

California State Tournament Bylaws and Playing Rules (Revised

12/07/2022)

1. The Northern California Horseshoe Pitching Association (NCHPA) and the Southern California Horseshoe Pitching Association (SCHPA) shall work in harmony while sanctioning, sponsoring and staging the California State Tournament. Any changes to these bylaws and playing rules must pass by agreement of both charters. The method used to establish the vote will be as follows. On low impact and/or minor changes, the vote will be the majority vote of the charter officers present at the “state” meeting. On major or controversial changes, the vote will be the majority vote of the delegates at the charter’s annual business meeting. If both charters vote in favor of a proposed change, said change will go into effect on January 1st of the following year unless specified differently in the original motion.
2. To be eligible for the State Tournament a player must:
 - a. Be a member of the State and National Horseshoe Pitching Association.
 - b. Be a resident of the State for a minimum of 60 days.
 - c. Have pitched in three (3) California NHPA sanctioned events per eShoe(nhpa-eshoe.com) as of the entry deadline. (Note: Juniors need only one (1) California sanctioned event).
3. These bylaws and playing rules shall in no way conflict with NHPA bylaws and playing rules. NHPA bylaws and rules govern all bylaws or rules not covered herein.
4. The State Tournament shall be held during the Labor Day weekend unless an alternate date has been agreed upon by both charters. A change must allow sufficient advance notice to let players plan their attendance well beforehand. It shall be the only sanctioned tournament scheduled during this time.
5. The NCHPA shall host the tournament in odd years and the SCHPA shall host the tournament in even years unless both charters approve a change. The host charter shall determine the tournament site.
6. Any State Tournament that is rained out or canceled for any reason shall not be made-up at a later date. If the tournament is called while underway and over one-half of the scheduled games for any group have been completed, the tournament for that group will be official.
7. The Tournament Director/s shall be from the host charter and shall supervise and manage the tournament. The Tournament Committee shall consist of the two charter presidents and the Tournament Director/s who shall agree upon playing format and schedules prior to publication.
8. The interpretation of the Tournament Committee covering technical points and their ruling on matters not covered herein or NHPA bylaws or rules shall be final. Any protest shall be made in writing immediately, if the occasion arises, and presented to the committee.
9. The State Tournament must offer the following divisions: Open Men, Open Women, Elders, Junior Boys, Junior Girls, Cadet Boys and Cadet Girls, (age 12 and under). Senior Men and Senior Women may be offered at the discretion of the Tournament Director. In each division, the highest percentage group shall be the Championship Class. Additional Classes will be formed if courts and time are available.
An effort shall be made to not mix the Open Men and Open Women divisions’ championship classes with other Divisions; however, if mixed division play is needed, no mixed pitching distances are allowed. All other classes may be mixed with other classes at the **discretion of the tournament committee**. Handicaps in classes having a 12% or greater spread **may** be used but a **Division Title must be determined by scratch play. Handicap % used is to be determined by host charter and must not to be less than 66 2/3 or exceed 80%.**
10. The **Adult** Championship Classes shall have a minimum of six (6) pitchers **unless the % spread is considered by the Tournament committee to be excessive for competitive play; the lowest players in the group will be given the option to stay in the group.** The total number of entries and percentage spread shall determine all other class sizes. The host Charter has the option of running qualifying rounds for any contestants.
In all classes below the Championship level that are eligible for money awards, the money should be distributed equally based on the number of entries in the group. When formulating the pitching schedule, every effort shall be made to give all groups the opportunity to pitch two days.
11. In all Adult Championship Classes, the games shall be 40 points. The Junior and Cadet Championship Classes will play games consistent with the skill level of the entrants, to be determined by the tournament committee.
12. Games won and lost shall determine final positions. All first-place ties shall be broken by playoffs and governed by NHPA rules. All other ties shall be broken by percentage. Except handicapped groups where ties for 2nd place will be broken by who beat whom.

13. Adult entry fees shall be \$40.00 and must be paid by the entry deadline date. (Juniors do not pay) These fees shall be sent to the secretary/treasurer of the host charter. There shall be a minimum of two (2) trophies (awards) per each pitching group. The host charter shall provide all awards for the tournament. Monetary awards shall be distributed from entry fees at the discretion of the host charter.
14. All junior pitchers shall be recognized with a State Tournament participation award or trophy. Each charter shall be responsible for having the Juniors Perpetual Trophies present at the State Tournament.
15. The first-place trophies in the Championship Classes shall be larger and more significant than the first-place trophies in open classes. Junior participation awards shall be smaller and less significant than second place awards in any other class.
16. Pitchers' entering averages shall be determined by NHPA's eShoe (nhpa-eshoe.com) sanctioned event history as of the entry deadline.
17. Each contestant shall pay the scorekeeper \$1.00 per game. Judges will be paid by collecting \$1.00 from each contestant at the start of each session, each day of pitching and divided between the judges on duty during that session.
18. All contestants shall be appropriately and completely attired at all times while on the courts. This is to include appropriate footwear. No open-toed shoes are allowed. All contestants must have their name printed on the back of their shirts in a professional manner. Names hand-written with a felt pen on written on a piece of cloth or paper and attached to shirts are not acceptable.
19. The host charter shall furnish nameplates for the scoring devices being used.
20. Host charters may elect to have a handicap tournament in conjunction with the State Tournament with a \$5.00 entry fee. This is optional for the contestants.
21. A stand-by list of late entries may be used to fill in groups at an additional fee of \$10.00, and must comply with original entry rules to be admitted.
22. Host charters must have State entry applications distributed by January 1st and information packages distributed to the guest charter by June 1st.
23. A meeting of State officers of both charters shall be conducted during the State Tournament at a time set by the host charter president.
Charter officers are to send, in writing, to the host charter president, by the entry deadline, any subject they would like discussed at the State officer's meeting. (Snail mail or email is acceptable).
24. Opening ceremonies are to be conducted between shifts near mid-day Saturday. The ceremonies should, at a minimum, honor the Flag, deceased members, any special guests, and charter officers and in general be a dignified presentation.

Date

Joe Summers
President NCHPA

Date

Danny Kyle
President SCHPA