

World Report- Florence 2018

Once again, Kentucky shows the World that we have Some awesome Junior horseshoe pitchers!! Seth O’Nan Was the veteran of the group, winning his Junior Class A Prelim class with a 70% average and an undefeated Record at 9-0. Abby Rose won the Junior B Division at 7-1 and a 51.6% average. Sarah Neagle was 3rd in Junior Class C at 5-2 with a 26.1% average. Jarrett Keith was 5th in Class A with a 55.8% average. All four of these Juniors would advance into the Championship Classes!! In The Boy’s Championship, Seth finished 2nd, going 6-1, with an average of 72.3%. Seth narrowly missed His bid for a second title, losing his final game to champion, Derek Reynolds 36-40. Jarrett Keith finished 5th with a 2-5 record, averaging 59.2%. Abby Rose took champion Cameron Edwards to the wire 37-41, in a battle for the Girl’s Championship. Abby finished 2nd with a 6-1 record for a 45.6% average. Oh so close! Sarah Neagle finished 5th at 2-5 and a 27.7% average. Jarrett, Abby & Sarah were all competing in their first World Tournament. Great job!



Tommy Truesdell brings home a Class win at the World! Tom won the Elder Men’s Class B2 with a win/loss record of 12-3, averaging 59.5%! Tommy’s nest closest competitor was Indiana’s Richard Mills at 11.5-3.5. Congrats to you Tommy! That is a mighty fine achievement and some nice pitching! Find yourself a good spot on the shelf for that trophy!

Karen Meredith placed 3rd in the Women’s Class E Division. Karen finished with a record of 10-5 And an overall average of 50.8%.

Johnnie Jones was 4th in Elder Men’s Class B1. Johnnie was 9-6 with an Average of 60.2%.



Other Kentucky competitors included Jim Luthy who took home A 4th place finish in Elder’s Class B2 going 11-4 and a 61.8% average, John & Frank Irvin, Jim Culver, Randy & Zach Hankins, Jesse & Jason Gentry, Mitch Duncan, Frank Chaney, Omer Howard, Buddy & Laurie Lampkin, Bridget Rose, Wayne & Vicki Belcher and Harold Copher, who reeled in a 4th place finish in Senior Men’s B!

Ben Webb & Dalton Rakestraw competed in in Men's Class A2, with Ben bringing home a 2nd place finish with a record of 12-3, sporting an average Of 62.8%. Dalton was 5th at 9-6 and a 67.7% average. Both would qualify for The 16-man Men's Championship field. In the Championship, Dalton placed 9th At 6-9 with a 64.4% average. Ben placed 14th at 3-12, averaging 60.2%. A nice Achievement to qualify for the Championship in this tough field of competitors. I give a nod to our former Kentucky Champion and Richmond regular, Tyler Howard as he finished 3rd overall in the Men's Championship at 12-3 and a 78.4% average. Tyler was the only man to defeat the great Alan Francis. Tyler scored a 43-28 win over Alan in 102 shoes. Tyler averaged 87.2% in the game.



Revisiting The Past- Culvertown

Back on June 16th, during the Noble/Blacketer tourney, Dale Snellen and I rode just south on 31E to the locale Of the old Culvertown courts. I had wanted to visit this Site for some time and it was interesting to see but sad At the same time. The courts are now quiet and you Could tell that the three courts that were left standing Had seen very little activity in recent years, being weathered and worn and are now a remanent of what once was. During their heydey, Dale stated that there many big tournaments held there, complete with a concession stand selling beer. The Culvertown courts were overseen by Charlie Culver and were on the KHPA Schedule from 1979-1982. I think the photos tell much as to how the times have changed.



For example, the State Tournament of 1979 drew around 125 pitchers and in 2018, we struggle to achieve 100 members and of those, not all will compete in the State

tourney. Last year we had 67 participants at State. In the classic Culvertown photo above, look at the many people standing around waiting to pitch! Back then, horseshoes was the thing to do. It was big! How do we make horseshoes "great again"? I would love to see the tournament output of those bygone days. We need to find a way! Keep pitching them shoes! *(Classic photo provided by Randy Johnson.)*



State Preview 2018: Labor Day Weekend On The Way!

Previewing the Championships for the 2018 State competition. The field is in flux. How will it all shake out?

