



**Hoosier
Backgammon
Club**

April 1993



Club Championship

Don Woods, HBC's 1992 Player of the Year, has also won the Club Championship. He defeated Larry Stommen in the finals, 13-8 in 10 games. Congratulations.



Six HBC members (Wendy Kaplan, Butch Meese, Mary Ann Meese, Scott Richardson, David Smith, and Larry Strommen) traveled to Chicago to take part in the **Midwest Backgammon Championships**. Larry came up short of winning his first tournament by placing 3rd/4th in the Advanced Division. Larry also finished 3rd/4th in the Doubles with partner John Bashian of Ohio. A total of 175 players enjoyed the tournament which included unique side events. \$1550 was raised for the Anti-Cruelty Society of Chicago.

HBC Introduces

Free-Time Knock-Out



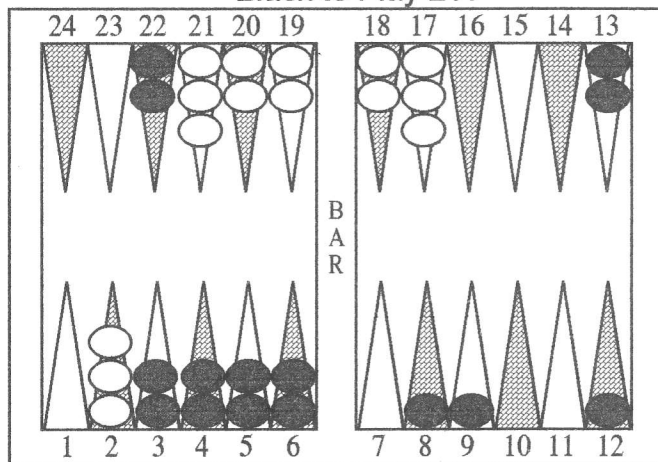
featuring...

- Opponents choose when and where to play.
- 10 days to play each round.
- HBC gammon points awarded.
- 90% return of entry fees.
- Both single-elimination and main-consolation formats available.
- Grid sizes of 4, 8 and 16.

HBC is taking sign-ups in 3 divisions; Open (EF\$50), Advanced (EF\$20) and Intermediate (EF\$8).

Intermediate Pointer

7 Point Match Black-0 White-1
Black to Play 21?



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Black has the cube and looks to turn the game around. With a roll of 21, Black can create a 5-point prime. Some intermediates would quickly cover the checker on the 8-point from the 9-point and look elsewhere to use the deuce. But making the 7-point must also be considered.

By making either the 7-point or 8-point, Black can make either 6s or 5s good for White to escape from Black's 2-point. The numbers that White cannot play to escape must be played on White's side that might crash his 5-point prime. Let's compare only rolls with 5s and 6s. Making the 8-point produces 3 great rolls (55 and 53) and only 3 prime breaking rolls (66 and 64). Making the 7-point produces 3 great rolls (66 and 64) and 7 prime breaking rolls (65, 55, 54, 53) for White. So by making the 7-point makes it is more likely that White will crash his prime and make it easier for Black to escape. So the theme here is *Look on the other side of the board for what numbers are good and bad for your opponent, then decrease the good numbers and increase the bad ones.*

Hoosier Pips: Definition of *determination*: Jan Gurvitz. She played every Thursday in March and did not win a match but the prize for her determination is a Free Play...HBC welcomes new players Alan Haas and Ali Shahin from West Lafayette...Best wishes to Chuck Stimming on his retirement from Indiana Bell. Chuck is now taking classes at the Christian Theological Seminary.

HBC's Newsletter for HBC members. Let us know if your address changes.
Butch & Mary Ann Meese: (317) 845-8435. 7620 Kilmer Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46256-1634

1993 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings as of March 26th.

HBC Player of the Month for March is **Butch Meese** with 224 gammon points.

