# CHICAGO <br> POINT 

www.chicagopoint.com

## number 138

| 22nd chicago open |
| :---: |
| EVERYTHING'S JAKE |
| Jake Jacobs captures Chicago Open |
| Fred Kalantari is Masters Champ |

Everything's clicking for Jake Jacobs in 2001. A February win in Pittsburgh, 1st Consolation at the March Midwest Championships, a 12 -match win streak at the Chicago Bar Point Club, and now victory at the Chicago Open and a huge American Backgammon Tour lead. Jake's playing well and rolling well. It's an unbeatable combination.


The 22nd Chicago Open was held over the Memorial Day weekend (25-28 May) at the Wyndham Hotel in Itasca, Illinois. Nevada Backgammon Association director Howard Markowitz organized the event and John Brussel made his successful debut as a director. Although overall attendance was down $18 \%$ from 2000 , the 46 -player Championship division was as tough as ever with Corbett, Goulding, Markowitz, Senkiewicz, and Woolsey in the field.

Jake's win over KG in the semifinals of the double elimination undefeated bracket set up a critical match against fellow Chicagoan Tak Morioka. The winner would need only one victory in his next two matches to claim the title; the loser would go to the one-loss bracket needing five wins in a row to take the top trophy. Jake bested Tak with an exciting double match-point victory to earn his spot in the
catbird seat.
Richard Del Furia, a fine player from Minnesota, was Jake's eventual finals opponent. But Jake is one of the best players in the world. His indisputable skill advantage gave him a tough doubling decision in the fourth game of the 13-point finals:

POS. 1. 13-point Chicago Open finals. Jake Jacobs (White) leads Richard Del Furia (Black), 3 to 1. White on roll holding a 2 -cube. CUBE ACTION(S)?


Leading the race 71-81, Snowie ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ evaluates the position as a marginal recube
and an easy take. (Thanks to Steve Sax for all Snowie ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ data.) Assuming equal competition, Jake made the right play. But does he really want to face a Del Furia recube and risk 8 points on dice alone? In Pos. 1, the opponents' skill differential makes the correctness of the initial recube too close to call.

Jake won the bearoff to take a $7-1$ lead. Let's move to a recube problem from game 8:

POS. 2. Jacobs (White) leads Del Furia (Black), 9-2 to 13. White on roll holding a 2 -cube. CUBE ACTION(S)?

[Continued on page 6]

## MAN ON THE "ROOF, ROOF"



John Meyers (Racine, Wisconsin) sent us this photo of his two dogs, Moose (left) and Zerbert playing backgammon. Moose's 4-cube is obvioulsy a tough one. Zerbert has been sniffing out clues on whether to take or drop for 10 minutes! $\Delta$

## CHICAG <br> POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

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## LETTERS c/o CHICAGO POINT 3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504 Chicago, IL 60659-3155 E-mail: letters@chicagopoint.com

## PROMOTERS SHOULD COMPLETELY BAN SMOKING

Elsewhere in this issue, you will see a memorial to my friend Jan Carlstrom. Jan had been a heavy smoker before he quit 12 years ago. We will never know whether his smoking caused the cancer which was discovered six years later and eventually took his life on May 11 at the age of 56 . Nevertheless, I would like to take this opportunity to suggest most strongly that it is time for us to take the final steps in creating a smoke-free environment at all backgammon events.

In 1990, Bill Davis took the first courageous step by declaring that the Midwest Backgammon Championships would forbid smoking in the main playing room. We were pleasantly surprised to discover that his move-which was quickly emulated by other tournament promoters-did
[Continued on page 3]

## NATIONAL

Jun 8-10 Carolina Invitational, Comfort Suites, Gastonia. NC
Jun 10
Jun 10
Jun 10
Jun 10
Jun 12-17
Jun 16
Jun 21
Jun 21
Jun 24
Jun 24
Jun 24
Jun 27
Jun 28-Jul 1
Jul $1^{*}$
Jul $1^{*}$
Jul 8
Jul 8
Jul 15*
Jul 19*
Jul 19*
Jul $21^{*}$
Jul $22^{*}$
Jul $28^{*}$
Jul 29*
Jul 28-29
Aug 3-5
Aug 4*
Aug $5^{*}$
Aug 9-12
Aug 18-19*
Aug $31-$ Sep 3
Sep 21-23.
Sep 22-23*
Sep 28-30*
Oct 19-21
Nov 2-4
Nov 16-18
Nov 24-25
Nov 28-Dec 1
Jun 10
Jun 16-17*
Jul 5-8
Jul 7-8
Jul 8
Jul 9-15
Jul 16-17
Jul 18-22
Jul 18-22
Jul 27-29
Aug 3-6
Aug 4-5
Aug 18-19*
Aug 18-27
Aug 31-Sep 3
Sep 8-9*
Sep 8-9*
Sep 29-30*
Sep 29-0ct 3
Oct 5-7
Oct 6-8
Oct 6-7*
Oct 11-14*
Oct 13-14*
Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Anyway's Grill, Oakbrook Terrace, IL Backgammon By The Bay Monthly, TGI Friday's, Oakland, CA Greater Columbus Club Monthly, Lucky's Grille, Hilliard, OH
New England Club Playoffs, Holiday Inn, Somerville, MA
8th Worldwide Twin Championships, Treasure Island, Las Vegas, NV Redwood Empire Club Monthly, Embassy Suites, San Rafael, CA Father's Day Open, Triple Crown Sports Bar, Houston, TX Third Thursday Bonus (Georgia Championships), Day's Inn, Flint, MI Ace Point Club Monthly Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY Austin Sunday Bimonthly Tournament, JC's Bar \& Grill, Austin, TX Milwaukee Club Monthly, John Hawks Pub, Milwaukee, WI
Michigan Summer Championships Warm-up, Novi Hilton, Novi, MI
Michigan Summer Championships, Novi Hilton, Novi, MI

Minnesota State Championships, Thunderbird Hotel, Bloomington, MN
Ohio State Championships. Akron Holiday Inn. Akron, OH

## OUTSIDE USA

 13th City of Venice International Tournament, Lido, Venice, Italy Keren Di Bona Memorial, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, EnglandDanish Doubles Championship, Solrød, A.B.C., Denmark

Sjællands Mesterskaber, Roskilde Backgammon Klub, Denmark
Humblebæk Backgammon Klub, Humblebæk, Denmark
8th German Open, Kaiserbrunnen Hotel, Brakel, Germany

