



Robert H Klock

Promoter

Bob Klock or as his wife "Jane" refers to him as "Mr. Horseshoe Man" has been playing and teaching the pure aspects of the fine game of horseshoes since he was first taught the backyard game by his grandfather at the age of twelve.

Bob always had fun playing in the summers with family and friends mostly at reunions and of course taking on all challengers. You know the type, "first one there and last one to leave". He has always had a passion for the game and for sharing his knowledge and always teaching the rules as he understood them.

In 1986, He moved from Syracuse to Spencer and joined the Spencer Horseshoe League, soon became President of the league and was responsible for doubling the membership by running many local tournaments and changing the league from a closed local membership to an Open league.

At this time he also found out about serious horseshoe pitching, as good as he thought his "flip" was, he was only pitching about 12%, so he spent the next spring pitching a 1000 shoes every week-end teaching himself the "turn" shoe and he was at 35% his 2nd year.

Also in 1986 Bob joined a life long lasting friendship with his good friend and doubles partner Ernie Pound. Together they traveled the Southern Tier playing non-sanctioned tournaments in any town they could find tournaments. But they wanted more; they wanted to become New York Sanctioned Horseshoe Pitchers. They finally became sanctioned horseshoe members after meeting Charlie Reigles in 1992 in a place outside of Ithaca at Sebring's annual non-sanction fathers day doubles tournament.

That's when Bob really got real involved with sanctioned pitching and teaching the "REAL RULES". He & Ernie started the Odessa HSC in 1996, they have won many, many doubles tournaments and Bob & Ernie each have won 4 State Titles. Bob also has 20 sanctioned tournament trophies on his piano mantel, starting with his first one in 1993 WON at the "Pits" in Binghamton.

One of Bob's biggest assets to New York State Horseshoes has been his voluntary call to duty to keep the New York Charter together and organization strong as Executive Council member and Charter Officer since 2001 as Secretary/Treasure and also NHPA Regional Director since 2006. He has been relentless in his performance of these duties.

Bob has traveled the east coast since 1992, always carrying a 100 ft tape measure, 2-sets of shoes, 2-stakes, a shovel, a post maul, and a set of rules in the trunk of his car and has stopped in most states from Maine to Florida, setting up a set of pits, teaching all on lookers from 9 to 90 the rules & how to pitch serious horseshoes. What warms his heart most is the smile on their faces when the pitch their first ringer throwing a "turn" shoe. He leaves them with shoes, stakes, rules and a big wink & tells them to practice, practice, and practice. That's why "Jane" refers to Bob as "Mr. Horseshoe Man" and also another reason why along with his service to this organization that we feel he deserves to be a member the New York State Hall of Fame.