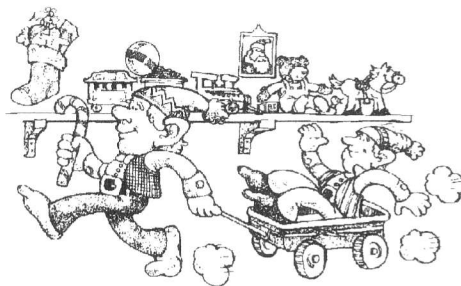




Hoosier Backgammon Club

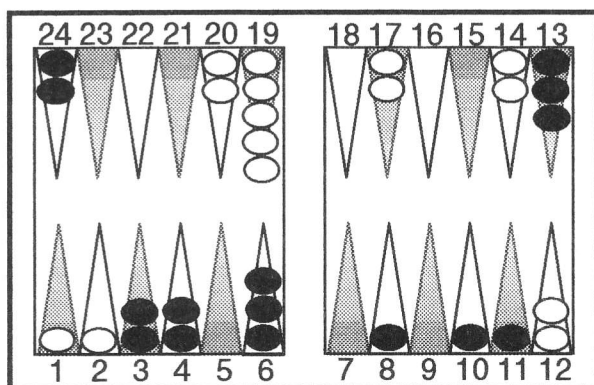
December 1997



Early Match Position

by Butch Meese

7 Point Match, White - 0 Black - 0
Black to play 6-1?



This position comes early in a 7-point match. The roll of 6-1 gives Black more than one choice of a good play and it's this kind of position that causes some players problems. Making the 7-point is a good play. Making the 5-point is a good play. Other players will notice that hitting twice might be a good play. Let's look at each play.

Making the 7-point (13/7 8/7): this play makes a good point and leaves no direct shots. Depending on what White does on his roll, Black may have a double.

Making the 5-point (11/5 6/5): this play makes a good point but leaves a direct 6 shot. Having a 4-point home board compared to his opponents 2-point board is a big advantage, but is it big enough to justify leaving the direct shot? If White does not hit, Black will most likely have an easy double and questionable take. Black can leave a direct shot because of the better home board; White only has two points made.

Hitting twice (8/2x1x): this play takes the whole roll away for White. If White does not answer with a hitting ace, double 2's or double 5's, Black must

decide whether to double out or go for the gammon.

Black has an advantage in this position and the 6-1 is a good roll that can improve the position. Since the cube has not been turned, you should be thinking of moving with the cube in mind. Which move will produce the best chance to produce a doubling position on your next roll? JellyFish likes making the 5-point which is what I like also. I do not like it when White rolls any of the hitting numbers, but I would most likely double on most of White's non-hitting numbers.

Hoosier Pips...Lance Jenkins is now a proud papa, Brina Amanda Jenkins was born on Friday 7th November at 8:14 pm. She weighed 8lbs. 2.5 ozs. and 20 1/4 inches long. Mother, Tracey, and daughter are doing fine...Out-of-town visitor for October was a former HBC member now from San Diego, Cyrus Mobed.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Hoosier Backgammon Club's Newsletter

Butch & Mary Ann Meese 1008 Tuckahoe Street Indianapolis, IN 46260-2215
(317) 255-8902 E-Mail: meese@worldnet.att.net Home Page: <http://home.att.net/~meese>

1997 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings. NOTE*
HBC Player of the Month for November was Chuck Stimming with 184 gammon points.