MSN Gammonzone Medallion Monthly, via computer G7Medallion(
Offician Official GamesGrid Monthly Tournament, via computer tournaments@cyberarts.com Backgammon By The Bay Monthly, TGI Friday's, Oakland, CA 831/688-9722
Northern Ohio Club Monthly, Thirsty Dog Brewery, Canton, OH 330/966-2811
Greater Columbus Club Monthly, Lucky's Grille, Hilliard, OH 614/771-0981
Third Thursday Bonus Tournament (Indiana Open), Day's Inn, Flint, MI 810/232-9731
Firecracker Classic, Triple Crown Sports Bar, Houston, TX 713/567-1639
Redwood Empire Club Monthly, Embassy Suites, San Rafael, CA 707/824-9715
Milwaukee Club Monthly, John Hawks Pub, Milwaukee, WI 414/962-8549
Georgia Warm-up \& Peach Cup Qualifier, Tony's Grille, Roswell, GA 770/333-1876
Ace Point Club Monthly Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY 212/753-0842
8th Annual Summer Cooker, Steve Hast residence, Pittsburgh, PA 412/823-7500
Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, NY 716/387-0767
Universal Mall Bimonthly Tourney, All the King's Men, Warren, MI 810/558-4790
Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Anyway's Grill, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 773/252-7755
Georgia Championships \& Peach Cup. Hilton Garden Inn, Atlanta, GA 770/333-1876
Summer Sizzler Picnic \& Tourney, Zell's, W. Peoria \& Sly Fox, Lacon, IL 309/674-0557
49th Indiana Open, Sheraton Hotel \& Suites, Indianapolis, IN 317/255-8902
Florida State Championships, Sheraton Suites. Ft. Lauderdale, FL $954 / 564-0340$ Vietor Invitational, Jon Vietor's residence, La Jolla, CA 858/456-3829
Towpath Tournament, Towpath Inn, Turin, NY 716/387-0767 Illinois State Championships, Springfield Hilton Hotel, Springfield, IL $\underline{217 / 528-0117}$ 48th Gammon Associates Invitational, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA 818/901-0464

612/378-1536
330/966-2811
702/893-6025
Toronto Club Monthly, Doghouse Riley's, Toronto, ON, Canada 416/722-9709 POSTPONED: Roma Colosseum Cup, Circolo Le Barbù, Rome, Italy 39333-4809363 3941-5900769 441522-888676 Toronto Club Monthly, Doghouse Riley's, Toronto, ON, Canada 416/722-9709 World Championship, Grand Hotel, Monte Carlo, Monaco USA contact: 954/527-4033 10th Nice Open, Lido Plage, Nice, France 33493-879436 Czech Open III, Corinthia Towers Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic 49911-409505 Master Chouette \& 6th Grand Prix de Lugano, Hotel Eden, Lugano, Switz. 4179-3374425

4755-981544
Backgammon Summer Bash, Cairn Croft Hotel, Niagra Falls, Canada Fax: 661/275-6460
Studio Anne Carlton Trophy, Hilton National, Coventry, England 441522-888676
4556-144282
BG at Mind Sports Olympiad V, Alexandra Palace, London, England 441522-888676
13th European Championship, Hit Casino Park, Nova Gorica, Slovenia 3902-69018168
Roy Hollands Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, England 441522-888676
4546-366012
4520-671995
49521-64314
904/777-8816

813337-33814
441522-888676 431-9715889
4566-177719
7th Japan Open \& 31st Championship, Nakano Sun Plaza, Tokyo, Japan
Sandy Osborne Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, England
4th Austrian Open, Casino Seefeld, Seefeld, Austria
-

## LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]
not lead to a decrease in attendance, but actually caused non-smokers to return to the tournament scene.

It is now time to recognize that we are not doing anyone a favor by allowing players to smoke at our weekly tournaments. I'm happy to say that many players have quit smoking in recent years. While it is clearly not practical to have a separate smoking area at weekly tournaments, the fact of the matter is that nonsmokers clearly outnumber smokers today and have a right to as smoke-free an environment as is possible.

I recognize that many weekly tournaments are played at bars and restaurants that permit smoking. However, that should not prevent promoters from banning smoking during matches or in the immediate
area of the tournament that area is separated from the rest of the bar or restaurant.

I believe such a move will cause many players to return to weekly play; but whether it does or not, it is simply the right thing to do.-John Brussel, Chicago, Illinois

## PAUL'S ERRORS IN

I find it hard to believe that you would print anything written by Paul Weaver. Who really cares about a personal assessment of his errors in the Grand Crystal Beaver event? Maybe Paul, because the article reminds us that he won.

As far as the mistakes that he made, no experts would find anything particularly difficult about making the right plays, IMHO. Not only was I able to choose the right play, but based on his performance under pressure, I could guess which plays he had made.

I think he should have really entitled


## American Backgammon Tour $\star 2001$

Compiled through 28 May 2001 after 4 events (Coming in June \& July: Carolina Invitational, Michigan Summer Champs)

| Jake Jacobs | $\mathbf{5 2 . 8 7}$ | Chris Wilson | 5.60 | Norm Wiggins | 3.22 | Landon Leming | 1.56 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bruce Russell | 24.13 | Keith Kuligowski | 5.20 | Doug Roberts | 0.00 | Matt Armbruster | 1.56 |
| Gyl Savoie | 21.45 | Marianne Gatenby | 5.11 | Mark Tremayne | 3.20 | Roger Hickman | 1.44 |
| Steve Sax | 16.20 | Brian Barber | 5.11 | Bill Keefe | 2.95 | Hunter Jones | 1.44 |
| Richard Del Furia | 15.67 | Dana Nazarian | 4.50 | Ken Lazar | 2.62 | Ali Malik | 1.34 |
| Bob Wachtel | 12.89 | Paul Weaver | 4.44 | Mike Flohr | 2.40 | Ed Buerger | 1.13 |
| Chen Fu Yu | 12.69 | Howard Shapiro | 4.44 | Glenn Ramsey | 2.27 | Bob Courtney | 1.00 |
| James Roston | 11.44 | Richard Munitz | 4.44 | Mark Haley | 2.27 | Suzanne Hayden | 0.83 |
| Dennis Culpepper 10.46 | Tim Mabee | 4.14 | Adam Versaw | 2.27 | Tracy Galloway | 0.82 |  |
| Bob Glass | 10.46 | David Rockwell | 3.90 | Steve Maas | 2.08 | Jay Cordes | 0.78 |
| Glen de Guzman | 6.73 | David Groner | 3.90 | John Meyers | 2.08 | Lynn Marsella | 0.62 |
| Herb Roman | 6.69 | Tom Daniel | 3.59 | Mariano Gonzalez | 1.92 | Jim Zinkhon | 0.62 |
| Eliot Bean | 6.45 | Ron Rogers | 3.56 | Connie Tipton | 1.78 | Dick Nelson | 0.53 |
| Greg Merriman | 6.34 | Tim Carroll | 3.35 | Paul Lombardo | 1.78 | Erik Erland | 0.53 |
| Rob Maier | 6.34 | Bill Minser | 3.35 |  |  |  |  |