1) Butch Meese.....	384	Steve Perlman.....	104	Ali Shahin.....	30
2) Kevin McLeaster.....	332	Bill Gheen.....	100	Mick Dobratz.....	20
3) Cyrus Mobed.....	332	Bill Julian.....	94	Judy McHale.....	20
4) Don Woods.....	322	Mike Marr.....	90	Brian Nelson.....	20
5) Larry Strommen.....	280	Woody Woodworth.....	90	Tom Hendryx.....	20
6) Ellis Bray.....	230	Jeff Baker.....	78	Stu Whitcomb.....	10
7) Ken Bruck.....	222	Holly Stowe.....	74	Eric George.....	10
8) Mary Ann Meese.....	220	Gino Agresti.....	60	Stan Gurvitz.....	10
9) Gabe Stiasny.....	180	Jan Gurvitz.....	55	Sharon Baker.....	10
10) Wendy Kaplan.....	124	Dennis Schulte.....	40	Alan Haas.....	10
Chuck Stimming.....	122	Jim Curtis.....	30	Scott Kaplan.....	5
John O'Hagan.....	120	Tom Helt.....	30		

Open	1st	March 4th	March 11th	March 18th	March 25th
		Larry Strommen	Bill Gheen	Larry Strommen	Cyrus Mobed
	2nd	Ellis Bray	Kevin McLeaster	Mary Ann Meese	Holly Stowe
	2nd	Butch Meese	Butch Meese	Butch Meese	Butch Meese

...Survey Continues...

Question #6

Do you like the current format, *main with progressive consolation*, used in weekly and one-day tournaments?

Yes:17 No:2

If your answer is **NO**, why not?

- 1) Too much waiting. I come to play Backgammon, not wait for next match. I do not like first round byes either. Use Swiss format no elimination, the person with most wins at 11 PM wins!
- 2) It's too time consuming for an evening event.
- 3) Marked both yes and no: I prefer a single consolation winner with a 1 & 2 place consolation.
- 4) Marked Yes: Let's do something about playing same opponent twice.

Question #7

Do you like the current location (**SPATS**) for the weekly and one-day tournaments? Yes :15 No:7

If your answer is **NO**, why not?

- 1) Marked both yes and no: Food OK, service AVG minus, noise level high but not bad, traffic to kitchen & I suppose it's as good as any.
- 2) Marked both yes and no: Floors are hard on checkers that fall.
- 3) Marked Yes: Would prefer something more centrally located.
- 4) Marked Yes: Free parking. Diverse shopping. Good service. Poor food selection. Free popcorn. I'm Happy.
- 5) They close too early. Not enough room when we play chouette. We always get in the way of the workers.
- 6) Very poor physical layout. Too much traffic and only so-so lighting. However, Lisa and Jason partially compensate for an otherwise terrible environment.
- 7) The location is fine, but the lighting in there is horrible!
- 8) Marked Yes: Smoke is still a problem.
- 9) Marked Yes: SPATS is convenient, but it's a little cramped (both in physical space & the tables are too small), dark and has the world's most uncomfortable chairs. The people are nice and they have a good food selection.
- 10) Cramped area, Dooley's was the best of those I've been to.

Question #8

What entry fees do you feel are appropriate for weekly and one-day tournaments?

- Weekly Open Division: \$10, \$20, \$10 plus sidepool, \$15, \$10 plus sidepool, \$20, \$20, \$10 plus sidepool, \$20, \$20, \$15 plus sidepool, \$10.
- One-day Open Division: \$40, \$30, \$50 plus sidepool, \$50, \$70, \$40 with sidepool, \$75, \$50, \$60, \$35.
- Weekly Interm Division: \$5, \$10, \$5 plus sidepool, \$10, \$5 plus sidepool, \$10, \$10, \$10, \$8, \$10, \$5.
- One-day Interm Division: \$20, \$20, \$20 plus sidepool, \$20, \$35, \$25, \$30, \$20/25, \$15.

One person commented: I Like the new \$10 weekly with side pool and \$50/20 feels good for one-days. But let's call the weekly non-open a novice division, cause it's lots different than a one-day intermediate.

Question #9

Do you usually play in the one-day tournaments?

Yes: 11 No: 7

If your answer is **NO**, why not?

- 1) Attendance sporadic because of the fee.
- 2) Don't like location. Entry fee a bit too high. Conflicts with golf day.
- 3) Whenever I can.
- 4) Don't know.
- 5) Schedule doesn't workout.

If yes, which day is best?

- 3 Saturday
- 9 Sunday
- 3 Either OK
- 4 Depends on personal schedule.