



Harlan "Mac" McFann

It is my pleasure to submit the name of Harlan "Mac" McFann, an outstanding promoter of the sport of horseshoes, as a candidate for the NYSHPA Hall of Fame. He has been a principle driving force for horseshoe pitching in Floyd, NY for more than 23 years.

1. He was an organizer of the Floyd Horseshoe Club in 1976.
2. He was one of a few planners, builders and donor of materials for the construction of the 16 Floyd Horseshoe Courts in the Floyd Town park, a facility which is a favorite among horseshoe players throughout the state.
3. Mac planned and laid the concrete blocks for the Floyd Park (Teyanunsoke) Concession Stand.
4. Although he has not been listed as tournament director in any of the five State Championships held at Floyd, nonetheless he was one of the planners and hardest workers in all of them.
5. He also has worked tirelessly in all of the open tournaments held at the Floyd Town Park, an event held annually.
6. He was elected as a recipient of the prestigious Col. Moulten Award in 1985 which is awarded to only one person each year in recognition of outstanding service to the Town of Floyd. Although this award was not specifically for horseshoe promotion, as Mac does many other things for the town as well, his contribution to providing a first class horseshoe pitching facility was certainly part of it.

7. Mac's close association with the Town Leaders has been an asset to the horseshoe program in Floyd as through his liaison with officials many projects have been completed because of Town support to the horseshoe program. A recent example of this is the upgrading of the court lighting system which provides an average of 16 foot candles of light throughout the court area and allows some of the best night-time pitching anywhere.

8. Mac was the founder of the Service Organization named the General Floyd Club. This Club works closely with Floyd Horseshoe Club in promoting community projects for the Youth in the area. While President of this club, he enlisted the help of the Town Officials and constructed a 30 by 60 foot Pavilion at the Town Park for use in events such as horseshoe tournaments.

9. In 1984, Mac not only supplied the heated building but also was largely responsible for the construction of three indoor courts in the rear of his business. Mac's Courts, I believe was the first indoor facility of this type in the State. Since its inception, the courts have been used for five winter leagues each year since they were constructed.

10. Mac has organized and run two indoor tournaments each year since 1985 in which are popular with the Floyd Club and a few nearby clubs. The first was the Turkey Shoot which ran each Thanksgiving for two weekends and in which each participant received at least one thanksgiving turkey plus being eligible for many cash prizes. The second was the Ham Shoot which somewhat similar and held at Easter time in which hams and cash prizes were awarded.

11. Mac provided a meeting room for the winter Floyd Horseshoe Club meetings after which there was almost always a tournament, usually with an unusual twist, which Mac organizes. He also provided a location for making horseshoe supplies available making the only location in the Rome, NY area where Professional Horseshoes can be purchased.

12. In 1993, Mac was honored by being elected as a Life Time Member of the Floyd Horseshoe Club.

13. Mac has promoted inter-club cordiality by inviting other clubs to come to Mac's courts for a friendly competition through a tournament.

14. Although Mac is being nominated as a Promoter, he has also been a very capable Pitcher of as high as 57% ringers and only physical limitations have prevented him from maintaining that level. However, he has taught himself ways to adapt to his limitations and to this day still provides some of the stiffest competition in the club and at State Championships.

15. And finally, Mac promotes horseshoe pitching at every opportunity, not only talking it up but also by providing the means for young and old to take up the sport. Furthermore, he is one of the best sportsmen you will ever meet on the courts, and if you have ever competed against him you know you have played a gentleman.

For these reasons, and many more, it is my privilege to submit the name of Harlan "Mac" Mcfann as a candidate for the New York State Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame.

Rod Pratt