|  |  | CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 2001 PLAYER OF THE YEAR |  |  |  | COMPILED THRU 31 MAY |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bob Zavoral | 16.28 | Phyllis Smolinski | 4.72 | David Araiza | 2.40 | Joe Ausmann | 0.88 |
| Jake Jacobs | 10.28 | Don Jayhan | 4.60 | Steve Klesker | 2.16 | Karsten Nielsen | 0.88 |
| Bill Bartholomay | 10.04 | Bill Keefe | 4.48 | Mark Murray | 1.76 | Wayne Weist | 0.80 |
| Brian Barber | 9.04 | J.A. Miller | 4.32 | Paul Lombardo | 1.76 | Brian Leventhal | 0.64 |
| Glenn Martells | 8.24 | Alice Kay | 4.08 | Georgina Flanagan | 1.68 | Paul Friedman | 0.64 |
| Tim Mabee | 8.24 | Scott Richardson | 3.68 | Roger Hickman | 1.60 | Mike Sutton | 0.64 |
| Tim Carroll | 7.76 | Elaine Kehm | 3.60 | John Brussel | 1.36 | Roger Blaine | 0.64 |
| Joe Wollick | 7.68 | Peter Kalba | 3.52 | Don Marek | 1.28 | Brian Kozin | 0.64 |
| Norma Shyer | 6.88 | Bill Davis | 3.04 | Ken Bond | 1.28 | Beverly Becker | 0.64 |
| Carter Mattig | 5.92 | Marc Rosset | 2.96 | Erik Erland | 1.12 | Reginald Porter | 0.56 |
| Herb Roman | 5.60 | Lucky Nelson | 2.88 | Leo Campos | 0.88 | Tom Roberts | 0.48 |
| Bob Steen | 5.60 | Joann Feinstein | 2.80 | Bob Katz | 0.88 | Joe Szwedo | 0.32 |
| Tak Morioka | 5.12 | Mark Ryan | 2.56 | Richard Lloyd | 0.88 | Barbara Levinson | 0.24 |
| Howard Chow | 4.96 | Arline Levy | 2.48 | Wendy Kaplan | 0.88 | Sakura Wells | 0.24 |

JAKE JACOBS parlayed a 12 match winning streak into 5.04 May points and Player of the Month honors. Brian Barber was second with 4.56 points. Bob Zavoral and Alice Kay tied for third with 3.20.
this article, "Look at me! See how few mistakes I made while I was winning a big event. You do remember the Grand Crystal Beaver, dontcha? The one I won last month?" Come on!

Honest, hard working people like Mary Hickey deserve to be spotlighted in the CHICAGO POINT. If you have to print Weaver's stuff, then print "My Boo-Boos in (Fill in the blank), Part IV' on the last page, where it belongs.-Ray Fogerlund, Bakersfield, California
We asked Paul Weaver to submit an article about his Grand Crystal Beaver victory and found it to be very well written. Thanks again to Mr. Weaver for his submission-Ed.

Paul Weaver sets a good example for others by analyzing his errors in a match. His degree of self-effacement in the article was amusing, though clearly Paul is already a strong player, and now I can see the extent of his devotion. Next time I expect him to beat me 11-2 instead of 11-4.Nack Ballard, Richmond, California

Second call for a psychological profile on Paul Weaver re his May 2001 first person error analysis account of his match with Nack Ballard in the Midwest Championships Grand Crystal Beaver. The guy wins Indy last fall and then grabs first in your "field of 16 " and continues to take himself to task mercilessly! I have this overwhelming urge, next time I see him, to walk up to him and say, "Paul, you worthless piece of
!" (Literary license for my "French" on
[Continued on page 4]

to be analyzed by Walter Trice
Tournament double match-point. BLACK TO PLAY 4-1.


## ASK

## WANNA BET?

Dear Danny: I picked up a new partner for the Doubles event at a recent weekend tournament. Basically, we played well together, but still had our share of disagreements:

7 point match. We (Black) lead our opponents (White) 1-0. White doubles. SHOULD BLACK TAKE?


There was something about this position that I just didn't feel comfortable with and although my partner vehemently wanted to take the cube, I forced my decision to drop.

While we were setting up for the next game, our opponents (who were excellent players) sided with my partner claiming that the position was an "easy take" and offering to bet me that Snowie would concur. Although I didn't accept the wager, they did succeed in embarrassing me in front of my partner.

I believe that their actions to "divide and conquer" were inappropriate. Is there anything in the rules of play or etiquette that supports my position? Also, without using Snowie, how do you evaluate my decision to drop?-Feeling Exploited

Dear Explotted: Of course the position isn't "comfortable" for you and your partner. When excellent players (as you say your opponents were) double, it seldom is. They have the four best inside points, you have only a mediocre three point board. Their blockade contains five of six consecutive points, yours only four of five. They own the best anchor, you have a blot subject to attack. I can understand your wanting to pass.

Nonetheless, I concur with your partner and opponents in thinking the cube takable (though I would not call the take "easy"). The advantages your opponents enjoy are substantial but not overwhelming, and your position has a saving grace: you have one man back to their two. If you escape, your modest lead in the race will shift the advantage in the game to you. This puts pressure on your opponents, who will usually hit loose on their 2-point when they can't point on your blot. A return hit won't
devastate your opponents, but it will inconvenience them greatly by sending a third man back. If you are not on the bar at the time, it will be dangerous for your opponents to break anchor, for you'll have three or four hitters poised to attack the blot that remains.

Did your partner cite these or other reasons for wanting to take? Did you say why (other than being "uncomfortable" with the position) you wanted to pass? If so, the disagreement might have been instructive for one of you or both.

I would expect rollout results using Snowie (or JellyFish, another excellent computer program) to confirm my appraisal, but I wouldn't be astounded if they didn't. Your opponents' eagerness to bet on Snowie's "opinion" suggests that their own opinion was sincere. Don't view it as an attempt to "divide and conquer" or as "siding" with your partner against you.

