

**INDIANA DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL**  
**HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION**

**BYLAWS**

**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).

SECTION 5: Dues are due and payable January 1 or upon joining, and last until December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

SECTION 6: 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 7: For any of the reasons above, a member may be suspended for one (1) year.

SECTION 8: No member shall be suspended until given a fair hearing before the NHPA/INHPA Executive Council or a Board appointed by the same.

SECTION 9: 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 Committee shall be four (4) members.
- c. The 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. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President
- c. Four (4) area Vice Presidents each representing a geographical area of the state. Northeast, Northwest, Central, and South.
- d. Secretary
- e. Treasurer

### **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 any committees, standing or special, name its chair, change the make up of the committee, fill any vacancies or discharge the committee as is deemed necessary for the good of the organization.
  5. Designate a person to report all sanctioned tournament results promptly in the prescribed format to Natstats, the National Statistics reporting website.
- b. The 1<sup>st</sup> 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, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President in the absence or disability of the President, or the association.

d. The Secretary shall:

1. keep a true record of all proceedings of the meetings of the INHPA.
2. keep a true record of all stats made in INHPA tournaments.
3. make a report as necessary to the NHPA Secretary and remit monies for each card issued during the current quarter.

e. The Treasurer shall:

1. keep records of all monies received and disbursed.
2. pay all bills for routine supplies and all other special purchases that have been approved by the Executive Council.
3. receive and collect dues and other money and other property paid or donated to the INHPA.
4. submit annually a preliminary year-to-date books and records for the current year and a report for the previous fiscal year (October 1 to September 30th), to an INHPA Audit Committee for a year end report at the annual meeting.

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, Treasurer, Northeast and South Vice-Presidents, shall be elected in odd numbered years.
- c. The 1st Vice-President, Secretary, Northwest and Central Vice-Presidents, shall be elected in the even numbered years.
- d. The newly elected officers shall take office thirty (30) days following their elections.

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 remaining members of the INHPA Executive Council.

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, Audit, and Hall of Fame.

## **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

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. 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 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 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 a play-off game. Ties for other places may be settled by play-off, percentage, or who beat whom.

SECTION 6: No championship tournament shall be played in the rain. The Executive Council 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 Executive Council 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: Men, Women and Elder's champions will each be given \$150.00 towards their expenses at the next World Tournament provided they pitch as an INHPA member.

## **ARTICLE IX : ALL 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 NATSTATS website 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 two (2) 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: All registration (entry) and any other fees shall be determined by a majority vote of members at the annual meeting.

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. ELDERS – at least 70 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. 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 8 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 on an amateur basis. Awards presented to a junior should have no immediate monetary value. Trophies, medals, ribbons or such are recommended. Any award with monetary value shall not be issued before the successful completion of high school.

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.

SECTION 14: All pitchers must wear shoes and shirts with their last name on the back of their shirts. 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. have enough scorekeepers for the classes scheduled.
- c. have 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 fifty cents (\$.50) 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 INHPA Secretary will provide up-to-date pitching percentages, round robin cards, score sheets, summary sheets, and patches.

SECTION 3: Statistics (original summary sheets) will be returned to the INHPA Secretary immediately following the tournament.

## **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, minimum of six (6) 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.

### **2019 BYLAWS COMMITTEE:**

Dwight Silvers Chairman

Sharon Chiddister

Harlan McClellan

Date approved: September 8, 2019 Kokomo, IN. INHPA state meeting

## **AMENDMENTS MADE SINCE ADOPTION**