



# HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB

Hoosier Backgammon Club  
March 1985, Vol II No. 3  
Co-editors: Butch Meese,  
Mary Ann Meese & Larry Strommen

33rd INDIANA OPEN March 22, 23 & 24th at the Holiday Inn East (21st & Shadeland)  
Early indications show this year's tournament is going to be bigger than last.  
Be sure to get your entry in early by March 15th and save. The dates for the  
2nd INDIANA CLASSIC Backgammon Championship is set for November 15-17, 1985.

Tournament Results: GROVER BENGE, JIM CURTIS, BUTCH MEESE, MARY ANN MEESE and  
LARRY STROMMEN traveled south to Louisville while RICK REAHARD flew west to RENO.  
JIM CURTIS placed second in the Sunday Jackpot, LARRY STROMMEN teamed with Carl  
Severino placed tie 3rd/4th in the Open Doubles and MARY ANN MEESE missed the  
money by one match in the Intermediate Division. She says that a 16 cube has a  
new meaning to her now. Bob Holyon(Milwaukee) captured the Open title, Mark  
Anshus(Milwaukee) won over GREG VARBINOV(Ft. Wayne) in the Intermediate, Dave  
Sandler(Louisville) won the Novice Division and Mark Tyrell and Joe Glazier won  
the Open Doubles. In Reno, RICK REAHARD won the Consolation in the Intermediate  
Division. RICK along with over 200 others witnessed Steve McKenzie(California)  
defeat Basil Farah(Flint, Mich) to capture the top prize. In Pittsburgh, Joe  
Sylvester(Troy, MI) won undefeated. He played and won over Paul Magriel twice.

Kent Goulding's National Rating List has been updated to January 15, 1985.  
Bill Robertie heads the list at 1805. Local players have the following ratings:  
Steve Bartz 1596 Frank Baldwin 1504 Geo Crawford 1465 Donna Susens 1437  
Jim Curtis 1582 Gino Agresti 1498 Jim Knauer 1473 Grover Bengé 1426  
Rick Reahard 1567 Chuck Stimming 1488 Mark Jones 1471 Butch Meese 1432  
Art Overbay 1532 Rich Hottell 1478 Alan Travel 1459 Doug Johnson 1375  
The complete list is available for \$4, K.G., P. O. Box B, Kensington, MD 20895

Danny Kleinman has a new book called "HOW LITTLE WE KNOW ABOUT BACKGAMMON". It  
can be ordered from Danny for \$25, 8924 Hargis Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90034

1985 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings as of February 28th.

Jim Curtis	1.00	Monte Borman	0.30	Ralph Roberts	0.08
Butch Meese	0.91	Cyrus Mobed	0.26	Jim Wilson	0.08
George Crawford	0.74	Jerry Ungar	0.25	R. C. Robbins	0.06
Mary Ann Meese	0.53	Sue Henderson	0.25	Betty Seashore	0.05
Donna Susens	0.50	Sue Epple	0.20	Vicki Anderson	0.02
Lou Ramer	0.34	Bob Lappin	0.16	Sylvester Johnson	0.02
Larry Strommen	0.33	Mark Mikolon	0.12	Susie Robbins	0.02

Weekly Play...WEDNESDAYS -  
Keystone at  
the Crossing



THURSDAYS -  
21st Street &  
Shadeland Avenue **Marriott**  
HOTELS•RESORTS

Play Begins at 7:00 PM \* Open Division \$15.00 \* Intermediate Division \$7.00  
Novice Division \$5.00 (Round Robin) Bring a NEW Player and you can play free.  
BOX SHOT PRIZE: The prize has increased to \$35.00. Everyone attending a HBC  
weekly event will have a chance to win the BOX SHOT PRIZE. All you have to  
do is roll four(4) of any number and you win. This prize will increase every  
month until someone wins. Good Luck!!

