



HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB

Hoosier Backgammon Club
 August 1985, Vol II No. 7
 Co-editors: Butch Meese,
 Mary Ann Meese & Larry Strommen

FUN FLING in FLINT

One hundred and fifty seven players competed for over \$31,000 in prizes at the Michigan Summer Championships sponsored by EFHutton and Michelob in Flint, Michigan. Carol Joy Cole and staff ran a smooth tournament which included 3 team events, 3 main events and 2 Sunday Jackpots. Butch and Mary Ann Meese, Frank Scott and Larry Strommen took in all the action which saw Bob Holyon win 9 straight matches after losing in the first round. In the Finals against Les Bart, Bob won the first of two matches needed in the double-elimination format. In the Championship match, Les was ahead 9 to 5 in a 13 point match and going for a gammon with the cube at 2. Bob hit an eleventh hour blot and managed a 4-cube victory to tie the score. With the score tied at 11, a final 2-cube game decided the the Championship. The game developed into a race and after Les cleared the outer board with a roll of double 6's the Championship was decided. Congrats to Larry Strommen for placing in the Intermediate consolation and to all the other winners.

- Super Doubles (8) - Mike Giordano/Robbie Roberts
- Open Doubles (32) - Gene Chait/Dean Muench
- Limited Doubles (16) - Jim Coulouris/Peggy Marshall
- Open Division (63) - 1st Les Bart - 2nd Bob Holyon
- Intermediate Division (63) - 1st Bruce King - 2nd Ken Slou
- Novice Division (31) - 1st Ken Bruck - 2nd Lillian Phillips
- Sunday \$50 Jackpot (16) - Tom Walthes
- Sunday \$25 Jackpot (32) - Don Faix





Labor Day Weekend Tournament To Try New Format - August 30 thru September 02, 1985

People attending the Labor Day Weekend Tournament will be treated to the new format developed by HOWARD MARKOWITZ of Chicago. The AAA and AA division players will play 10 matches and the 4 players with the best win-loss record will advance to the Finals. All others will play in the consolation flight. The response from Chicago where it was first tried was positive. For those who missed it in Chicago, here is your chance to experience it in Louisville.

<u>Weekly Results</u>	<u>Open Division</u>	<u>Intermediate Division</u>
July 03	Lou Ramer	Frank Scott
July 10	Larry Strommen	Frank Scott
July 17	1st Butch Meese 2nd Cyrus Mobed	1st Perry Lucus 2nd Frank Scott
July 24	Butch Meese	Jim Wilson
July 31	1st Chuck Stimming 2nd Butch Meese	

1985 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings as of August 1st.

1) Mary Ann Meese	4.65	Monte Borman	0.61	Vickie Anderson	0.12
2) Butch Meese	4.16	Jim Knauer	0.60	Dan Morris	0.10
3) Larry Strommen	3.74	Bob Hodes	0.55	Perry Lucas	0.10
4) Lou Ramer	3.08	Alan Tavel	0.50	Dean Adamian	0.08
5) George Crawford	2.59	Margaret Roberts	0.48	David Kane	0.08
6) Chuck Stimming	2.50	Perry Lucus	0.45	Linda Schultz	0.08
7) Jim Curtis	2.47	Ralph Roberts	0.44	Howard Leitz	0.06
8) R. C. Robins	2.03	Bill Julian	0.40	Betty Seashore	0.05
9) Cyrus Mobed	2.01	Larry Frefz	0.28	Jerry Birck	0.04
10) Lou Newport	2.00	Ed Wright	0.28	Mike Mills	0.04
Jim Wilson	1.79	Jerry Ungar	0.25	Josie Lawrence	0.02
Frank Scott	1.74	Tom Hendryx	0.24	Susie Robbins	0.02
Grover Benge	1.65	Jack Pittsley	0.24	Barb Messersmith	0.02
Sylvester Johnson	1.27	Kim Schafer	0.20	Mary Ann Boleman	0.02
Susie Henderson	1.26	Sue Epple	0.20	Bill Russell	0.02
Donna Susens	0.98	Bob Lappin	0.16		
Walter Trice	0.89	Mark Mikolon	0.12		

Congratulations to CYRUS MOBED who advanced into the TOP TEN this month.

Weekly Play at



96th & Keystone 844-1155

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 play for free.

Indianapolis BACKGAMMON Hotlines

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

HBC July Contest Results!!

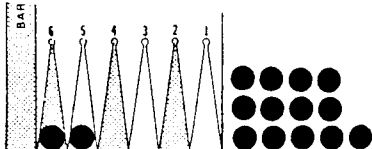
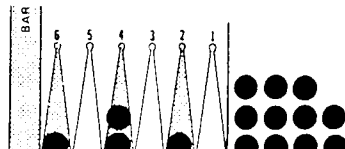
The entries are in and the winner is JIM CURTIS of Indianapolis. Four of the entries missed just one and JIM won the random draw. Thanks to all who took part. The question most often asked, "How to determine the best play for each position?" In some positions like #1 with only 2 pieces left after the play, one can calculate which play produces the highest number of rolls to clear the board on the next roll. With Position #1, there are 3 possible moves, 6-2, 5-1 and 6-3,5-4.

