

ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS

- February** Victoria GVHPA Ringer's Only 'Open'
- April** Cloverdale Spring Ringers Only Open
Abbotsford Memorial Open
- May** Burnaby Central Park Spring Open
Salmon Arm Mixed Open
Penticton Mixed Open
Victoria Mixed Open
Victoria Open
B.C. International Highwayman Open
Quesnel Spring Opener
Kamloops Open
Powell River Spring Mixed Open
Cloverdale Memorial Open
- June** Prince George Open
Burnaby Central Park Memorial Open
Dry Creek Port Alberni Open
Winfield Memorial Mixed Open
Vernon Mixed Open
Victoria Memorial Doubles Mixed Open
Quesnel Open
Abbotsford Open
Cloverdale Summer Open
- July** Western Canada Classic
Ladysmith Memorial Mixed Open
Prince George Classic Open
Quesnel Mid Summer Open
Penticton Open
Cloverdale Open
Summerland Annual Open
Burnaby Central Park Northwest Open
World Tournament
- August** Ladysmith Memorial Mixed Open
Canadian Championships
Quesnel Fall Wind-Up Open
Salmon Arm Mixed Open
Cloverdale Summer Ringers Only Open
Victoria GVHPA Open
Victoria Saanich Open
Prince George Closer Open
Island/Powell River Championships
- September** B.C. Championships
Interior / Kootenays / North Championships
Victoria Autumn Classic Mixed Open
Abbotsford Fall Wind-Up Open
B.C. Senior Games
Lower Mainland Championship

**GREATER VICTORIA HORSESHOE
PITCHING ASSOCIATION**

LEAGUE SCHEDULE

**YEAR ROUND
WEDNESDAY AM DROP-IN**

10:00 am - Noon
Lunch served for a Nominal Fee

FALL LEAGUE
Sundays: 10:00 am – Noon
(Oct-Nov) 8 weeks

SPRING LEAGUE
Sundays: 10:00 am – Noon
(Feb-Mar) 8 weeks

SUMMER LEAGUE
Tuesdays &/or Thursdays
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
(Mid April-August) 18 weeks

JUNIOR LEAGUE
(Supervised) Tuesday Evenings
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
(Mid April-August)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY EVENING CRIBBAGE
7-9 pm (Mid September to March)

FRIDAY EVENING DARTS
7-9 pm (TBA)

**Come Check Out Our Popular
'BOOK EXCHANGE'**

***Watch for Bingos, Potlucks, Dances,
Craft & Bake Sales and more...***

**THE GREATER VICTORIA
HORSESHOE PITCHING
ASSOCIATION**



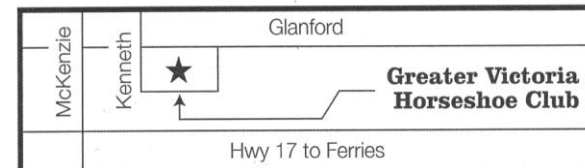
VICTORIA HORSESHOE CLUB

620 Kenneth Street
Victoria, BC V8Z 2B9
Phone: (250) 727-2543

E-mail: info@gvhp.org Website: www.gvhp.org

Mission Statement

Our organization and facilities provide and promote the 'Sport of Horseshoe Pitching' to everyone of all ages together with many other activities. We pride ourselves in providing a safe, friendly and welcoming atmosphere to all.



"There is a place in Horseshoes for everyone regardless of their experience or degree of skill. An inexpensive sport involving a moderate amount of healthy outdoor exercise and an excellent pastime."

COME VISIT or CALL TODAY!

Horseshoes at a glance ...

Horseshoe pitching is a fine old game but contrary to popular belief it still is very much in today's recreational picture despite the changing trends in lifestyles. The physical exercise involved is not of a strenuous nature, but is sufficient and varied enough being gauged at low-cardio.

Horseshoes is essentially an accuracy type game. Those who desire a game requiring a skill and challenging their focus ability, will find horseshoe pitching a fun sport! Played on regulation courts there is almost no element of luck involved and the proficiency requires every bit as much skill, coordination and concentration needed as in golf, bowling, darts or other accuracy sports. It takes real skill to consistently pitch a 2.5 lb horseshoe a distance of 30/40 feet with a proper amount of turn or flip accurately enough to encircle the stake for a ringer. Young, old, male, female, novice or veteran can take part in this sport!

Horseshoe pitching is intended for the enjoyment and benefit of all. Our purpose is to serve the community by offering a first class full facility and organization for the enjoyment and benefit of all who seek membership.

