

1993 Club Championship

Players become eligible for the Club Championship by winning Player of the Month honors or making the HBC TOP TEN list. The 12 Players of the Month enter the single elimination format in the round of 32. The TOP TEN start in the round of 16. Because some players win both Player of the Month and TOP TEN honors, separate draws will be done for the first 3 rounds to minimize repeat match pairings. The 1993 Prize Pool has increased to \$200 for the winner and \$100 for the finalist. If any Player of the Month or TOP TEN player is unable to compete in the Championship, the next player in order will play. The current **HBC TOP TEN** is on Page 2. The **1993 Players of the Month** so far this year are below.

January..... Mary Ann Meese
 February..... Don Woods
 March..... Butch Meese
 April..... Butch Meese
 May..... Don Woods
 June..... Ellis Bray
 July..... Chuck Stimming
 August..... Cyrus Mobed
 September..... Dave Cardwell
 October..... Woody Woodworth
 November..... Larry Strommen
 December..... To Be Determined



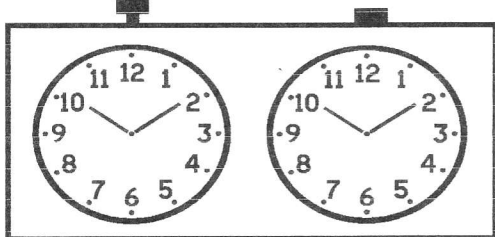
Awarding the Best of 1993

As we close out 1993, it's time again to think about the **Best of Year**. As in past years, the **1993 TOP TEN** will be awarded engraved doubling cubes along with cash prizes and gift certificates. The Awards Tournament will be Sunday, February 6th at **SPATS**.

1994 HBC Membership Drive

It's membership drive time! Membership entitles players to be eligible for **Player of the Month** and **HBC TOP TEN** for the year and therefore, Club Championship. Members also receive the HBC newsletter every month. The membership fee for 1994 is \$10⁰⁰ per household.

Are chess clocks the answer to slow play?



There seems to be a movement afoot suggesting that a chess clock become standard equipment of a backgammon set. Some players suggest that chess clocks be used on all matches as an answer to slow play (article **It's About Time** by Nack Ballard published in *Inside Backgammon*, page 13, Sept-Oct 1993 issue). It will take some time to find out if chess clocks are the answer. In the meantime, HBC has 2 chess clocks and we suggest that everyone gain experience in using them. It is not fair to make players play with a foreign object, i.e. a chess clock without the experience of using one first. The clocks will be available for all to experience it's use. *Are chess clocks the answer to slow play?* We don't know yet, but by having the experience of using them, we will be ahead of the game if they are ever used here or at other tournaments.

Play is a little different with the clocks. Only 1 set of dice is needed. Each player uses one die to start a game. After that point, both players use the same dice. A move is over when you stop the clock, **not** when you pick up the dice. Your opponent picks up the dice for his next turn. For a 7-point match, 30 minutes should be set on each clock. We will be glad to help you.

Get your Backgammon Fix on Your Time!

Free-Time Knock-Out

Ellis Bray won the 1st Knock-Out over Bill Gheen 13-11 in 15 games.

Deadline for next sign-up is December 10th.

Open Division...\$50
 Advanced Division...\$20

Hoosier Backgammon Club's Newsletter for HBC members and subscribers.
 Subscription rate: \$10/year (Canada \$12 and overseas \$14). Let us know if your address changes.
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1993 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings as of November 30th.

HBC **Player of the Month for November** is **Larry Strommen** with 130 gammon points.

