

From the KHPA History Files: The Harry Henn Memorial Tournament 1970-1978

Profile Of The Harry Henn Memorial



March of 1970 would see the beginning of the Harry Henn Memorial Horseshoe Tournament. This tournament was originated to honor the memory of former Ky. State Champion and horseshoe great Harry Henn. Harry was a former officer of the KHPA during the 1940's, a solid state title contender and State Champion from 1934-36. Harry was also a

Greater-Cincinnati Champion and Northern Kentucky Champion and a master of the $\frac{3}{4}$ flop turn. Harry was the father of 7-time state champion Bill Henn and fellow horseshoe pitchers Cliff and Chick Henn. Harry passed away in March of 1951 at the age of 56.

The Harry Henn Memorial was held each March at the Day-Bell Indoor Horseshoe Courts and Club in Dayton, Ky. The Day-Bell Club was located on Clay Street at the old Wadsworth Watchcase Co. building. The tournament intended to be a big event on the Kentucky Day-Bell winter schedule and draw in some of the country's top pitchers. The tournament was scheduled from 1970-1979. I can find no record of the 1973 & 1978 tournaments and it is my guess that the 1979 tournament would have been cancelled. Don Moore was the man in charge of the Day-Bell site and the owner of the building chose not to renew the club's lease on the building in early March of 1979. The tournament was regularly attended by Harry's sons Bill, Cliff and Chick, fellow state champion and competitor, James "Pop" Johnson and many of Ohio's top pitchers. Listed are the winners from 1970- 1977.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tourney Champion</u>	<u>W/L</u>	<u>Ringer%</u>
1970	"Pop" Johnson-OH	7-0	67.0%
1971	Jim Knisley-OH	7-0	73.9%
1972	Curt Day-IN	7-0	76.6%
1973	<i>No Record</i>		
1974	Donnie Roberts-OH	7-0	76.1%
1975	Bill Henn-KY	7-0	70.2%
1976	Harold Anthony-OH	8-0	73.0%
1977	Carl Young-OH	8-3	67.2%
1978	<i>No Record</i>		

Bill Henn's Win in '75

Bill Henn would win the tournament in 1975 going undefeated. Bill received a real test from Pop Johnson! As reported by Don Moore: "The top game of the afternoon was between Henn & Johnson, Henn defeating Johnson 50-46 in a 94-shoe game. Ken Klugler taking third place defeated Johnson, in Johnson's second loss 51-45, Klugler averaging 70.5% to Johnson's 68.1%. Pop Johnson was 5-2 with a 72.3% average and Ken Klugler was 5-2 at 68.4% overall.

1974 HHM In Depth

On page 2 of this history file, I have an in depth look at the 1974 Harry Henn Memorial with a game by game breakdown of the Class AA, tourney championship. The field was loaded with Champions. This class was attended by four Ohio State Champions; Donnie Roberts, Stan Manker, Paul Focht, & Jim Knisley. Pop Johnson, who moved to Ohio in 1964, was a 4-time Kentucky State Champion & Bill Henn was the reigning Kentucky State Champion. Ohio's Gene Reno was a World Championship contender, & Kentucky's Stan Lovelace was a solid State contender. Of interest note the high shoe totals pitched in this class with the high level of play and 50 point games.

Harry Henn Memorial Class AA

Pos	Name	Seeded	St	Won	Lost	Pts	Rgrs	Sh	R%
1.	Donnie Roberts	#1	OH	7	0	356	419	550	76.18
2.	James "Pop" Johnson	#8	OH	4	3	325	435	590	73.73
3.	Gene Reno	#7	OH	4	3	302	410	570	71.92
4.	Stan Manker	#5	OH	4	3	312	417	584	71.40
5.	Jim Knisley	#2	OH	3	4	290	418	564	74.11
6.	Paul Focht	#3	OH	3	4	293	366	524	69.85
7.	Bill Henn	#4	KY	2	5	276	422	584	72.26
8.	Stan Lovelace	#6	KY	1	6	196	367	546	67.22

1. Donnie Roberts 7-0

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Pop Johnson	52/34	67	84	79.76
Gene Reno	50/27	42	58	72.41
Bill Henn	50/27	62	76	81.58
Stan Manker	50/42	78	100	78.00
Stan Lovelace	52/34	49	70	70.00
Paul Focht	51/35	54	74	72.97
Jim Knisley	51/39	67	88	76.14

	356	419	550	76.18

2. James "Pop" Johnson 4-3

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Donnie Roberts	34/52	60	84	71.43
Stan Lovelace	50/23	65	84	77.38
Jim Knisley	51/37	61	84	72.62
Paul Focht	48/51	51	76	67.10
Stan Manker	51/30	54	74	72.97
Bill Henn	52/22	62	78	79.49
Gene Reno	41/51	82	110	74.54

	325	435	590	73.73

3. Gene Reno 4-3

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Stan Manker	31/51	38	62	61.29
Donnie Roberts	27/50	36	58	62.07
Paul Focht	50/43	56	80	70.00
Bill Henn	51/46	74	96	77.08
Jim Knisley	38/52	68	92	73.91
Stan Lovelace	54/26	54	72	75.00
Pop Johnson	51/41	84	110	76.36

	302	410	570	71.92

4. Stan Manker 4-3

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Gene Reno	51/31	43	62	69.35
Paul Focht	50/39	60	84	71.43
Stan Lovelace	37/52	66	94	70.21
Donnie Roberts	42/50	74	100	74.00
Pop Johnson	30/51	48	74	64.86
Jim Knisley	50/36	59	80	73.75
Bill Henn	52/36	67	90	74.44

	312	417	584	71.40

5. Jim Knisley 3-4

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Paul Focht	55/22	59	72	81.94
Bill Henn	21/51	47	72	65.28
Pop Johnson	37/51	57	84	67.86
Stan Lovelace	50/17	63	76	82.89
Gene Reno	52/38	73	92	79.35
Stan Manker	36/50	55	80	68.75
Donnie Roberts	39/51	64	88	72.73

	290	418	564	74.11

6. Paul Focht 3-4

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Jim Knisley	22/55	49	72	68.05
Stan Manker	39/50	58	84	69.05
Gene Reno	43/50	55	80	68.75
Pop Johnson	51/48	52	76	68.42
Bill Henn	51/43	60	80	75.00
Donnie Roberts	35/51	48	74	64.86
Stan Lovelace	52/17	44	58	75.86

	293	366	524	69.85

7. Bill Henn 2-5

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Stan Lovelace	51/27	71	92	77.17
Jim Knisley	51/21	57	72	79.17
Donnie Roberts	27/50	54	76	71.05
Gene Reno	46/51	70	96	72.92
Paul Focht	43/51	57	80	71.25
Pop Johnson	22/50	53	78	67.95
Stan Manker	36/52	60	90	66.67

	276	422	584	72.26

8. Stan Lovelace 1-6

Opponent	Score	Rgrs	Shs	%
Bill Henn	27/51	63	92	68.48
Pop Johnson	23/50	57	84	67.86
Stan Manker	52/37	70	94	74.47
Jim Knisley	17/50	53	76	69.74
Donnie Roberts	34/52	45	70	64.28
Gene Reno	26/54	45	72	62.50
Paul Focht	17/52	34	58	58.62

	196	367	546	67.22