

FORMER KHPA PLAYER- EDDIE HAYNES- SOMERSET, KY.

I thought it might be interesting to write this up as a conversation piece. I think back to Somerset's Eddie Haynes. Eddie pitched in the KHPA from 1999-2005 and right at the end of his horseshoe time he had become one of the top players in Somerset. I met Eddie on the county fair circuit. Eddie would participate in the Russell,



Eddie's pitching form with the 1 ¼ turn just after the 2004 Kentucky State Doubles.

Pulaski, and Wayne Co. fairs, as well as others. Eddie eventually got into the KHPA, along with his good buddy, Ben Dykes. Upon joining the KHPA, he pitched the last two events of 1999. Eddie averaged 41.1% in Millville, winning his class and he averaged 31.2% in the Richmond Open. Eddie averaged 40.5% in the Class C of the 2000 State and he would continue to average in the mid- 30% to low 40% range through the 2001 horseshoe season. Eddie would improve some in 2002 carrying an average of 44.41% at season's end and also captured the State Class C Championship.

2003- EDDIE BREAKS OUT- I was present at the May 17th Somerset Open in 2003 when I witnessed first hand a rarity. When a horseshoe pitcher just instantly appears to turn the corner and "breaks out"! Eddie was pitching in Class B and hit 46, 52 and 44% games in his first three

and then he took off! His next two games were 68% and 72%! The remainder of the 8-man round robin was rained out and Eddie's average was 56.4% for the tourney but from this point forward Eddie would become a 50-57% horseshoe pitcher! In August at the Richmond Open, Eddie averaged 55% with three games in the 60's. Eddie just missed qualifying for the 2003 Class A Men's State. He came in at #1 in Class B at 54.04%. Eddie finished 3rd in Class B from a 3-way playoff and averaged 49.2%. His season ending average for 2003 was 57.1%. Eddie dropped back a bit through the 2004 season, hitting high 40's to low 50's but still riding high after last year's success, he would qualify for the 2004 State A Class as the #4 seed and threw very well, finishing 3rd with 6 wins and 3 losses for 56.6%. Eddie became a



KHPA officer in 2004 and 2005. Eddie came out in May at the Somerset Open and pitched his best tournament at 57.1%. Eddie had appeared to become disinterested in the horseshoe scene and would make one more appearance in 2005 at the August Somerset tourney, where he averaged 53.6%. Just like that, Eddie's tenure in the KHPA was over...at the height of his game. Eddie Haynes has not been to a horseshoe court that I know of in 16 years! So whatever happened to Eddie Haynes???

Eddie's 2004 State RR Card

| Vs | W/L | Score | R | SP | % |
|------------|-----|-------|----|----|-------|
| Blevins | W | 40/23 | 37 | 58 | 63.8% |
| Worley | W | 42/26 | 31 | 52 | 59.6% |
| Garrett | W | 42/35 | 43 | 66 | 65.2% |
| Robinson | W | 43/27 | 31 | 58 | 53.5% |
| Tungate | W | 42/28 | 31 | 50 | 62.0% |
| Taylor | L | 24/40 | 15 | 38 | 39.5% |
| T. Hankins | W | 42/35 | 44 | 72 | 61.1% |
| Mullins | L | 15/41 | 19 | 38 | 50.0% |
| Culver | L | 24/41 | 22 | 50 | 44.0% |