Men's Division

The picture of the Men's State has been an unclear image since the start of the season. Before the season got underway Charlie Meredith suffered a Lite stroke which has caused A setback in his pitching Efforts. Charlie's horseshoe Future has been unknown but Charlie is determined to make A comeback. Charlie has Returned to pitching in the ECHPA League and will make his tournament debut very soon. Charlie will evaluate his first effort back and see where he is at over the duration of the event. If Charlie is in the State Tourney, he will as always be a major player. You can never count him



out. Next in the running order is Dalton Rakestraw. Dalton moved to Morehead Ky. for 2018 and has pitched a very heavy schedule this season. Dalton pitched very well in the World Horseshoe

Tournament, which has been his best effort this year but he has struggled with consistency overall. At the John Irvin Open earlier this year, Dalton came out on top against, Ben Webb, the Hankins brothers & Robert Taylor to win the 40ft. Class at 61.1%. If this is a measuring stick, Dalton will be a top contender. Next up is Ben Webb. Ben has really put a lot of hard work into his efforts this year. Ben has pitched a heavy schedule and his hard work has

paid off, as he has developed more consistency in his game. Ben has been pretty solid in the low 60's thus far with his best effort at 65.0% in Crossville TN. Ben has made a shoe change as of late, switching to the Alan Francis horseshoe, in hopes that this change will keep more ringers around the



stake. Ben has been pitching way better at his home court of Chalybeate than away from it. If he taps into that mojo at the State, he could be the favorite to win his first title. Next we

have Tony Hankins. Tony may be only mentioned 4th in line which sounds to be slighting his ability but he is by no means a sleeper. Tony has many years of experience to tap into. Tony is still trying to bring his top notch game back to the forefront. Tony has only pitched 6 events in 2018 with a high of 63.1%. Is this the gauge for how Tony will pitch? I say no. Knowing Tony, he will be hard to deal with at the State and he will be well prepared. He also likes the Chalybeate courts and pitches well there. Randy Hankins is 5th in Kentucky rank and has been



pitching much better this season than last. Randy has been consistent in the 50% bracket, with a high of 59% in Bardstown. Randy needs to put a put forth a solid effort come state time. You



have the ability Randy, just believe you can do it! Robert Taylor is 6th and has not yet regained his pitching level from last year but he is working on it.

Robert has had a high tourney of 54.8% this year. The #7 & #8 spots are currently a real battle of contention as John Neagle & Bobby Robinson, normally shoe-ins for Class A, have fell into the clutches of Harold Copher, Stanley Roberts and John Brown. With Bardstown & Chalybeate coming up, it will be interesting to see who can step it up!

Women's Division



Are we down to a two woman show? That remains to be seen but the Women's Division has been on a decline for a few years now. We still have two solid contenders with current champion, Laurie Lampkin and constant state contender,

Karen Meredith. Laurie has had a lot of range in her game this season from a high of 56.7% in May at the Vicki Belcher Open to a low of 35.6% at the Gene Webster in June. Which Laurie will we see at the State Tourney? I look for Laurie to step it a notch for the big event.

The State's number 2 Lady, Karen Meredith Has improved her game This season with a high Of 51.7% and she has Been pretty consistent



Overall. Does she have enough to take her first state title? If Karen can step it up and stay on top of her game, it should be interesting to watch! Who will be the remaining contenders for the 2018 State? It is unclear who will fill out the remainder of the 2018 Field but of those that remain, Bridget Rose would have a real shot to win but at this time it appears Bridget will not be pitching in the State. If Bridget is indeed not interested, then our remaining contenders are Pat Mitchell & Vicki Belcher. Pat

has shown some past potential but has not pitched much in the second half of the season. Pat's high tournament of the year is 29.2% at the Gene Webster. Vicki has fallen off in recent years but is always a gamer with years of experience. Vicki's high tournament of the year is 27.6% at the John Irvin Open. Deronda Lindsey could possibly be a state contender but needs a couple of more events to qualify. We need more players in the Women's Division!!

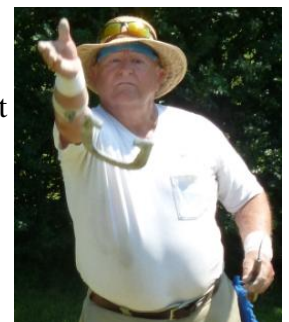
Elder's Division



The Kentucky Elder's Division goes through Bob Hudnall. I think everybody knows each year that Bob is the man you've got to beat. Bob consistently remains on top of the other contenders by carrying the high average all season long. Bob is top dog

but he is not unbeatable as John Irvin proved last year by knocking off Bob for the state title after 86 shoes. Bob has three events on record this season and all have been above the 70% mark. Bob is consistent. If you want to beat him, you have to take the fight to him. Jim Culver has made a very good surge this year. Jim had pitched a heavy 2018

schedule with a tournament high of 77.2% on the very courts he will be pitching on at the state. Jim has pushed his overall average above 70% and will have to stay focused and find a pressure relief valve. If he can do this, he is



