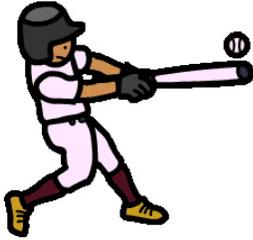


"BIG SWING" CONTEST

Entry deadline: Feb. 24



Here's an amusing puzzle devised by Tim Chow. Concoct a position in which Black is too good to double, but where his worst roll necessarily leaves White too good to double. (So that the puzzle makes sense, assume that the cube is in the center and that there is no Jacoby Rule.)

For those with access to Snowie and/or GNU, the puzzle could be refined to read: Find the position and the roll that causes the greatest possible drop in equity, even if the roll is played optimally.

Submit your entries to Bill Davis in person or e-mail bg@chicagopoint.com no later than 24 February at the Chicago Bar Point Club. First prize will be a free entry into any Tuesday night Open tournament or \$10 cash. Any tie will be broken by random draw. Good luck! Δ

Chicago BG Association Formed. Grand Opening March 2

Carter Mattig and Phil Simborg will resurrect Monday night backgammon with the formation of the *Chicago Backgammon Association*. Greektown will be the location of Monday night backgammon commencing with a Grand Opening event March 2 at the Parthenon Restaurant; 314 S. Halsted Street; Chicago, Illinois.

Entries begin at 5:30 p.m. with the tournament beginning promptly at 6:00 p.m. The entry fee is \$10 (85% return) with multiple 100% return side pools. Social play and free lessons begin at 4:00 p.m.

With a great menu and free valet parking, the Parthenon in Greektown is an outstanding downtown location that is bound to attract many new players.

A new master point system will be used, but directors will also keep points the old way so that results can be included in the Chicagoland all-time listings.

Occasionally, the consolation format will be changed to include alternative types of play such as Nackgammon, backgammon-to-lose, Sasson-Gammon, Option-Gammon, Simborg Rule Gammon, and others.

For more information, contact Carter Mattig (312/493-2911) or Phil Simborg (312/543-0522). Δ

SPRINGFIELD WINS ILL. STATE CHALLENGE CUP

The Springfield Sangamon Valley Backgammon Club has won the 2009 Challenge Cup defeating five other Illinois-based clubs including our own Chicago Bar Point Club. Winning team members Jena Jennings, Randy Armstrong, Greg Tomlin, Steve McGuire, Michael Plog, and John Jennings compiled an 18-12 record en route to their first Cup victory in the 29 year history of the event.



Springfield's winning 2009 Challenge Cup team.

Bloomington was 2nd with 17 wins. The Bar Point Club team of Rory Pascas, David Rockwell, Phil Simborg, Carter Mattig, Bill Davis, and Nora Luna Righer was 3rd with a 16-14 record. Δ



2009 BPC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 3 Feb.

Bill Bartholomay	3.92	Dave Settles	2.12	Oleg Raygorodsky	1.12	Jacob Moreno	0.64
Lucky Nelson	3.60	Alice Kay	1.88	Jeff Fischer	1.08	Lindsay Mattig	0.56
Rory Pascas	3.26	Howard Markowitz	1.84	Nora Luna Righer	0.96	Alex Owen	0.48
Herb Roman	3.24	Carter Mattig	1.82	Roz Ferris	0.80	Michael Minkovski	0.48
David Rockwell	2.84	Richard Stawowy	1.56	Dustin Lindgren	0.80	Bill Davis	0.40
Albert Yakobashvili	2.72	Linda Rockwell	1.52	Peter Kalba	0.72	Mike Sutton	0.32
Bob Steen	2.40	Wayne Wiest	1.24	Roy Cohen	0.68	Dan Cox	0.32
Mike Wolock	2.20	Christopher Shanava	1.20	Roger Hickman	0.68	Jerry Brooks	0.32
Larry Goldstein	2.16	Paul Baraz	1.16				

BILL BARTHOLOMAY earned January Player of the Month honors with 3.92 points. Runner's up were new 2009 BPC Doubles Champ David Rockwell—with Linda (2.84) and Albert Yakobashvili (2.72).

If you finish in the Top 20 for 2009, you'll be entered in a drawing for over \$300 worth of valuable merchandise. The higher you finish, the better your winning chances. Individual awards: 1st: Trophy + \$100, 2nd: \$70, 3rd: \$50, 4th-6th: \$30. 1st through 20th—one ounce silver eagle dollar coin. 1st through 6th—Invitation to participate on the Chicago Bar Point Club team in the 2010 Illinois State Challenge Cup. (\$30 of the cash awards will pay the entry fees of those players actually entering the Challenge Cup.)



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

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

SANGAMON VALLEY BACKGAMMON ASSOC.: Tournaments Wednesday, 6:30 P.M. at Capitol Teletrack, 1766 W. Wabash Ave., Springfield. Randy Armstrong (217/528-0117).

WINNETKA BG 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).