You needn't be embarrassed if you were wrong about the position, nor does anything in your account indicate that anyone was trying to embarrass you. No breach of etiquette occurred. Of course, had you said, "Please, gentlemen, let's stop the post-mortem of the last game and get on with the next," it would have been rude of them to continue.-Yours, Danny $\Delta$

Questions for Danny Kleinman should be addressed to: Ask Danny, clo CHICAGO POINT, 3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155 or send e-mail to: bg@chicagopoint.com

## LETTERS...

[Continued from page 3]
this occasion, please.)-Bruce Russell, Madison, Wisconsin
Paul Weaver responds: Evidently some readers misinterpreted my intentions in last month's article discussing my Grand Crystal Beaver match errors vs. Nack Ballard. By acknowledging my errors, I was not necessarily saying that I played poorly. Nor was I implying, "I played poorly and won, therefore my opponent must have played even worse."

I chose to write about my own errors instead of Nack's because I did not want to appear presumptuous - as if my knowledge of backgammon were greater than his. I assumed that it would be safe to discuss my own mistakes.

The backgammon players who will improve the most are those students who
are willing to seek out their own errors, study them, and learn from them.-Paul Weaver, Birmingham, Alabama

## SOUND GENERAL PRINCIPLE?

Danny Kleinman says "...it is a sound general principle that one should not step into an opponent's cube-turn voluntarily."

Firstly, how could a move be involuntary, unless forced by the rules? Secondly, surely we make every move with the aim of minimizing our opponent's equity, whether or not we provoke a cube turn.Ray Kershaw, London, England

## THIS CLUB'S ON FIRE!

I am interested in entering a Chicago Bar Point Club tournament. What do I need to do to be able to play on Tuesday next week at the Flaming Restaurant on Higgins?Scott Bratcher, Chicago, Illinois
The "Flaming Restaurant"? Bring a fire
hose! Seriously, the name of the restaurant/ banquet hall is "Golden Flame." All you need to do is arrive before 6:00 p.m. and bring the $\$ 10$ entry fee. The membership is free. You will be guaranteed at least two matches for your \$10.-Ed. $\Delta$

Aug. 31-Sep. 3, 2001
Sheraton-Indianapolis Hotel/Suites Indianapolis, Indiana Butch \& Mary Ann Meese meese @worldnet.att.net


## The phantom Ace

by Duane Jensen



It takes little if any skill to win a backgammon tournament. Now before all you former tournament winners band together to tar-and-feather me, let me explain what I mean by "skill."

Take a group of 32 people to a golf course, a basketball court, a bowling alley, and a backgammon tournament. What are the odds that someone in that group will:
a) Make five birdies in a row?
b) Shoot five three-pointers in a row?
c) Bowl five strikes in a row?
d) Win five backgammon matches in a row?

While it's possible that someone in the group may accomplish one of the first three tasks, it's not guaranteed. That's because these activities demand skill, and achievements like $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$, and c are demonstrations of that skill. However, winning five backgammon matches in a row in field of 32 is not a measure of skill. Someone is guaranteed to do it regardless of how well or how poorly he plays. The winner is just a little more skillful or lucky than the other 31 people in that tournament.

The elimination tournament format guarantees that an individual player will win a string of consecutive matches. Some backgammon clubs honor a member who wins 10 or more matches in a row. I received a nice rectangular plaque for winning 15 matches in a row at our club in Minneapolis. This award is my wife's favorite, not because she's impressed with my accomplishment but because the plaque filled a blank spot on the wall where her photographs are hung.

Consider the imaginary town of Shmooville, Ohio which has a very loyal backgammon club. The same 32 players show up each week and all players have identical abilities, so each has an equal chance to win. In a 32 -player, single elimination tournament, what are the odds that someone in the club will win 10 matches in
a row during the year?
The winner of week 1 has a 1 -in-32 chance to win the tournament the second week. If he doesn't win, the winner of week 2 has a 1 -in- 32 chance to win the third week, and so on. Over the span of 52 weeks, the odds that someone will win 10 matches in a row (two consecutive tournaments) is over $80 \%$. The Shmoos in Shmooville enjoy receiving awards, but they realize that the one honoring 10 matches in a row is not a great treasure. It's not a question of will someone win 10 consecutive matches but who will it be. It's not a measure of great skill but merely some statistical fallout.

What if someone won 20 matches in a row in Shmooville. Would that be an expected happening like 10 consecutive wins?

Winning 20 matches (four consecutive tournaments) is much more rare. The odds of winning 20 matches in Shmooville is about 1 -in-700. It does happen in the real world as well. Steve Brown of St. Paul, Minnesota won 21 matches in a row at the Twin Cities Backgammon Club last year and received a nice plaque to put on his wall. Steve is a fine player and I've watched him play for years. The position below is a typical Steve Brown position . .

## Money game. STEVE BROWN (BLACK) TO PLAY 3-2.



Steve has trapped an enemy blot behind his 6-prime (a typical example of Steve's skillful play) and rolls a 3-2 (a typical example of Steve's inability to leap a 3prime). Nobody in backgammon has as much trouble leaping 3-primes as Steve Brown. But he's used to this failing, so it doesn't bother him. Steve studied this position for several minutes before making his play-the correct play. Can you see the best play for 3-2?

The first moves to eliminate are those
that hit. Playing $8 / 3^{*}$ leaves too many blots, and playing $5 / 2,5 / 3^{*}$ leaves a blot and an open 5-point.

Playing $7 / 2$ is constructive in that it builds the 2-point, and playing $9 / 4$ brings four builders into play; but both plays leave a blot. If Steve's opponent hits the blot as he's escaping, he can sit on the cube for many rolls while trying to convert his huge racing lead into a match-winning gammon. It's best to not leave a blot.

This leaves us with four choices:

1) $4 / 1,4 / 2$. This play relies on a passive defense, hoping the 5 -prime will keep the blot contained. Things get scary as soon as the opponent rolls an ace, coming to the edge of the 5-prime. We are under pressure to come up with a really good roll or a really good play. From the rollouts I did, $4 / 1,4 / 2$ is inferior to some of the following plays that position builders in an attacking formation.
2) $9 / 7,9 / 6$. Breaking the back point to bring the attack towards the blot has a touch of purity in it. However, this play leaves us with only three builders on the blot.
3) $8 / 6,8 / 5$. This play gives Black four builders on the blot, and one of our rolls (5-1) doesn't completely escape. For these reasons this play is superior to 9/7, 9/6.
4) $7 / 5,7 / 4$. This is my favorite play. We still have four builders on the blot, and now two White rolls (4-1 and 4-2) don't completely escape. It's unfortunate that my favorite play is one of the worst. In fact, compared to $8 / 6,8 / 5$ you could classify it as a blunder.

