

Dan Patch Horseshoe Club

Adult horseshoe club (scoring with handicap/cancellation).

Where: Warren Butler Park -12800 Ottawa Ave., Savage., MN 55378

When: Monday's 6:30pm. (bbq nights come early -announced the week prior).

Sign up/meeting Monday, April 29th 2024, 6:30 PM at park.

Contact: Denise Kleven, E-mail: klevendenise@gmail.com or

Scott Chalmers, E-mail: chalmers789@yahoo.com





Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers' Association invites you to join the great sport of Horseshoe Pitching along with DPHC -The Dan Patch Horseshoe Club.

If you enjoy Summer and are looking for a sport that is fun, affordable, and a personal/team challenge, this is the club for you!

Monday, April 29, 2024 at 6:30 pm DPHC sign up meeting.

All current DPHC members, and interested members are asked to attend.

Mtg. to address:

1. Collect player contact information: Name, Phone, Email,
2. Sanction/Member No. (current 2024) -This is not required.
3. Collect DPHC fee: \$35.00
4. Sub list/ Bi-Wk-Information/Sanction/Member info.
5. Establish an average (throw 150 shoes max/100 shoes min). This will establish an average/handicap for "new" players only. This average will determine team placement for the season (2024). Current DPHC member's previous years' average/handicap may be used for team placement or current NATSTAT found on NHPA Eshoe.
6. Answer **any** questions pertaining to the Club, being a sanctioned member, team information, how to score, BBQ dates, etc.

If you will not be able to attend this meeting: [please contact klevendenise@gmail.com](mailto:klevendenise@gmail.com)

To become a NHPA member/sanctioned:

Visit www.nhpa-eshoe.com or [Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers Association - Membership signup \(minnesotahorseshoes.com\)](http://Minnesota Gopher State Horseshoe Pitchers Association - Membership signup (minnesotahorseshoes.com))

Being sanctioned gives you access to tournament play outside of DPHC. **Any inquiry/questions regarding tournament play and entry requirements will be addressed on Monday league nights.**

(Sanctioned) Membership dues are: \$25.00 for state membership and \$25.00 for (National) NHPA membership www.nhpa-eshoe.com

(Sanctioned) fees are \$50.00 per member.

\$35.00 Club fee includes: End of the season trophies & \$\$ pay-outs for the DPHC 2024 team champs and end of season DPHC tournament \$\$ payouts. Rookie of the year award, BBQ nights, (prior to that evening league play).

Sanctioned -Individual Member fees include: \$50.00 (State & NHPA fee), Ringer Digest (digital) -the official publication of the MGSHPA.

Handicap percentage: Current members maintain prior year end percentage or current NATSTAT. New members handicap will be determined in first week of the season.

Handicapping is used to make competition fair.

On May 6, 2024 teams will be posted. The duration of the season will depend on how many teams there are. We will not play on Monday's that are near or on a holiday.

BE COMPETITIVE - Even as a Beginner

One of the draws to the game of horseshoes is the opportunity for all players to be competitive - including beginners. Most summer leagues and some tournaments use handicap as a means of evening the playing field. This mathematical equation allows players who generally average less ringers (or shoes around the stake) than their opponent to begin the game with more points. It also creates more challenging matches for those players who have a knack for winning.

MGSHPA TOURNAMENTS

The MGSHPA has over 30 advertised open tournaments held throughout the year. Some are held indoors during the winter, but most are held outdoors from April through September. Our clubs also conduct "club only" tournaments as qualifying events for our state tournament and for world tournaments. The tournament schedule is advertised in the *Ringer Digest*, an online magazine about Minnesota horseshoe activities published six times per year.

Frequently asked questions

How do you play horseshoes?

Horseshoes is a (traditionally outdoor) game played between two people/opponents. Horseshoe players may also be referred to as "pitchers".

During the game, both players stand at one end of the horseshoe court. Each side of the court has a "pit" filled with clay (or sometimes sand) with a metal stake sticking up out of the pit at a slight angle. The first player tosses (or "pitches") two horseshoes underhand at the opposite side of the court, followed by the second player. The goal is to pitch each horseshoe either around the stake (this is called a ringer and is worth 3 points) or close enough to the stake to be considered a "close shoe" (worth 1 point). After each player has pitched their shoes, the players will walk to the other side of the court, retrieve their shoes, tally any points earned and pitch the shoes back to the other side of the court. This continues (traditionally) until 40 shoes have been pitched by each player.

The game is scored through a cancellation process where ringers cancel points earned by the other player and ringers also cancel ringers scored by the other player. Only one player may earn points for each set of shoes thrown. At the end of the game, the player with the most points is declared the winner.

The game can also be played between four people (during doubles play). Occasionally team tournaments may involve even more players who work together as a single team.

When does the horseshoe season start?

Most clubs start their spring/summer horseshoe season the first or second week in May.

Some clubs also have fall and winter seasons which start at various times pending participation and weather.

Are there costs associated with playing horseshoes?

League and Tournament Play Costs

MGSHPA & NHPA membership costs \$50 each year. Additional fees of approx. \$35 may also apply to participate in club/league play each spring/summer. This covers the cost of club/league play.

DPHC offer's trophies, patches for achievement, rookie of the year award and cash payouts. Participation in tournaments (not DPHC end of league tournament) cost additional fees (generally \$30/\$40 tournament). Top players in each class during tournaments receive cash prizes. You must be a sanctioned player to enter into tournament play.

Equipment Costs

The only required equipment is a pair of horseshoes which can be purchased at multiple price points from about \$30 to \$100. Some players may choose to purchase accessories including; a horseshoe box, towel (for removing clay from the horseshoes), pick (to assist in picking up the horseshoes) or a tool (to help measure ringers and close shoes).

How competitive is the sport of horseshoes?

Horseshoes can be as competitive or laid back as a player chooses.

Most clubs use a handicap system of scoring during spring/summer play which allows every player to be competitive no matter their skill and experience level.

Tournaments divide players into "classes" which allows players to pitch against those who are closest to their ability level. Some tournaments use handicap scoring while others do not

Please visit the Dan Patch Horseshoe Club on Facebook for additional information. City of Savage/Parks and Recreation is another good reference.