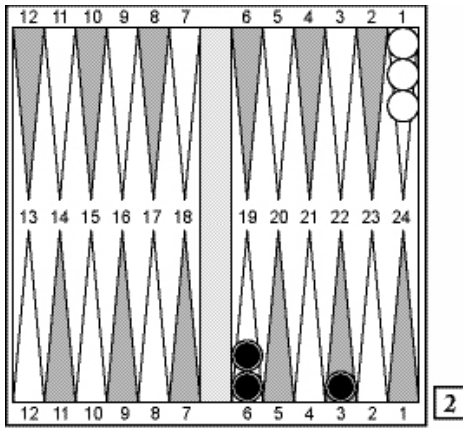


DANNY KLEINMAN'S 2.7 RULE FOR BEARING OFF THE LAST TWO CHECKERS

In the very end game, you come down to a position like this and roll a 6-2. What is the best play?

Money game. **Black to play 6-2.**



Of course you can count all the misses. If you play 6/off, 3/1, you miss on 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 3-4, 3-5, and 4-5. That's 21 rolls.

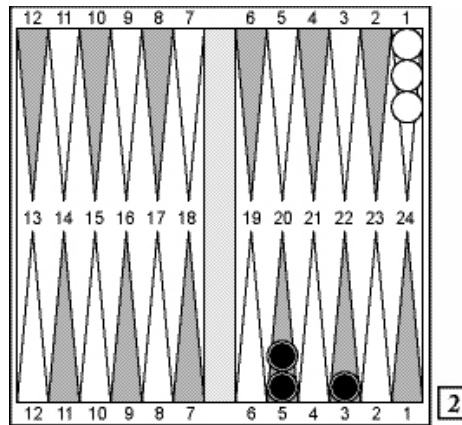
If you instead play 6/off, 6/4, you miss on all aces and deuces except 2-2 for a total of 19 rolls. So 6/off, 6/4 is better.

Counting is a good way, except you might miss or forget your count, or you

might be playing with a clock and pressured by time. That's where **Danny Kleinman's 2.7 Bearoff Rule** comes into play. The rule states that whenever you have two checkers left with one move remaining, position the two checkers closest to 2.7 pips apart. In our example, we had to choose between five pips apart (checkers on the 6- and 1-point) vs. one pip apart (checkers on the 4- and 3-point). Since one is closer to 2.7 than five, we know immediately that 4, 3 placement is better than 6, 1.

Here's another example:

Money game. **Black to play 5-1.**

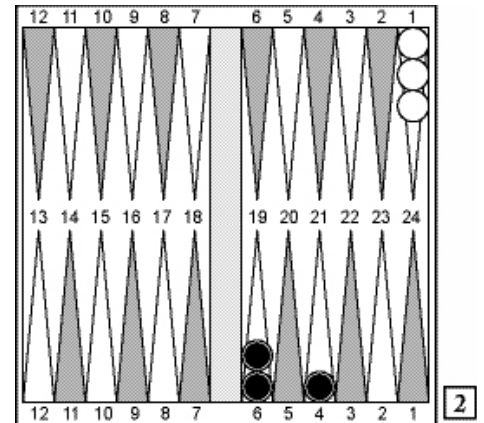


After bearing off the 5, you can move the final ace either 5/4 or 3/2. Spacing on the 5- and 2-point = 3. Spacing on the 4- and 3-point = 1. Since three is closer to 2.7

than 1, the best play is 5/off, 3/2.

This works in every instance except one:

Money game. **Black to play 6-1.**



Danny's rule suggests that checkers on the 6- and 3-points bear off quicker than checkers on the 5- and 4-points. In fact, both configurations bear off with 26 rolls. But even in this one exception, you still get the best play by following the **2.7 Rule**. Δ

CSI:

LISLE ★ MAR. 5-7, 2010



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 2009 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 2 AUG.

Lucky Nelson	21.08	Larry Goldstein	6.64	Phil Simborg	3.68	Paul Baraz	1.16
Herb Roman	20.56	Albert Yakobashvili	5.92	Mike Pufpaf	3.52	Eric Johnson	1.08
Rory Pascar	20.54	Michael Ginat	5.52	David Rubin	3.36	Georgina Flanagan	0.96
David Rockwell	17.64	Ken Bond	5.36	Alexander Medvedev	3.20	Sonja Peacock	0.88
Bob Steen	12.36	Wayne Wiest	5.32	Jacob Moreno	3.12	Henry Gray	0.88
Howard Markowitz	9.76	Alex Owen	5.00	Richard Stawowy	3.00	Roz Ferris	0.80
Alice Kay	9.48	Michael Minkovski	5.00	Bill Keefe	2.84	Dustin Lindgren	0.80
Bill Davis	9.04	Matt Cohn-Geier	5.00	Mark Ostrovsky	2.36	John Jennings	0.80
Steve Klesker	8.68	Roger Hickman	4.80	Dan Weymouth	2.16	Dujuan Meekins	0.80
Mike Sutton	8.44	Tim Mabee	4.56	Dan Cox	2.00	Roy Cohen	0.68
Mike Wolock	7.64	Gary Kay	4.36	Royal Robinson	1.92	Leslie Lockett	0.64
Carter Mattig	7.58	Jerry Brooks	4.24	Jeff Fischer	1.64	Alex Aleyev	0.64
Nora Luna Righter	7.44	Peter Kalba	4.24	Steve Hines	1.60	Bob Pondelicek	0.60
Oleg Raygorodsky	7.20	Adrian Rios	4.08	Linda Rockwell	1.52	Lindsay Mattig	0.56
Bill Bartholomay	6.80	Dave Settles	3.96	Neil Kazaross	1.44	Barry Miller	0.56
Tak Morioka	6.72	Christopher Shanava	3.76	Scott Casty	1.36	Rodney Gonzalez	0.48
						Jolie Rubin	0.32

DAVID ROCKWELL won points in every July tournament collecting 4.88 points and top monthly honors. **Rory Pascar** (3.60) and **Tak Morioka** (3.36) finished second and third respectively.



ILLINOIS ACTION



Bill Davis
773/583-6464
Peter Kalba
312/316-1432

Tuesday, 6:30 P.M. at Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5615 N. Cumberland Ave., Chicago. 773/693-5800.

Sunday Bimonthly, 12:00 NOON at Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5615 N. Cumberland Ave., Chicago. 773/693-5800.

CHICAGO BACKGAMMON ASSOCIATION: Tournaments Monday, 6:30 P.M. suspended until further notice.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL BG CLUB: Tournaments Monday, 6:00 P.M. at Ride The Nine, 503 N. Prospect Road, Bloomington. Michael Flohr (309/662-7967).

SANGAMON VALLEY BACKGAMMON ASSOC.: Tournaments Wednesday, 6:00 P.M. at Capitol Teletrack, 1766 W. Wabash Ave., Springfield. Randy Armstrong (217/528-0117).

WINNETKABG CLUB: Tournaments Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. at Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln, Winnetka. Trudie Chibnik (847/446-0537).

PUB CLUB: Tournaments Thurs., 6:45 P.M. at Playoffs Bar, 720 E. North Ave., Carol Stream. Tim Mabee (630/606-2388).

PEORIA BG CLUB: Tourn. Thurs., 6:30 P.M. at Peoria Pizza Works, 3921 Prospect, Peoria. Sue Will (309/699-6005).