Why the big difference between the two plays? The secret rests with Black's blot on the 2-point. If you position the builders correctly, that blot becomes an asset, a "phantom builder." If you play $8 / 6,8 / 5$, the blot on the 2-point becomes another builder, a "phantom ace." The rolls of 6-1, 4-1, 3-1,2-1, and 1-1 hit and make the 2point. My favorite play of $7 / 5,7 / 4$ puts a builder on the 4 -point which duplicates the ace that could have been used to build the 2-point.

Steve Brown knew that his play could determine the outcome of the match. He took his time, sorted through all the choices, tossed out the trashy ones and focused on the two or three best candidates. He played $8 / 6,8 / 5$ picking the best of the choices.-Duane Jensen $\Delta$

## JAKE...

[Continued from page 1]
Although many players would simply cash two points and take their 11-2 lead into the next game, Jake gained over $1 \%$ match equity by correctly rolling on for the gammon. There were more tough decisions for Jacobs along the way:

POS. 3. Jake Jacobs (White) leads Richard Del Furia (Black), 9-2 to 13. White on roll holding a 2 -cube.
SHOULD WHITE REDOUBLE? WHITE TO PLAY 3-2.


Although the gammon is unlikely, losing this game would take a real parlay from hell. (Getting hit alone is near 30-to-1).


Jan Carlstrom (West Mifflin, PA) lost his six-year battle with cancer in Pittsburgh on May 11 at the age of 56 . Jan was born in Sweden and moved to the US in 1969. He was an excellent player who won many tournaments in Pittsburgh, including the first two annual charity events in 1976 and 1977. Jan's expert play and his gentle good humor will be missed by the many who knew him. [Photoprovided by Butch Meese.]

Jake played on, tossing 3-2. Should he simply clear the 6-point and end all worries? Not the Jakester. He correctly took two off reasoning that if Richard next threw a big running number, he could then redouble Richard out without jeopardy.

Del Furia's next roll was 6-2 (played 20/12). When Jacobs rolled 5-1 bearing off and Richard responded with $6 / 1$ hitting, the "parlay from hell" was up and running.

Although Richard eventually attained a near-close-out position, Jake entered from the bar with a timely 5-5 to commence a tight bearoff battle.

Down to the wire with Jacobs on shake, another tough recube decision arose:

POS. 4. Jake Jacobs (White) leads Richard Del Furia (Black), 9-2 to 13. White on roll holding a 2 -cube. CUBE ACTION(S)?


This is "pick 'em." Had Jake been playing Snowie ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ or JellyFish ${ }^{\text {TM }}$, the recube would be mathematically correct. But vs. Del Furia, Jake was right to roll on to this situation:

POS. 5. Jake Jacobs (White) leads Richard Del Furia (Black), 9-2 to 13. White on roll holding a 2 -cube. CUBE ACTION(S)?


Now what do you do? No problem for Jacobs. He crunched the numbers in his
head and determined the recube to be correct by a few percent. Using Snowie ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}}$ match equity numbers, Jake wins the match $91.7 \%$ of the time by not recubing and $94.7 \%$ when he reships. Assuming equal competition, Richard would do fractionally better ( $6.8 \%$ vs. $5.3 \%$ ) by dropping. But Richard wisely accepted the 4-cube, redoubled to 8 and tried to roll double 3 s or better. No dice.

Jake's victory gives him 52.87 points in the 2001 American Backgammon Tour race (a 28 point lead over Bruce Russell of Wisconsin) with a decent chance to eclipse Neil Kazaross's all-time one year record of 72.98 points set in 1994.

The 32-player Master tournament was captured by the always-tough Fred Kalantari (MN). Fresh off a big Amateur Jackpot victory at the Las Vegas Pro-Am, Freddie rallied from a 6-10 deficit in the 11-point finals against Steve Sax (CA) for the win. The double match-point game was highlighted by an interesting problem for Steve:

POS. 6. 11-point Chicago Open Masters finals. Fred Kalantari (White) and Steve Sax (Black) are at 10-10 (DMP). BLACK TO PLAY 4-3.


Not a good position to be in, but Sax maximized his winning potential by playing $22 / 15$, putting pressure on Kalantari's straggler. Fred threw a 6-3 to safe up his outfield blot and was able to bear off without incident.

Although neither Glen de Guzman (KS) nor 2000 BPC Player of the Year Tim Carroll has won an Intermediate tournament, both play very well . . . generally. Check out this interesting position from midway through their 11-point finals:
[Continued on page 9]

## Chicago Bar Point Club 1000-to-1 Club

| Name | Wins in a Row | Date <br> Completed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| David Rubin | 11 | 1 Feb 94 |
| Neil Kazaross | 10 | 8 Feb 94 |
| Phil Simborg | 11 | 5 Apr 94 |
| Frankie Farjood | 11 | 25 Apr 95 |
| Harry Cohn | 11 | 9 May 95 |
| Neil Kazaross | 10 | 19 Sep 95 |
| Neil Kaza | 11 | 12 Dec 95 |
| Herb Roman | 10 | 11 Aug 96 |
| Andy Krenitz | 12 | 5 Nov 96 |
| Neil Kaza | 10 | 23 Dec 96 |
| Wendy Kaplan | 10 | 7 Jan 97 |
| Phil Simborg | 12 | 6 May 97 |
| Phyllis Smolinski | ci 10 | 6 Jan 98 |
| Laila Leonhardt | t 10 | 27 Jan 98 |
| Steve Mellen | 12 | 1 Feb 98 |
| Tak Morioka | 12 | 17 Mar 98 |
| Don Jayhan | 10 | 14 Dec 99 |
| Bill Bartholomay | y 12 | 23 Jan 01 |
| Bill Bartholomay | y 11 | 20 Mar 01 |
| Bob Zavoral | 14 | 3 Apr 01 |
| Jake Jacobs | 12 | 22 May 01 |
| Players listed above have won at least 10 matches in a row in Chicago Bar Point Club competition since 1994. |  |  | Club competition since 1994.