1) Don Woods.....	1476	Wendy Kaplan.....	184	Rick Bieniak.....	64	Tom Hendryx.....	20
2) Butch Meese.....	1348	Holly Stowe.....	180	Ray Fogerlund.....	64	Jim Hickey.....	20
3) Ellis Bray.....	1150	Stu Sherman.....	178	Bobbie Shifrin.....	60	Sharon Baker.....	15
4) Chuck Stimming.....	1100	Bill Julian.....	174	Stan Gurvitz.....	60	Paul Franks.....	10
5) Larry Strommen.....	1062	Richard Heinz.....	170	Scott Richardson.....	60	John Brussel.....	10
6) Cyrus Mobed.....	947	Craig Hampton.....	130	Peter Kalba.....	40	Randall Witt.....	10
7) Mary Ann Meese.....	942	Tom Masterson.....	128	Len Carmine.....	40	Mary Franks.....	10
8) Woody Woodworth.....	898	Mick Dobratz.....	123	Marge Lewandowski.....	40	Dean Adamian.....	10
9) Kevin McLeaster.....	870	John O'Hagan.....	120	Dennis Schulte.....	40	Stu Whitcomb.....	10
10) Gabe Stiasny.....	793	Jeff Baker.....	118	Art Overbay.....	40	Kay Beck.....	10
Jim Curtis.....	652	Brian Nelson.....	110	Diana Pianko.....	36	Joann Feinstein.....	10
Alan Haas.....	410	Drew Giovanis.....	100	Chuck Bower.....	36	Eric George.....	10
Steve Perlman.....	390	Homer Hargrave.....	100	Eileen Perlman.....	30	Ed Wright.....	10
Dave Cardwell.....	376	Jim Painter.....	90	Jamie Curtis.....	30	Carol Falk.....	10
Jan Gurvitz.....	341	Mike Marr.....	90	Ali Shahin.....	30	Donna Susens.....	10
Bill Gheen.....	312	Jim Woods.....	84	Joe Miller.....	26	Jon Stephens.....	10
Judy McHale.....	281	Dan Robertson.....	80	Jay Ward.....	24	Nancy Ishac.....	6
Gino Agresti.....	280	Marta Hilworth.....	70	Matthias Kehder.....	20	Arlene Levy.....	6
Dragan Stevanovic.....	272	Tom Helt.....	65	Frank Alexander.....	20	Jeane Eggenberger.....	6
Ken Bruck.....	222	Julius High.....	64	Jon Vietor.....	20	Scott Kaplan.....	5
David Smith.....	216	Ed Petrillo.....	64	Dann DeRoche.....	20	Ellen Schremp.....	5

	<u>November 4th</u>	<u>November 11th</u>	<u>November 18th</u>	<u>November 25th</u>
<i>Open 1st</i>	<i>Gino Agresti</i>	<i>Larry Strommen</i>	<i>Butch Meese</i>	<i>Happy</i>
<i>2nd</i>	<i>Butch Meese</i>	<i>Mary Ann Meese</i>	<i>Dave Cardwell</i>	<i>Thanksgiving</i>
<i>2nd</i>	<i>Dave Cardwell</i>	<i>Cyrus Mobed</i>	<i>Alan Haas</i>	...
<i>Special 4</i>	<i>Chuck Stimming</i>

Intermediate Pointer

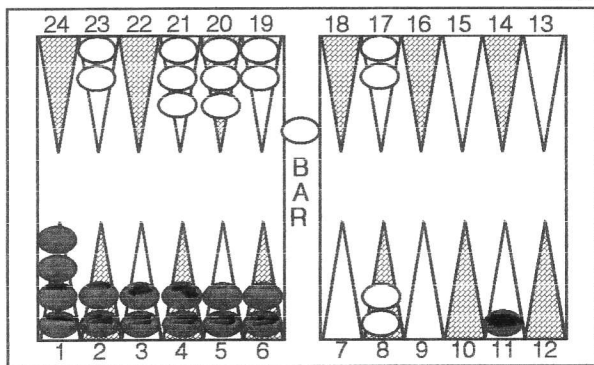
7-Point Match

White - 0 (one checker on the Bar)

Black - 2

Black to play 2-1?

2



Black seems to be well on the way to a gammon in this position when he must move a roll of 2-1. With the extra checkers buried on the 1-point, Black must open the closed board. So, which point to open...the 6-, 5-, 4- or 3-point?

As our game develops, we learn to minimize shots. But we also learn that sometimes there are trade-offs. This is one of those cases. If you open the 5- or 6-point, you allow White 4 shots. If you open the 4-point, White gets 2 shots. Finally, opening the 3-point gives White only 1 shot. So what's wrong with giving White only 1 shot? You're forcing White to come in on the 3-point. And White will sit on the 3-point with little fear waiting for a shot until ALL of Black's checkers above have cleared.

So open-up the 6-point and give White 4 shots now. When White comes in on the 6-point without hitting, Black will most likely move over White's checkers and out of danger.

The resulting positions of opening the 6-point and 3-point were run through **Expert Backgammon** program with the following results. In short, Black wins 88% of the games by clearing the 6-point and drops to 83% by clearing the 3-point.