

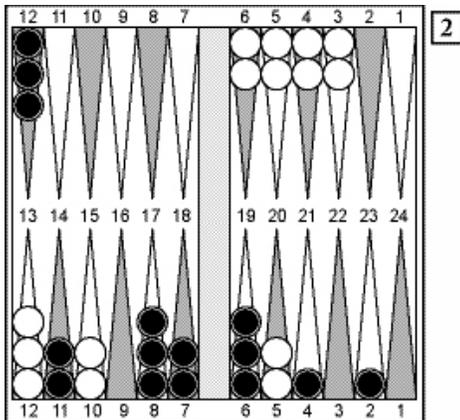
A DOUBLES MATCH

BY DUANE JENSEN

It's always fun to watch doubles matches. The entertainment comes while listening to the interaction of the teammates and the sparring with their opponents.

Let's look at a few snippets from a 7-point match between the team of Phyllis Smolinski & Bill Davis and Lincoln Bedell & Doug Roberts.

7-point match. Linc Bedell & Doug Roberts (Black) lead Bill Davis & Phyllis Smolinski (White) 4 to 3. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-2.**



Lincoln rolled a 2-2 and told Doug that his preferred play was 13/11 (3), 4/2 so they could break contact with their opponents' midpoint. Doug preferred 11/9 (2), 13/9 listing his reasons:

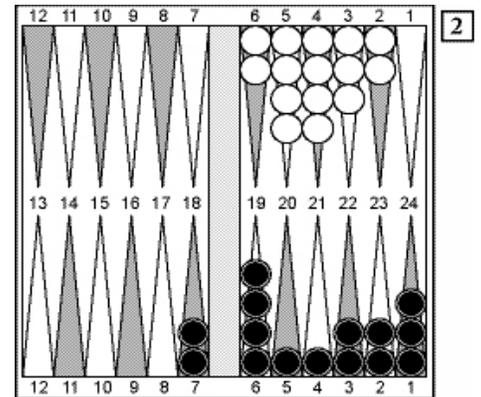
- It's always good to have four points in a row.
- Their opponents cannot hold the midpoint for more than a roll or two anyway so it will disappear on its own.
- The added men on the 11-point are now blocked by two opposing anchors on their 10- and 5-points. Better to give up the 11-point now.

Lincoln listened to his teammate, but he had his own opinion. Lincoln's never been shy about having an opinion or expressing it. He said, "Doug, this double twos is a great roll and a great chance to break contact with their midpoint. I'm making my play!"

"Let's do it then!" said Doug. Doug was the best player at the table and he probably knew that his own play was superior, but arguing for it further was fruitless. He and Lincoln would soon have to present a unified (but false) front in the next position.

Phyllis and Bill rolled some nice sets and reached this position, pausing to consider redoubling.

Black leads 4-3 to 7. **SHOULD WHITE DOUBLE?.**

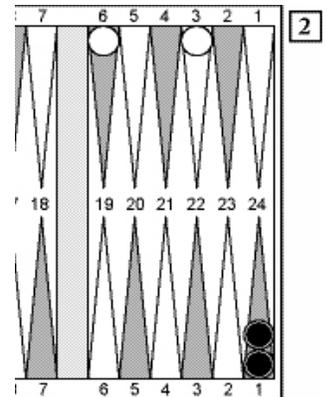


Lincoln said, "You're really thinking of doubling?"

Doug added, "You think we're going to drop *this* position!?"

Lincoln straightened in his chair to loom even taller. He and Doug improvised a display of bravado and testosterone. They didn't want to be doubled at all. They couldn't take a 4-cube and play for the match. This position is a big redouble/drop. But the taunts and challenges worked. Bill and Phyllis talked it over and decided to wait; wait until the last roll of the match.

Black leads 4-3 to 7. **SHOULD WHITE DOUBLE?.**



Bill and Phyllis had one last opportunity to redouble, so they paused to consider the position. Bill suddenly looked up and said, "They're quiet!"

He was right. For the first time in the match, neither Lincoln nor Doug said a word. Bill rejoiced, "If they're not talking it must be a double!" (Of course it's not a redouble but it's not the world's worst redouble.) With that, he and Phyllis doubled, rolled, and lost ending an entertaining final game.—Duane Jensen Δ



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 2008 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 31 JULY

Rory Pascar	19.98	Albert Yakobashvili	6.24	Scott Casty	2.72	Les Moshinsky	0.80
David Rockwell	17.56	Steve Klesker	5.96	Mike Pufpaf	2.36	Paul Baraz	0.80
Herb Roman	16.68	Tim Mabee	5.82	Jerry Brooks	2.12	Chiva Tafazzoli	0.72
Phil Simborg	15.08	Christopher Shanova	5.68	Ken Tibbs	1.84	Tim Rockwell	0.68
Carter Mattig	11.70	Wayne Wiest	5.64	Eric Johnson	1.60	Wendy Kaplan	0.60
Nora Luna Righter	11.04	Alice Kay	5.44	Henry Gray	1.56	Elaine Kehm	0.56
Bill Davis	11.04	Mike Wolock	5.24	Dan Weymouth	1.44	Linda Rockwell	0.56
Lucky Nelson	9.32	Alex Owen	5.24	Arline Levy	1.16	Sherry Nelson	0.56
Bob Zavoral	8.54	Royal Robinson	5.20	Nicole Tibbs	1.12	Bill Gradl	0.56
Tak Morioka	7.96	Jacob Moreno	5.04	Tom Machaj	1.12	Bill Devine	0.56
Mike Sutton	7.04	Bill Keefe	5.04	Efim Liberman	1.12	Kathy Sorci	0.52
Gary Kay	7.00	Richard Stawowy	4.80	Ray Lass	1.04	Andrew Mack	0.48
Larry Goldstein	6.96	Oleg Raygorodsky	4.64	Sargon Benjamin	1.04	Mark Swanson	0.40
Ken Bond	6.88	Adrian Rios	3.36	Mary Franks	0.96	Roz Ferris	0.32
Dave Settles	6.84	Roger Hickman	3.28	Dan Cox	0.96	Phyllis Smoliński	0.24
Bill Bartholomay	6.72	Georgina Flanagan	3.16	Mark Murray	0.88	Lucia Armenta	0.24
Michael Ginat	6.60	Bob Steen	3.04				

LUCKY NELSON had a 14 match win streak in July ending the month with a match W/L record of 16-2 to earn monthly honors with 7.08 points. Larry Goldstein (3.76) and Phil Simborg (3.28) were 2nd & 3rd.