## ILLINOIS ACTION

Tuesday, 6:00 p.м. at Golden Flame, 6417 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago; 773/792-0424. Sunday Bimonthly, 12:00 noon at Anyway's Chicago Grill \& Bar, 5 E. Roosevelt Rd., Oak-

GAMES PEOPLEPLAY:Tourn. Monday, 6:30 Р.m. at Chatham Computers; 8119 S. Cottage Grove, Chicago. Reginald Porter (708/715-2917). Sunday monthly, 11:45 A.M. at Java Oasis; 2240 S. Michigan, Chicago. J.A. Miller (312/719-1245) PUB CLUB: Tourn. Mon., 7:00 p.M. at Danny's Grill and Bar; 345 W. North Ave., Villa Park. Joe Wollick (847/942-2068).
bloomington-normal backgammon club: Tournaments Monday, 6:30 p.M. at Ride The Nine; 503 N . Prospect, Bloomington. Gary Daniels (309/452-3034)
SANGAMON VALLEY BACKGAMMON ASSOC.: Tournaments Wednesday, 6:30p.m. at Brewhaus;617E.Washington, Springfield. Ben Zemaitis (217/483-4028).
WINNETKA BG CLUB: Tournaments Wednesday, 7:00 p.M. at Winnetka Community House; 620 Lincoln, Winnetka. Trudie Chibnik (847/446-0537).
PEORIA BACKGAMMONCLUB:Tourn. Thur., 6:30 р.м. a Peoria Pizza Works; 3921 N. Prospect, Peoria. Ed Zell (309/674-0557),


C ASINO' MUNICIPALE DI VENEZIA

## 13 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ International Backgammon

 Tournament CITY OF VENICE5th - 8th July 2001 Casino Palace, Lido, Venice

## ADDED LIT $15,000,000$

|  | Entry fees (Lit) | Registration (Lit) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Champion | 800,000 | 100,000 |
| Quarter entry | 200,000 |  |
| Intermediate | 320,000 | 80,000 |
| Beginner | 70,000 | 30,000 |
|  |  |  |
| Double Consultation: |  |  |
| Champion |  | 800,000 (per team) |
| Interm. + Begin. | 160,000 (per team) | 100,000 |
|  | 40,000 |  |

I Euro $=1,936.27 \mathrm{Lit}$

- $100 \%$ of all entry fees will be returned.
- Over 40 trophies.
- In the 2000 edition, 221 players from 26 countries took part in the tournament.


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www.backgammon.it/venice2001

Thursday, $5^{\text {th }}$ July
15.00-20.00 Registration
15.00 Jackpot Programme
17.30 Quarter entries
22.00 Warm up (free)
23.30 Superjackpot

## Friday, $6^{\text {th }}$ July

14.30-17.30 Registration Champion
14.30-20.00 Registration Interm. and Beginner
15.00 Double Consultation
18.00 Champion Public Draw
18.30 Champion tournament start
21.00 Intermediate and Beginner Public Draw
22.00 Interm. \& Beginner tournament start

## Saturday, $7^{\text {th }}$ July

14.30 Progressive Consolation
16.00 Tournament continues
23.00 Superjackpot

Sunday, $8^{\text {th }}$ July
13.00 Last Chance
15.00 Finals
19.00 Prize-giving \& cocktail

| last month's position |
| :--- |
| PROBLEM \#272 |
| ANALYZED $\quad$ by Kit Woolsey |

Money game. BLACK TO PLAY 6-5.


What kind of a roll is this? So many good numbers to make the 4-point, some of which hit White's blot on the 5 point as well. We probably gave a fleeting
thought to sending over a speculative cube. And we rolled this thing!

Occasionally this will happen: you roll a number which just doesn't compute. At first there don't even appear to be any candidates! But we can't just sit there. We have to find some way to play the roll. So, let's see what we have.

One obvious try is the good old lover's leap, 24/13. Thematically this isn't bad. Black is ahead in the race and has no spares on the midpoint, so this play does put checkers in the right places. But tactically it looks just awful. We were supposed to have had the initiative. Playing 24/13 gives the initiative back to White. White almost can't fail to do something good if she enters, with $3 \mathrm{~s}, 4 \mathrm{~s}$, and 6 s to hit, and 5 s to make the golden point. Then where will we be? There just has to be something better.

All other reasonable candidates involve hitting something. But what? The natural blot to hit is the blot on the 5 -point. 24/18, $6 / 1 *$ doesn't seem nearly as productive. If White doesn't roll a 4 or a 5 to hit back, we will have good possibilities to make an instant board. Unfortunately, we still have to play the other part of the roll, and that is
ugly. 13/8, 11/5* gives up the midpoint and piles a fifth checker on the 8-point. 11/5*, $8 / 3$ is super-pure, but too likely to wind up with a bunch of checkers back.

There is one possibility left, and we all know what it is. The grandaddy of banana plays: double-hitting in the inner board and leaving three inner board blots for White to shoot at. Is this at all reasonable? Yes, it is! The key is that while White is shooting at three blots, she also will have three men on the bar. White is a favorite to hit one of the blots, but she is not a favorite to hit two of them. Unless White rolls doubles, she will have at least one checker on the bar after her roll. The bottom line is that Black will be a favorite to make at least one good inner board point before the dust settles. If White should happen not to hit any of the blots, Black's board will come together very quickly. It might seem surprising, but $11 / 5^{*}, 6 / 1^{*}$ is actually a standout play.

When you have a seemingly impossible choice of ugly plays, it is often right to look for the play which maximizes your chances of seizing the initiative if things go well. The double hit may look crazy, but upon reflection it is a very sound play.-Kit Woolsey $\Delta$

-Atlanta Open Doubles/Singles (Roswell, GA; 31 Mar.)... DOUBLES: 1-Don Faix (NC)/Jeb Horton (NC), 2-Dave Cardwell/Steve Kovach. OPEN: 1-Stuart Thomson, 2-Larry Taylor.

- Armbruster's Friday the 13th Bash (Los Angeles, Ca; 13 Apr.)... DOUBLES (7): 1-Ray Fogerlund \& Marilyn Johnson, 2-Carla \& Patrick Gibson. BLACK CAT TOSS: 1-Marilyn Johnson.
- Houston Tax Refund Classic (Houston, TX; 19 Apr.)... OPEN (20): 1-Tom Wright, 2DerrickCrisp; 1C-Rod Sprouse, 2C-Bob Mann.
-Redwood Empire Saturday Monthly (San Rafael, CA; 21 Apr.)... OPEN (10): 1-C.D. Nordlinger, 2-Kit Woolsey, 3-Nack Ballard.
-Milwaukee Sunday Monthly (Milwaukee, WI; 22 Apr.)... OPEN (9): 1/2-Bob Holyon / Rudy Langenbach; 1C-Tony Burback.
-NEBC Sunday Monthly (Somerville, MA; 22 Apr.)... OPEN (18): 1-Herb Gurland, 2-Bill Robertie, 3/4-Ed Abou-Zeid / Mark Damish; 1C-John Leonard, 2C-Ed Ahola.
-12th Carlsberg Cup Finale (Copenhagen, Denmark; 28 Apr.)... MAIN (227): 1-Peter Holm Stampe, 2-Jesper Jensen, 3-Lars Brich,

