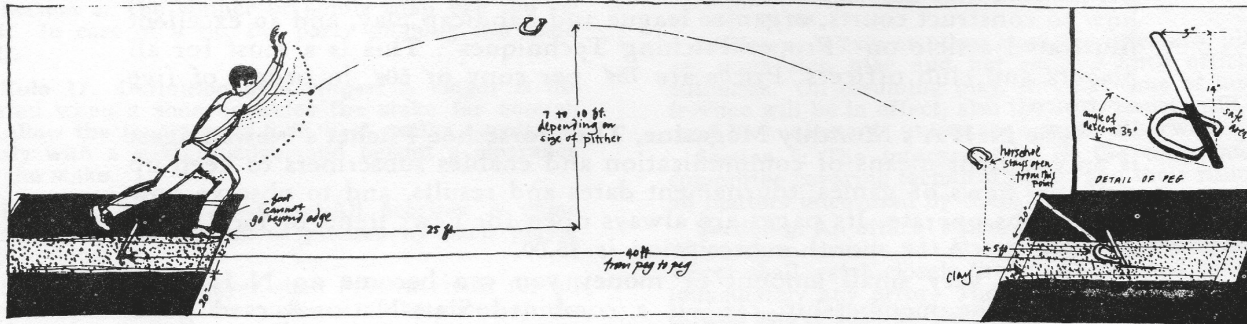
Now sight through or over your shoe. Your goal is to have the open end of your shoe meet the lower half of the stake. Pick a point on the stake and keep your eye on it throughout the pitch. You are standing erect but relaxed. Your feet are parallel, an inch or so apart. You crouch slightly and bring your arm down and back—how far back depends on what feels comfortable. Your arm is straight. No cocked elbows, please. As you bring the shoe forward, you step out with your left foot (for right-handers). You release the shoe at about 30 degrees from the horizontal.

Remember that you are pitching straight ahead, with your whole body. The entire motion is much like bowling. Or think of the way a baseball pitcher throws, with

a fluid, coordinated movement of his whole body. If you've done it all right, the shoe will follow a gentle rainbow curve, rising to a height of 7 to 10 feet some 25 feet out. Five or ten feet from the far stake it should have rotated to the open position. It will come down at about a 30-degree angle to meet the stake, you hope, near ground level. (You aren't trying to skip the shoe in. This won't work at all on clay.)

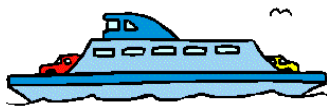
Your keys to better pitching are balance, concentration, and practice. Balance means a balanced shoe, balanced grip, and balanced body. Concentration? I know that if I've got anything else on my mind, my average falls off. When you're out there pitching, forget your job, your wife, everything. Think horseshoes.

As for practice, an hour of pitching three or four times a week can turn you into the best pitcher in the neighborhood. Maybe the best in town. Besides it's fun. Great exercise, great relaxation, and a great personal challenge.



LET'S KEEP IMPROVING

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**001-16-007 / TULIP OPEN / 04/9/2016**

Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Barry Chapelle	7/0	66.17	80.00
Don Davis	6/1	64.93	71.05
Glen Heistand	5/2	53.31	62.50
Lyle Soma	4/3	55.51	77.78
Paul Quam	2/5	41.97	55.00
Ron McLaughlin	2/5	33.09	42.50
Keith Stull	1/6	39.86	47.50
Jon Turnbull	1/6	37.31	50.00

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Jerry Phillips	5/2	32.01	42.50
Gerald Stangland	4.5/2.5	38.49	45.00
Nick Nicholson	4.5/2.5	35.00	47.50
Monty McLaughlin	4/3	38.04	50.00
Mark Bell	4/3	35.71	42.50
Bob Sperber	3.5/3.5	38.93	52.50
Phyllis Quist	1.5/5.5	32.50	40.00
Darrel Jones	1/6	23.19	37.50

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Ross Scott	6/1	20.36	32.50
Jim Quist	4.5/2.5	21.79	32.50
Don Ebey	4/3	24.29	32.50
John Adams	4/3	22.86	35.00
Dennis Tutewiler	3/4	21.79	27.50
Charlie Tapper	3/4	21.07	30.00
Sharon McLaughlin	2.5/4.5	18.93	22.50
Herb Milbourne	1/6	13.57	25.00



Jon Turnbull, Ron McLaughlin



Paul Quam, Lyle Soma



Monty McLaughlin, Jerry Phillips

**001-16-008 / COLUMBIA BASIN OP. / 04/16/2016**

Class A Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Russ Phillips	8/0	83.91	96.15
Don Davis	5/3	57.89	76.32
Earl Hertlein	4/4	48.80	55.26
Paul Quam	3/5	44.06	54.00
Jerry Conklin	0/8	44.38	48.00