in good position to be the next champ. Another strong contender is Waco's Johnnie Jones. To recapture his former glory, Johnnie needs to find state consistency. Johnnie will pitch some awesome

tournaments in the regular season but has taken a dip in the state the last several years. Johnnie has had another awesome season in 2018, pitching four straight over 70% tournaments and just recently had a 79.2% tourney at the Lake Cumberland Open. If Johnnie can find this magic at the state, look out! Last year's champ John Irvin is next up. John has pitched a light schedule this year which is his norm but he hasn't really turned it on this year, only managing some tourney's in the low 60's. John will step up his game at the state I do believe. He is that kind of competitor but can he step it up enough? It will be tough. Charles Browning, who was out of action in last year's state with knee surgery, is next in line. Does Charles have what it takes? One thing about Charles Browning is that no one will try harder to win than him. He is the ultimate competitor. Charles will have a hard time putting together a complete tournament to get the win but mark my words, he will end up making a difference in someone's game. Can you say spoiler? Garry Jackson, Jim Luthy & Tommy Truesdell are other possible contenders but I am uncertain if they will be competing in this year's state. This Division always provides a good battle so get a good seat!

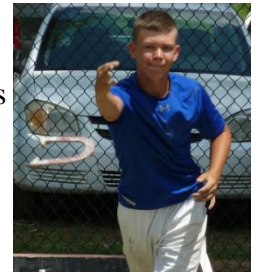


Junior Boy's Division

Seth O'Nan is the Defending State Champion In the Boy's Division. Seth Has maintained his level of Play and made a good run In this year's World Tournament and was the runner-up in the Championship, averaging 72.3%! Seth has been above 70% in each of his tournaments this year and once again will be the favorite to repeat as State



Champion. Seth will have to avoid the post-World deflation to stay solid for the state. Jarrett Keith is the number 2 Junior in the State and has improved his game a bunch this season, Jarrett's high tourney this year is 62.8% in the Steppy Colpitts Memorial in July. Jarrett also made the Championship Class this year in the World and achieved a 5th place finish!



Jarrett & Seth went head-to-head at the World and Seth came out on top 41-20. What will happen at State? Who will be on top of their game? Each Championship Division will be fun to watch this year and I think they'll all be tightly contested!

Junior Girl's Division

Abby Rose has had a solid hold on the Junior Girl's Division for the last two years. We have two really good girls in our State, in Abby & Sarah Neagle. Each year Abby improves and Sarah improves but the gap between the two has remained. Abby had a really good World Tournament taking 2nd place, averaging 45.6%. Sarah Neagle also competed in the World Championship Class averaging 27.7%. Abby's high tourney was 51.6% in the World Prelims and Sarah's high is 33.0% in the Jim Noble Memorial. As long as you have a contested Division, anything can happen. Will Sarah find the improvement needed to make it close? Will Abby be ready? It will be fun to watch these two top contenders go after the State Championship!



Junior Cadet's Division

Kentucky will have a new Class of Cadet pitchers This year with the exception of C.J. Yantis, the veteran. C.J. has had a high tourney Of 5.00% this year. New Cadet's include Kacey Rose, Jayden Keith and Lillie Moody. Kentucky will crown a new Cadet Champion but this Division looks like it could be a toss-up!



Salt & Pepper At Summer Hill



The overall fun tournament Of the year! The team of Billy & Rhoda Followell won 1st place in Class C and show off their choice of salt and pepper shakers! Jarrett Keith & Abby Rose were winners in Class A. The Class B winners were Buddy & Laurie Lampkin. 14 total teams entered the event and 3 Cadets played singles, won by Jayden Keith.

2018 State Logo & T-Shirt



The 2018 State tourney T-shirts this year will be navy blue. If you want to order one, let

Me, Robert, know in the next few days.

ECHPA Spring League



The ECHPA Spring League in Chalybeate finished Up in mid-July and was won by Ben Webb. Ben Averaged 64.7% overall in the league. Charles Browning finished 2nd, 3.5 games back from Ben. Charles averaged 59.9%. Ronnie Adwell finished in the 3rd spot with a 19.3% average. We had 15 participants overall. The ECHPA is now conducting its 12 week Summer League.

Horseshoes In The Movies!



Randy Hankins has been keeping a watchful eye on this topic lately and spotted a brief appearance of kids pitching horseshoes in a street scene from the Clint Eastwood western "For A Few Dollars More" (1965). The kids are tossing real horseshoes at a rather large wooden stake and the appearance occurs at the 31:12 minute mark in the film. Blink and you'll miss it. It is brief! Good eye Randy!

