KHPA CHARTER AND STATE TOURNAMENT TIMELINE

The State Champions from 1923 to 1925 were the winners of a Louisville Club under the direction of E.M. Merchant. The1923 State was held at the State Fairgrounds.

Between 1926-1946, the State Tournament was held under the direction of a set group of elected officers based in Louisville. Primary tournament organizers were E. M. Merchant, E.B. Patterson & T. P. Storey. 1926 was the first year that Kentucky formed a charter under the banner of the NHPA., although around 1938 and a few years prior the KHPA charter was allowed to lapse. The State Tournament in Louisville was primarily held in Central Park, but occasionally was held at Shawnee Park, Iroquis Park & the Kentucky State Fairgrounds. Pitching interest seemed to play out in Louisville during the mid-1940's.

The State Tournament shifted entirely to the Newport/Covington area in 1947. The Championship was officially under the banner of the NHPA. James "Pop" Johnson dominated this era, winning all four State titles held. Officers and key participants were Harry Henn, Charles Eha and Harold McPhearson. The 1949 & 50 tournaments were held at the Shady Shores Courts.

Champions originally listed in the Old Record from the Reno Books, Source unknown.

Horseshoe Pitching was also going strong in the Newport area of Northern Ky. The Newport pitchers were also holding a State Tournament with a recognized State Champion. The results of tournaments from 1933-38 were included in the Old Record/Reno Books as well as printed in The Horseshoe World magazine. With the high possibility that the Louisville Clubs not have an "official charter" during these years, credit and recognition is given to both areas of the State, as being State Champion. The 1937 & 38 tournaments were held at the Riverview Courts.

1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950

Both Clubs, Louisville & Newport joined together in pitching in a joint State Tournament, held in Louisville from 1939-41. It is unclear if Newport players pitched in the State after 1941, as complete class results have never been found.

For the year of 1943, we have no official State Champion listed. World War 2 was in full swing and no newspaper coverage could be found. The only mention of a possible winner is fron the 1943 winter edition of the Horseshoe World magazine, which briefly mentions Robert Cartwright as a "fine champion." It's meaning of winning or simply retaining is undetermined.

From 1951-1963, no State Tournament was held. According to the Old Record/Reno Book, James "Pop" Johnson simply claimed or retained the title. It is unclear as to the reasons for not officially having a tournament other than low interest and participation. Also to note, a key contender and challenger for the title, Mr. Harry Henn, passed away in March of 1951. Mr. Henn was very involved in the organizing of horseshoe activities in this area.

In 1964, James "Pop" Johnson left Kentucky for Ohio. The Ky. contact for 1964 was Otto Curry, based in Louisville, Ky. Info from the "Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest". No information can be found of any tournaments taking place during this year.

For 1965, and possibly 1966, the contacts shifted to the club in Ashland Ky. According to KHPA officials, a State Tournament was held in 1965 and won by Mr. George Fraley. The Ashland secretary was Mr. Arnold Hanners and the President was O.L. Weaver. Info from the "Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest".

1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980

In 1967, Mr. Lavern Hawkins gathered together all of the multiple clubs operating in Kentucky, Covington, Lexington, Frankfort, Louisville, Millville, Ashland, Georgetown and others, re-establishing the Kentucky Charter re-joining the NHPA, which is the KHPA as we known it present day, 2014.

From 1967-the present year of 2006, we have the Modern Era of our horseshoe organization. Our Kentucky charter of the NHPA has been intact and conducting the Kentucky State Tournament and Championships each Labor Day weekend. The tournament site has been rotated amongst many of the finest courts and clubs in the State, including Millville, Georgetown, Richmond, Elizabethtown, Somerset, Mt. Sterling and many others sites and clubs which are either no longer in existance or are not on the KHPA schedule. The Modern Era KHPA is made up of officers elected from the various clubs around the state in our Association.

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1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 -2014

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