Class B Mixed	W/L	T %	HG%
Robert Pederson	6/1	43.51	54.55
Jay Stumpf	5/2	39.14	46.15
Gerald Stangland	4/2	40.53	47.50
Monty McLaughlin	3/3	35.46	40.91
Phyllis Quist	2/4	35.29	50.00
Vic Magnus	2/4	31.38	36.00
Ron Heutink	0/6	21.88	30.00

Class C Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Frank Easterly	5/1	28.08	44.12
Sharon McLaughlin	4/2	22.18	39.47
Charlie Tapper	3/3	23.13	29.17
Gene Wertman	2/4	19.76	27.78
Jim Quist	1/5	16.04	27.27
Phil Ashcraft	0/6	9.77	16.00

Class D Mixed	W/L	T%	HG%
Kathy Wertman	4/0	19.50	26.00
Larry Hines	3/1	5.50	10.00
Bob Hummell	2/2	9.00	12.00
Chris Poe	1/3	7.50	12.00

Junior	W/L	T %	HG%
Devyn Stumpf	6/0	36.36	44.44

Cadet	W/L	T %	HG%
Dakota Blanchard	0/4	3.50	6.00



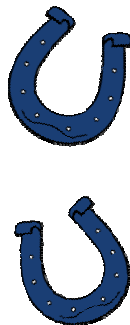
Charlie Tapper, Dennis Tutewiler, Ross Scott, Don Ebey



**The Current Columbia Cup Standings**

	OR	WA
Tulip Open	7	0
Columbia Basin	4	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>

The state of Oregon is off to a good start in the Columbia Cup race in 2016. We Evergreen Staters will need to pick up our game. Good job by everyone so far!



**Odessa Horseshoe Club**

Loren Totusek - President  
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## On the tournament trail with...Gaylord Lund

Gaylord and Kandy Lund have been married for forty-four years and have lived all but one of them in Arlington, WA. They raised three grown sons, Brian, Brock and Brandon. Gaylord was born in Mount Vernon, but lived in a number of communities in the King, Snohomish, and Skagit County areas. He graduated from Meadowdale High School in Lynnwood and after graduating he attended Seattle Central Community College Culinary School on Capital Hill in Seattle. Even after cooking school, Gaylord still spent the great majority of his working career in wood industries. He spent eleven years in sawmills, and twenty-two more working at Northwest Hardwoods.

As for some of Gaylord’s favorite hobbies, they include barbequing, woodworking, coaching, activities with the family, and of course pitching horseshoes. He is a member of the Everett Horseshoe Club.

Like so many of us, his first recollection of horseshoes was at family picnics when he was about 8-10 years of age. His first contact with organized horseshoe pitching was at the 1969 Winetrouts when they were held at Woodland Park in Seattle, where he was pitching a percentage in the teens.

At this period of time, Gaylord was working at Canlis restaurant, a very popular upscale place at the south end of the Aurora Bridge in Seattle. He has now been a member of the WSHPA for about 25 years. His favorite courts to pitch on are Bellingham and Burlington. Gaylord pitches Alan Francis horseshoes, and switches back and forth between the one and three quarter and one and a quarter grips.

Two memorable games of his that came to mind were a very close playoff loss to Art Sperber at the Bellingham International, and one time at the Hermiston Money Tournament in Oregon, when he beat the great Oregon pitcher, Ben Weidrich. He also had fond memories of a time in Bellingham when he was having a terrible game against the Canadian BC Women’s Champion. She skunked him, but he came back the second day to beat her. That was sweet!

Gaylord enjoys the great friendships he has made through his years in the game, they truly are one of the great benefits of pitching horseshoes. In 2001, Gaylord and John Perucca, were the winners of the very first state doubles championships. Gaylord estimates that he has participated in 18 state singles championships and has attended 4 world tournaments with the following results:

1996	Gillette, WY	Mens B2	10 <sup>th</sup> Place	7/8	53.33%
1998	Ainsworth, Neb	Mens C1	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	10.5/4.5	48.79%
2004	Pocatello, ID	Mens A2	9 <sup>th</sup> Place	8/7	51.67%
2005	Bakersfield, CA	Mens B1	5 <sup>th</sup> Place	10/5	49.67%

He has performed very well on the world stage.

Gaylord told me he didn’t go out on very many dates, but took one young lady out to the Italian Spaghetti House and Pizzeria in Lake City. He wasn’t feeling very good that night, in fact he was a little bit sick, and it turns out he had to have his appendix taken out the next day. The young lady must have felt sorry for him, married him and they’ve been married for forty-four years since.

“I think congressmen should wear uniforms, you know, like NASCAR drivers, so we could identify their corporate sponsors.”