There are almost 1,000 card carrying horseshoe players in the Province of B.C. Our numbers grow each year and is a testimonial to the growth of our sport. Twenty six organized clubs who are affiliated with the BC Horseshoe Association and Horseshoe Canada are active in the Province. As well, we are on the venue of the BC Senior Games. We have Provincial, National and International Tournaments yearly. The Greater Victoria Horseshoe Pitching Association recently hosted the 2016 Canadians at our location at 620 Kenneth Street, Victoria, BC.

Heard on the pits:

“Horseshoes saved my life!”
“I don't know what life would be like without horseshoes!”
“Horseshoes are the best!”
“It's a very humbling game!”
“It's fun and great exercise”

GVHPA ~ History Synopsis

The GVHPA was originally established in 1935. It has been situated in various areas throughout Victoria over the first 25 years (Opal St; Blanshard & Pandora; Beacon Hill Park).

In the 1960's, when the club moved to Hampton Park in Saanich, the membership began to increase dramatically, and at that time we required 6 courts to accommodate our numbers.

In 1970 Saanich required more room for the Little League at Hampton Park and the decision to move us to our current location (620 Kenneth Street) was made.

In the Fall of 1970, we moved sites and members quickly started construction that included a 4 by 6 foot shed for our equipment. On May 2, 1971 we held our opening ceremony on this site. Two days later on May 4th league play started on our 6 covered pitches that included lights to allow night play. In April two of our members, Frank Boon and Ken Scurrah, took a trip to Vancouver wherein founding the BC Horseshoe Association. It is to that Association that a portion of each of our member's dues is allocated.

In 1974 membership grew and the need for 6 additional courts commenced, as did the need for the tool shed. Again our members worked hard to acquire these amenities.

In 1977 a 12 by 16 foot shed from a Quadra Street gas station was obtained. Once again on the backs of dedicated members a concrete slab was poured, the building moved and renovated. The Municipality of Saanich was of great assistance, along with the many hours of volunteer labour enabling costs to be kept to a minimum. In April of 1977 the Ladies club was officially formed although some had been competing in tournaments in prior years. Membership was then approaching 100. Moving into the 1980's, our small clubhouse was inadequately meeting membership needs. Hence, more work commenced.

In 1981 a 30 by 40 foot pre-fab skateboard clubhouse became available from Cedar Hill Recreation Centre for \$20,900. Once again the building was transported to this location and placed on a concrete foundation. Sewer, Hydro and surface drains were installed and the membership set out to renovate the interior. Chairs, tables, fridges and stoves were purchased

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EVERYONE WELCOME

Membership Annual Fee: \$65
Associate Membership Annual Fee: \$35
Juniors FREE (with Parental Consent)

GVHPA ~ History Synopsis Cont'd

and the club undertook the maintenance of the grounds and the clubhouse using their own equipment.

In 1985 another 8 courts were constructed by members. Records indicate that \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year was being spent on improvements aside from construction. Between 1985-1987 much work was done enlarging this site. There were new pitches, with roofs and lighting, underground wiring, sprinkler systems and a new storage shed measuring 390 square feet. This was, once again, on the strengths and skills of our membership (many who were tradesmen). Saanich had contributed \$30,000 in materials and labour; the clubs portion was \$45,000 that had been accumulated over years. With a calculated labour contribution from our volunteer members, it was an estimated total of a \$105,000 endeavour.

In 1997 and 1998 the first phase of the clubhouse expansion was completed. This included a new kitchen, office and bathrooms with showers and tiled floors for all areas. The cost of that project was \$51,000.

Without much rest, the plans for a second stage was in the works. This was to add another 670 square foot seating area. That project started in the Spring of 2003 and was made ready to Host the 2004 Canadian Championships in July.

2006 brought on the roof extensions. The existing 40 foot pit roofs were modified on some courts, to allow coverage at the 30 foot mark. This was to allow shelter from rain, sun and thus giving us the 24 of our 28 courts shelter.

The outside cooking area and shed was constructed in 2008 and 2009 in preparation for Hosting the 2010 Canadian Championships. The overhang and covered extension at the back door was done with club members and the contribution of supplies and some labour from Home Depot as part of their “give back to the community” projects.

Our Memorial Shelter became an idea in 2010 with plans and drawings going back and forth to Saanich. When our final approval came, that project began. Work commenced in Spring of 2011 and was completed in 2012. Many hours of skilled and hard work has gone into the Memorial Shelter and all of the improvements to our site todate.

As you will see, this Club has gone through many alterations but one thing that has stayed the test of time over its 80 plus years of establishment, is the dedication, sense of ownership and pride that is within all of its members. [T.Hawkins]