4-Daniel levy; 1C-kasper Nagel Nielsen, 2CSøren Hanghøj, 2C-Brian Ullitz, 4C-Thomas Myhr; 1LC-Per L. Ron Rasmussen, 2LCBernhard Nordentoft.
-7th EBN Backgammon \& Gin Rummy Tournament (San Roque, Spain, 1-6 May)... CHAMPIONSHIP (64): 1-Rageb Shadallah (USA), 2-Mike Svobodny (USA), 3/4-Paul Magriel (USA) / Peter Jes Thomsen (Denmark); 1C-Carsten Joh (Germany), 2 C-Tobias Christensen (Denmark), 3C/4C-Ronald Reinhardt (Germany) / Gyl Savoie (Canada); 1LC-Torben Hasseriis (Denmark), 2LCFrançois Tardieu (France). INTERMEDIATE (18): 1-Peter Winkler (Austria), 2-Walter Jarc (Canada/Spain), 3/4-Christian Zenkner (Germany) / Anatoly Machulsky (Russia); 1CHans Dannert (Germany), 2C-Luis Rico Ruiz (Finland/Spain); 1LC-MikhailSteingardt (Germany), 2LC-Henning Frick (Germany). NOVICE (8): 1-Gay Roberts (England), 2-Peter Fonkert (Holland); 1 C -Elana Lastochkina (Russia), 2C-Yuri Piskov (Russia). \$1,000 SUPER JACKPOT (16): 1-Mads Andersen (Denmark), 2-Dennis Jersov (Lithuania). PARTOUCHE KICKOFF (128): 1-Tobias Hellwag (Germany), 2-Konstatine Puskov (Russia). GIN RUMMY (64): 1-Paul Martin (England), 2-Dario De Toffoli (Italy) -\$755. TEAM TOURNAMENT (8): 1-Riskin/Pryadkin/Nepomniachichi, 2Humke/Meyburg/Shadallah.
-County Cups Trophy (Coventry, England; 5-

6 May)... OPEN (64): 1-Dod Davies, 2-Mike Butterfield, 3/4-John Clark/ Bob Young. FRIDAY KNOCKOUT (12): 1-Brian Lever, 2-John Renicks. DOUBLES (15): 1-Daddy \& I, 2Yorkshire Puddings.
-Games People Play Sunday (Chicago, IL; 6 May)... OPEN (16): 1-J. A. Miller, 2-Bob Zavoral, 3/4-Phil Simborg / Roger Hickman. -1st City of Jesolo (Venice, Italy; 18-20 May)... CHAMPIONSHIP (42): 1-Guido Flamigni, 2-Francesco Mauri, 3/4-Luciano Rubbi / Roland Reinhardt (GER); 1CGianfranco Franceschetti, 2C-Fabio Cultrera. INTERMEDIATE (31): 1-Ennio Gioppato, 2Giuliano Riavez, 3/4-Francesco Balsamo / Mauro Da Lio; 1C-Dario Baso, 2C-Gianni Baldo. TEAMTOURNAMENT (15): 1-I Piccioni (Reinhardt, Körner, Shevach-Germany), 2Gli Sfigati (Da Lio, Gioppato, Di Natale). DOUBLES (15): 1-Alfonso Sara \& Carlo Facchetti, 2-Franca Boscari \& Lorenzo Laganá. CASA BIANCA AL MARE TROPHY (18): 1Andrea de Zandonati, 2-Carlo Facchetti.

- NEBC Sunday Monthly (Somerville, MA; 20 May)... OPEN (22): 1-Joe Moore, 2-Ed Ahola, 3/4-Marty Storer / Ed Abou-Zeid; 1C-Herb Gurland, 2C-Mark Damish.
-Ace Point Monthly (New York, NY; 27 May).. OPEN (15): 1-Antoinette-Marie Williams; 1CBoris Golobov. INTERMEDIATE (11): 1-1st Eydie Nobel; 1C/2C-Theodore Kirit / Simon Baker (UK). NOVICE (2): 1-Elan Elghanian. $\Delta$


## JAKE...

[Continued from page 6]
POS. 7. 11-point Chicago Open Intermediate finals. Glen de Guzman (Black) leads Tim Carroll (White), 5 to 4. Black on roll. CUBE ACTION(S)?

Carroll (4)

de Guzman (5)
Of course if Glen rolls an immediate 6, the drop is a slam-dunk. But 6 s don't grow on trees. There's a $57 \%$ chance that de Guzman will be forced to break his board before escaping. According to Snowie ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}}$, the recube hurts Glen's match-winning chances by nearly $2 \%$. But it's a great double if he thinks there's a $25 \%$ chance that Tim might drop, which is exactly what happened!


It's all in the wrist for Glen de Guzman as he "shakes up" opponent Tim Carroll in the Intermediate finals.

Perhaps Tim was overly fearful of losing a doubled gammon. Given the timing of the position, it's not that easy for de Guzman to pick up a second checker. And even if he does, the gammon is still a toss-up. Passing the 4 -cube cost Tim over

6\% match equity and justified Glen's aggressive 4-cube.


FredKalantari rolling to victoryover Steve Sax in the 32-player Masters.


Doubleschamps TakMorioka \& Joe Wollick.
Howard Markowitz announced that longtime partner Joann Feinstein will be returning as co-director of next year's Chicago Open. There will be a new hotel location (probably in Oakbrook) and a return to the popular continuous play format for the Intermediates. That will no doubt increase participation in Chicagoland's longestrunning major event. Complete results. $\Delta$

| 22nd CHICAGO OPEN |
| :--- |
| CHAMPIONSHIP (46): 1-Jake Jacobs |
| (IL), 2-Richard Del Furia (MN), 3-Doug |
| Roberts (MA); 1C-Bruce Russell (WI), |
| 2C-Tim Mabee IL). |
| INERMEDIATE (32): 1-Glen de Guzman |
| (KS), 2-Tim Carroll (ILL), 3-Ed Buerger |
| (IL); 1C-Bill Minser (WI), 2C-Hunter |
| Jones (MD). |
| BEGINNER (11): 1-Mariano Gonzalez |
| (IL), 2-Suzanne Hayden (AZ). MASTERS |
| JACKPOT (16): 1-Fred Kalantari (MN), 2- |
| Steve Sax (CA). |
| DOUBLES (16): 1-Tak Morioka \& Joe |
| Wollick (ILL), 2-Fred Kalantari \& Steve |
| Brown (MN). |
| BLITZ: 1-Steve Brown (MN). |
| 2-POINT MINI-MATCH: 1-Stan James (KY) |