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## *A message to our readers....Jerry Clark*

Do you remember in Junior High, when your teacher asked you to write a paper on what you wanted to be when you grew up, or your future career choice? My paper was on being a sports broadcaster or sports writer. To me there was never any doubt what I wanted to be when I got to adulthood. I was involved in sports all through school, with deep interest in all sporting events. I also love statistics and keeping stats and I love baseball box scores. So it was obvious that if I couldn't play sports in to college, I wanted to follow that career path. Part of that career path was to investigate what has to be done, education wise, in order to get gainful employment for a newspaper and what I found out was that you had to take a lot of journalistic courses which, in my estimation, didn't seem related to my career choice and related courses tied to the major didn't hold a lot of interest to me. At that time I was working in a popular Seattle restaurant during my high school days and past high school, so going to college was not extremely appealing to me. I ended up going to Seattle Central Community College Culinary School. As a matter of fact, I was going there at the same time Gaylord Lund was going there and that is where I got to know the big fella. So I kind of followed a career path that wasn't my first love. I only lasted about 10 years in the food industry and at the end of that period of time I was burned out and not knowing what to do next. By this time, Susan and I were married and needing to have a steady income did not lend itself to going to college. I was fortunate to pick up a couple of union warehouse jobs that paid a livable wage and at that point I thought my dreams of being a sports reporter were long gone.



After a working career of 47 years, I got introduced to horseshoe pitching in my late 50s. I was learning what I needed to know to become a proficient pitcher, but I have to admit, I was getting into the game a little bit later than I wanted to. After being involved in the WSHA for about 4 years, Jim Link stepped down in 2013 as Shoes News Editor. I started to get the itch to see if I could handle some type of sports publication, even on a limited basis. Believe me, I knew even this wouldn't be easy. I was not a high tech person and although I thought I could handle the creative side of it, the technical aspects of it, were going to be very difficult. I had a lot of trepidation about whether to take this job on, and I did not have a lot of expertise when it came to horseshoes, although I was learning about it, and had interest in it. I would probably not have taken it on, had not Susan and our daughter, Maureen, kept telling me that I could to it. They told me they would give me the computer assistance that I would need. And that is what probably pushed me over the edge. So, in October 2013 we embarked on becoming the new Shoes News Editor and we had a couple months to figure out what we were trying to do, and then it was off to the races. Had Shoes News been produced more than once a month, we might have been in trouble. Dealing with deadlines, and making sure we had all the dates and information to our readers in enough advance time, took some getting used to. You have to constantly be about a month ahead of schedule to keep the readers informed of everything.

To wrap all this up, a number of weeks ago, I informed Dennis Tutewiler that I have decided to step down as the Shoes News Editor/Publisher due to this battle I am currently waging with cancer. Initially, we thought we could finish out the 2016 season, but my energy level, focus, and time requirements are just not going to be sufficient for me to continue. The past few weeks my strength and energy have been totally sapped and starting on April 12th I will be back on a twelve week round of chemo.

Shoes News has been the fulfillment of a dream of mine, to write about a sport I've been very passionate about, even if it only lasted about 7 or 8 years. I feel I owe it to you, our Shoes News subscribers but mostly to my family to turn my full efforts to my treatments and restoring my health if that is God's will for me. But, I want you all to know that the last two and half years have been a joy and a privilege beyond words.

Thank you very much, *Jerry Clark*

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**Until further notice junior membership dues are paid for by generous donations – please fill out a form, but do not include money for junior memberships**

**Note : If there is more than one adult pitcher in your household, you may subtract \$20 for the duplicate Shoes News subscription. Contact Rhonda if you have any questions.**

(Note : Nat'l dues and insurance \$17, WSHPA dues inc. Shoes News \$30 = Total of \$47. Deduct \$5 if lifetime pitcher.)

# 2016 Tournament Schedule

Entry Deadline is 9:00 pm Thursday prior to the Tournament

- MAY 7 SKIP MEMORIAL, ELKS PARK, YAKIMA .....Jerry Conklin / 509-966-3316
- MAY 8 MONASMITH OPEN, ELKS PARK, YAKIMA .....Jerry Conklin / 509-966-3316
- MAY 21 TRI-CITY OPEN, EASTGATE PARK, KENNEWICK.....Monty McLaughlin / 509-987-4931
- JUNE 4 REHARD OPEN, FRANKLIN PARK, SPOKANE ..... Kaiti Reeves / 509-389-7781
- JUNE 4 EVENING CALCUTTA, FRANKLIN PARK, SPOKANE ..... Kaiti Reeves / 509-389-7781
- JUNE 5 ED WELSCH OPEN, FRANKLIN PARK, SPOKANE ..... Kaiti Reeves / 509-389-7781
- JUNE 11 BOB HANSEN MEMORIAL, WOODLAND PARK, SEATTLE ..... Bob Hassan / 931-210-9796



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