Schedule of BACKGAMMON Events (Entry forms available thru HBC)

- \* MAR 22-24 33rd Annual INDIANA OPEN Backgammon Championship HBC Hotlines\* (312)338-6380
- Apr 12-14 Midwest Championships, Oakbrook Holiday Inn, Chicago (312)338-6380
- Apr 26-28 Michigan MICHELOB BG Weekend, Saginaw Michigan (517)755-8341
- \* NOV 15-17 2nd Annual INDIANA CLASSIC - Indianapolis HBC Hotlines\*
- Weekly: WEDNESDAYS 7:00PM CHARLIE & BARNEYS' - Keystone at the Crossing &
- THURSDAYS 7:00PM MARRIOTT INN 21st & Shadeland Avenue HBC Hotlines\*

## HBC NEWSLETTER SPECIAL - CALCUTTA AUCTION

CALCUTTA AUCTION - Every thing you wanted to know, but were afraid to ask!!

The Calcutta Auction is held just before play begins for most tournaments. The player(s) is sold to the person with the highest bid. The players are sold individually as well as in groups usually depending on their relative known backgammon skills. All the money collected is placed in a separate "Calcutta" pool. As the winners are determined, the buyers of the players, not the players, collect the prizes from the Calcutta Pool. Generally, the average selling price is close to the entry fee. The buyer is obligated to offer to sell interest back to the player(s) bought, called "buy-back". So as a buyer, you do not have to front the full cost, only a percentage.

When a player is sold as an individual, the buyer usually has to offer at least 50% interest to the player. If the player buys-back the full 50%, both the buyer and player have a 50% interest in the calcutta prize. The percentage interest a person has in a player is called "pay-back". So, the buyer and the player each have a 50% "pay-back" in this situation. If a player buys himself, he receives both the player's and calcutta prize for that finish.

The next situation is when a buyer buys a group with two players. In most cases, players are bought by someone else and they are informed of how much the buy-back is and what pay-backs they have in themselves and the other players sold in his group. As a player, you have the right to know if you are getting your fair share. Trying to understand buy-back versus pay-back with a group of players can make some feel you need a PhD in math. Hopefully with some examples, it can become a bit clearer. With two players, both players have equal shares or 50% of the selling price. If a two-player group is sold for \$400, each player has an effective selling price of \$200.

Let's use a situation where the buyer has to offer buy-backs at least 37 1/2% of the selling price to each player. That leaves 25% for the buyer. For that, each player would receive a 50% pay-back of himself and 25% of what the other player wins. Now we can work some simple math to check this (we change the percentages to fractions). Let's work backwards to show that 37 1/2% (or 3/8) is correct. Each player receives 50% (or 1/2) pay-back interest in himself and 25% (or 1/4) of the other player so  $(1/2 \times 1/2) + (1/4 \times 1/2) = 1/4 + 1/8 = 3/8$ . This equation relates to each player as 50% pay-back of his share of the selling price (or 1/2) plus 25% pay-back of the other player's share of the selling price (also 1/2) for a total price of 37 1/2% (or 3/8). The buyer receives 25% interest in both players:  $(1/4 \times 1/2) + (1/4 \times 1/2) = 1/8 + 1/8 = 1/4$ . Player A's share (3/8) + Player B's share (3/8) + Buyer (1/4) share = 1.0 of the total selling price.

There's one more way to verify by checking that money paid out equals money paid back. Let's use an ideal situation where the two-player group was bought for \$400 and both won \$200 for a total of \$400. Each player buys-backs the full 37 1/2% or  $(3/8 \times \$400) = \$150$ . Money paid out = \$150 + \$150 + \$100 (buyer amount) = \$400. Both players tied and won calcutta prize of \$200 to total \$400. Player A receives 50% of himself (\$100) + 25% of other player (\$50) = \$150. Player B receives 50% of himself (\$100) + 25% of other player (\$50) = \$150. The buyer receives 25% of both players (\$50 + \$50) = \$100 Total pay-back = \$400. Each player and the buyer in this ideal situation receives back just what he paid showing again these percentages are correct.

Some other buy-backs and pay-backs examples. With a 3-player group: each player can buy-back 25% of the selling price. In return each player receives a pay-back 35% of himself and 20% of the other two. With a 4-player group: each player can buy-back 20% of the selling price. In return each player receives a pay-back 25% of himself and 15% of the other three.

HBC believes the more you understand about tournament and all the activities, the more you will enjoy them. Do not be afraid to ask!

### Indianapolis BACKGAMMON Hotlines

Larry Strommen, 6866 Meadow View Drive, Indpls, IN 46226 (317)545-0224  
Butch & Mary Ann Meese, 7620 Kilmer Lane, Indpls, IN 46256 (317)845-8435