## AMALGAMATION

Visiting the Bar Point Club in May: Nathan Jackson (NY), Karsten Nielsen (Denmark)... New for Palm OS computers, SlapGammon ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}}$ is the ultimate handheld game program software with move analysis and export to JellyFish and Snowie options. Find more info at www.nekosoftware.com/sg
. Also new on the net: "Quingo," a new multi-player interface for backgammon online gambling. Check out the action at: www.quingo.com/backgammon_info... Backgammon master Bill Robertie (MA) is scheduled to conduct a seminar at the upcoming Indiana Open (31 Aug.-3 Sep. in Indianapolis). Contact HBC directors Butch \& Mary Ann Meese at 317/2558902 for more info... Special congrats to Ed Buerger (IL) who finished third at the Chicago Open. Earlier in the month, Ed has quadruple heart bypass surgery... We wish Chicagoan Gary Kay (garykay@ ameritech.net) a speedy recovery. He's on the mend following seven heart attacks while vacationing in St. Louis... Linc Bedell (NH) appears to have taken control of his life. He's lost 60+ pounds and stopped smoking in the same year... Texas to Florida: Christopher Stanford.. Watch for Jeremy Bagai's (PA) new book Classic Backgammon Revisited to be reviewed by Danny Kleinman (CA) next month in the POINT. The book utilizes Snowie ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ to flush out the biggest errors found in five classic backgammon books by Magriel, Jacoby, Dwek, Cooke and Robertie. The purpose is to understand why and how the authors went wrong... Good luck to Cliff Mayoh (IL) who will have hip replacement later this month at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. Cliff expects to be back cooking up steaks at Ed $\&$ Lisa Zell's house for the Peoria Club Summer Sizzler party/tournament 18-19 August. For details, call Ed at 309/674-0557... Location changes in Texas. The Dallas Backgammon League is now playing Wednesday evenings at Denny's Restaurant in Addison (Tom Wheeler-972/4843038). The Austin Backgammon Association now meets Monday evenings and Sunday bimonthly at JC's Bar \& Grill in Austin (Jackie Seiders-Smart-512/2618518)... Belated congratulations to WBF director Marco Fornasir (Italy) and wife Anita on the 24 March birth of Santiago Sergio Fornasir... Finally, The Good Luck Book says that if you rub a pair of dice on a red-headed person, it will bring good luck. (To you, not them.) $\Delta$


# 13 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ European Backgammon Championship $11^{1 /}$ Mitteleuropa Backgammon - and Black-jack Tournament 

# HIT Casinò Park of Nova Gorica (Slovenia) 

Friday August $31^{\text {tt }}$ - Sunday September $2^{\text {nd }}, 2001$

supported by the Ministry of Economy - Represented by State Undersecretary for Tourism and valid for the official title of WBF European Championship 2001 Valid also for the 2001 WBF official Italian Championship

## Tournament Committee

To be announced at the Tournament under the Presidency of Alberto da Pra, president of the
Worldwide Backgammon Federation

## Entry Fees

MASTER ( 13 pt ) $\quad 850.000 \mathrm{lti} .(438,99$ e) CHAMPION ( 11 pt ) $\quad 300.000 \mathrm{ltl}$. $(154,94$ €) INTERMEDIATE ( 7 pt ) $\quad 100.000 \mathrm{ltI}$ ( 51,65 €)

## Registration Fees

Including celebration polo shirt, Friday welcome cocktail and Sunday Gala dinner 2001 WBF MEMBERS $50.000 \mathrm{lt\mid} .(25,82$ €) NON MEMBERS $\quad 70.000 \mathrm{lti}(36,15$ €)


## Tournament Director

Marco Fornasir
Sanctioned by the
Worldwide Backgammon Federation. WBF Tournament rules will apply

## Accommodation

HIT PARK HOTEL
Delpinova 5 - Nova Gorica (ph. +38653362000 )
Single Double about 123.000 ltl about 88.000 ltl ( 63,52 €) ( 45,45 €)
per night ( +2.200 Itl. taxes), per person
Rates valid for direct reservations only Fax reservation by August $13^{\text {th }}$ to +38653022381. Attn: Reception. Mention "Backgammon".

For more information Marco Fornasir ph. +39 0269018168 - fax +39 0269018163 - fornasir@iol.it - www.wbf.net

Monday, August 27
19:30-20:00 Registration Backgammon Tournament at Park Hotel 20:00 Black-jack Tournament at the Casino
22:30 Quarter-entries, Jackpots and Minijackpots

Tuesday, August 28 10:30 Excursion
19:30-20:00 Registration at Park Hotel 20:00 Black-jack Tournament at the Casino
22:30 Quarter-entries, Jackpots and Minijackpots

Wednesday, August 29
10:30 Excursion

19:30-20:00 Registration at Park Hotel 20:00 Black-jack Tournament at the Casino 22:30 Quarter-entries, Jackpots and Minijackpots

Thursday, August 30
17:30 Public draw for warm-up Memorial Heiner Haussleiter (free of charge) 18:00 Start of play Warm-up. Quarters, Jackpots and Minijackpots
20:00 Black-jack Tournament at the Casino; Public draw for Sperti Trophy (free of charge - only for WBF supporters) 20:00-22:30 Break for Dinner 22:30 Start of Sperti Trophy

Friday, August 31
17:00 Warm-up, Sperti Trophy, Quarters, Jackpots and Minijackpots continues 19:00-20:00 Registration at Park Hotel 20:00 Weicome cocktail in hotel lounge; Black-jack Tournament at the Casino 22:00 Last registration 22:30 Public draw
23:00 Start of play, Quarters, Jackpots and Minijackpots

Saturday, September 1
16:00 Main Tournament continues and start of Progressive Consolation Tournament
17:00 Quarters, Jackpots and Minijackpots

20:00 Black-jack Tournament at the Casino 20:00-22:30 Break for Dinner 22:30 Saturday Franz Josef Super-Jackpot and play continues

Sunday, September 2
15:00 Start of Last Chance Tournament,
Finals, Quarters, Jackpots and Minijackpots
17:00 Black-jack Tournament at the Casino: Semifinals and Finals 20:30 Schönbrunn dinner party and awarding ceremony at Park Hotel

Hotels Casinos Tourism