1) Don Woods..... 1462	Richard Heinz..... 200	Jim Painter..... 30
2) Chuck Stimming..... 1442	Chuck Bower..... 188	Brian Nelson..... 20
3) Butch Meese..... 1340	Luke Clippinger..... 158	Rod Hali..... 10
4) Jim Curtis..... 1050	Al Gomez..... 140	Jana Miller..... 10
5) Sean Garber..... 1046	John Brussel..... 120	Rick Reahard..... 10
6) Larry Strommen..... 812	David Schwind..... 118	Rudy Citrom..... 10
7) Mary Ann Meese..... 682	Brett Robey..... 96	Phil Barrett..... 10
8) Jan Gurvitz..... 648	Mark Larios..... 96	Lance Jenkins..... 10
9) Dave Groner..... 634	Janice Newman..... 84	Jon Stephens..... 10
10) Jim Mieske..... 350	J.A. Miller..... 80	Bill Julian..... 10
Kevin McLeaster..... 346	Bill Gheen..... 70	Bud Robey..... 10
Peter Kalba..... 316	John Ritchie..... 64	Diana Dialidonis..... 10
Woody Woodworth..... 296	Herb Gurland..... 47	Reggie Porter..... 10
Gabe Stiasny..... 250	Mary Ritchie..... 47	Alan Tavel..... 10
Alan Haas..... 250	Frank Scott..... 32	Jim Clunie..... 10

	<u>October 2nd</u> NOTE*	<u>November 6th</u>	<u>November 13th</u>	<u>November 20th</u>
1st	<i>Jim Mieske</i>	<i>Chuck Stimming</i>	<i>Chuck Stimming</i>	<i>Sean Garber</i>
2nd	<i>Don Woods</i>	<i>Butch Meese</i>	<i>Larry Strommen</i>	<i>Butch Meese</i>
2nd	...	<i>Don Woods</i>	<i>Sean Garber</i>	<i>Chuck Stimming</i>

Note* - The results from October 2nd were omitted from last month's newsletter and gammon points. The gammon points from the **45th Indiana Open** are now included. The current gammon standings are correctly updated.

Special **K** Club

When you sit down to play a match, on average, you are 50% to win the match. With a full field of 16 players on Thursday evening, your chances of winning are 1 in 16. Some players have not only won first place two weeks, but three weeks in a row. Sean Garber and Don Woods have done it. And Chuck Stimming did it the last week in October and the first two weeks of November this year. A player's chances of winning ten matches in a row is 1 in 1024. In mathematics, the letter **K** is used to represent (or shorthand) 1024.

A person's chances of winning the Hoosier Lottery is over 12 million to 1, or like winning over 23 matches in a row. Checking the last 10 years of HBC history, a select group of players have put together a winning streak of 10 matches or more. Below are those rare streaks. Note: A player's streak does not end just because s/he misses an event or two. The streak can continue on any weekly play and any one-day tournament that a player competes in.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>String Breaker</u>
Rick Reahard	June 16-30, 1988	11	Butch Meese
Ken Bruck	Nov 29-Dec 01, 1998	10	Mick Dobratz
Larry Strommen	Dec 8-23, 1988	11	Butch Meese
Chuck Stimming	Dec 29-Jan 12, 1989	11	Glen Theobald
Butch Meese	June 8-15, 29, 1989	14	David Smith
Butch Meese	Sep 28 - Oct 12, 1989	12	Brian Nelson
Jim Curtis	Jun 25-July 2, 1992	10	Don Woods
Chuck Stimming	Oct 22, 29-Nov 05, 1992	12	Wendy Kaplan
Don Woods	Dec 9-Jan 6, 1994	17**	Butch Meese
Chuck Stimming	Apr 20-May 11, 1995	10	Woody Woodworth
Sean Garber	Jul 25-Aug 15, 1996	12	Larry Strommen
Don Woods	Oct 31-Nov 21, 1996	10	Mary Ann Meese
Chuck Stimming	Oct 30-Nov 20, 1997	13	Sean Garber

** Club Record - 17 in a row (1 in 131072)

In compiling those results, three players have won three events in a row: **Don Woods**, **Sean Garber** and **Chuck Stimming**. Three players have cashed in six straight events: **Butch Meese**, **Sean Garber** and **Don Woods** and one player had cashed in seven straight events: **Woody Woodworth**.