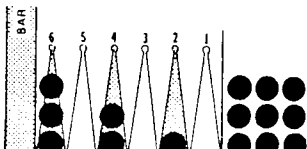
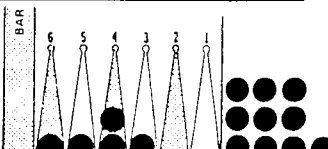
Play	Pieces Left on	Pts	# of Rolls/36 to Remove Both	Percent
1. 6-2	5 & 2	Best	19	52.8%
2. 6-3,5-4	4 & 3		17	47.2%
3. 5-1	6 & 1		15	41.7%

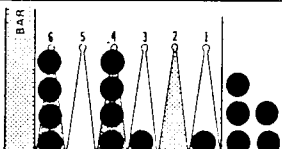
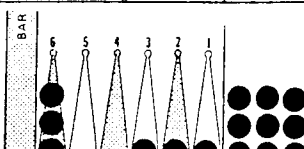
With more than 2 pieces, determining the best play becomes more difficult. One method is to "Play-Out" each position after each the move with the same dice rolls. As the positions are "Played-Out", the number of rolls needed to bear-off are tallied and averaged. This method can be time consuming since 100s of games are needed. HBC took a short-cut in determining the correct answers. A computer program, Backgammon BEAROFF Simulator, determined the best plays by the method above and can run 10,000 games in less than 10 minutes.

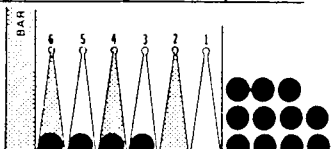
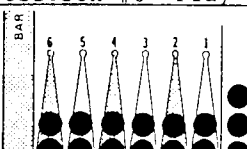
The Results from the BEAROFF program.

Backgammon is a "positional" game. In each problem below, the difference between one play to any other is the best play is the position which is most efficient in removing the remaining pieces. Some "best" plays became clear with these results. It is clear that taking piece(s) off is better than moving down from a stacked point (Positions #5 & 6). When given a choice, move the pieces for even distribution (Position #3). The BEAROFF program is not available for sale, but when it is, it will be announced. The difference between one play and any other is small as the results show. A summary is presented here with the best play indicated by "***". Anyone wanting the detail results from the program can do so by sending a stamped self-addressed business envelope to Butch Meese (address on front page).

<p><u>Position #1 Play 3-1?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 6-2</td> <td>1.48 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 6-3,5-4</td> <td>1.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) 5-1</td> <td>1.59</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 6-2	1.48 **	2) 6-3,5-4	1.54	3) 5-1	1.59	<p><u>Position #2 Play a 3?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 6-3</td> <td>2.47 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 4-1</td> <td>2.53</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 6-3	2.47 **	2) 4-1	2.53
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<p><u>Position #3 Play double 2's?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 6-off,2-off</td> <td>3.20 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 4-off,4-off</td> <td>3.31</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 6-off,2-off	3.20 **	2) 4-off,4-off	3.31	<p><u>Position #4 Play a 2?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 4-2</td> <td>3.25 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 3-1</td> <td>3.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) 6-4 or 5-3</td> <td>3.34</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 4-2	3.25 **	2) 3-1	3.32	3) 6-4 or 5-3	3.34
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<p><u>Position #5 Play a 1?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 1-off</td> <td>6.28 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 6-5</td> <td>6.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) 4-3</td> <td>6.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4) 3-2</td> <td>6.46</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 1-off	6.28 **	2) 6-5	6.29	3) 4-3	6.42	4) 3-2	6.46	<p><u>Position #6 Play 3-2?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 3-off,2-off</td> <td>3.25 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 3-off,6-4</td> <td>3.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) 6-3,2-off</td> <td>3.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4) 6-3,6-4</td> <td>3.41</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 3-off,2-off	3.25 **	2) 3-off,6-4	3.31	3) 6-3,2-off	3.37	4) 6-3,6-4	3.41
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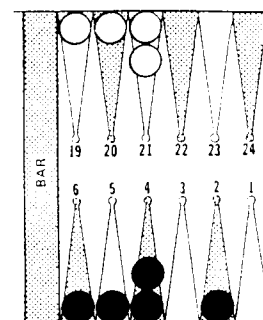
<p><u>Position #7 Play 3-1?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 4-off</td> <td>2.38 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 3-off,5-4</td> <td>2.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) 3-off,6-5</td> <td>2.43</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 4-off	2.38 **	2) 3-off,5-4	2.42	3) 3-off,6-5	2.43	<p><u>Position #8 Play double 2's?</u></p> 	<table border="0"> <tr> <th>Play</th> <th>Average Rolls</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1) 4-off,2-off</td> <td>5.32 **</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) 6-off,2-off</td> <td>5.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) 4-off,4-off</td> <td>5.57</td> </tr> </table>	Play	Average Rolls	1) 4-off,2-off	5.32 **	2) 6-off,2-off	5.36	3) 4-off,4-off	5.57
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Now, let us relate one of the position another way. Position #2 was taken from a match between two top players. ● has a 5-3 to play. The 5 is moved off and like Position #2 has a 3 to move. If moved 4-1, ● would be 46.1% to win the game and 50.0% if moved 6-3. ● would expect to win 4 more games out of a 100 by moving 6-3 instead of 4-1.

15 Point Match

○ - 6
● - 7

to play 5-3?



- * Play discontinued on Thursday evenings. Stay tuned next month for information on the next all-day tournament the end of September. Free-entries into the 2nd INDIANA Classic will be awarded.

Schedule of BACKGAMMON Events (Entry forms available thru HBC)

Aug 30-Sep 02 Labor Day Holiday Weekend, Louisville	(502) 451-3950
Sep 13-15 2nd Plymouth Gammonfest, Livonia, Mich	(313) 981-5706
* NOV 15-17 2nd Annual INDIANA CLASSIC - Indianapolis	HBC Hotlines*
Weekly: WEDNESDAYS 7:00PM at JONATHON'S RESTAURANT & PUB - 96th & Keystone	