

# 40th CHICAGO OPEN

## BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT

Memorial Day Weekend  
May 20–25, 2020

Sheraton Suites Chicago-O'Hare  
6501 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL 60018

### Tournament Conditions

- ▶ The Chicago Open is by invitation only.
- ▶ The Director reserves the right to refuse an entrant without giving any reason.
- ▶ All fees paid onsite must be in cash.
- ▶ Eligibility for all events is subject to approval.
- ▶ All events at the Chicago Open will be played in accord with the USBGF Tournament Rules.
- ▶ The High Roller, BMAB, Markowitz Masters, Faster Master, Open Jackpot, and the Doubles Tournament will be **"Clocks Required"** events. All other events will be **"Clocks Preferred."** The director may place a clock on any match that is unduly holding up the tournament.
- ▶ Baffle Boxes may be used by either player upon request but may not be forced upon one's opponent.
- ▶ Videotaping in the Open Division & Markowitz Masters is permissible by either player upon request. All matches in the High Roller may be recorded.
- ▶ The Chicago Open is a USBGF Prime Tournament. \$500 will be added to the 1-Point Quickie and \$50 will be added to the Novice Division. To qualify for the added money a player must be a USBGF Member.
- ▶ The number of places paid in any event is dependent upon the number of entrants and may be adjusted at the Director's discretion.

*Please bring your own board and digital clock*



2019 Champion  
Alexandra Knupfer



2019 Doubles Champions Akemi Ota and Emil Mortuk

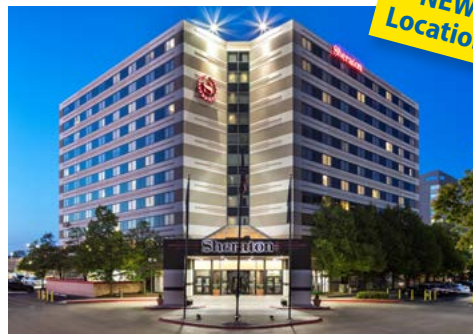
### Hotel Reservations

The Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare is offering a special rate of **\$124** per night for single or double occupancy. This rate includes a hot breakfast buffet for 2 guests per night. Be sure to mention the Chicago Open Backgammon Tournament when making your reservations. You may call one of the numbers below or book online at [Marriott.com/CHIS1](http://Marriott.com/CHIS1) and enter the group booking code **COBCOBC**.

#### Call for Reservations

800-325-3535 (Central Reservations)  
or 847-699-6300 (Hotel Direct)

**All reservations must be made by May 13, 2020 to guarantee the group rate.**



**NEW Location!**

### Hotel Information

The Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare completed a full hotel renovation in 2018. All 296 suites are oversized for extra comfort. Amenities include complimentary wireless Internet access, microwaves, mini-refrigerators, a fitness center, a business center, and free parking for all Tournament attendees.

### Main Tournament Details

**The Open Tournament** will be a "More Swiss" format. 9-point matches. \$400 entry fee, 90% return, \$100 side pool. Visit [ChicagoOpenBG.com/main/#format](http://ChicagoOpenBG.com/main/#format) for full tournament details.

**The Advanced Tournament** will be a "More Swiss" format. 7-point matches. \$150 entry fee, 85% return, \$50 side pool. Visit [ChicagoOpenBG.com/main/#format](http://ChicagoOpenBG.com/main/#format) for full tournament details.

**The Novice Tournament** will be determined by the number of entrants but will most likely start as a round robin and finish with a playoff. 100% return plus \$50 added from the USBGF.

**Unlucky Dice Last Chance** – All players in the Open and Advanced who lose 4 matches between Friday and Saturday (end of round 6) will get a "Free Roll" into this single elimination event to be played on Sunday. All matches are 5 points. Anytime an Advanced player faces an Open Player they will start with a 1-0 lead. 1st Place is a custom FTH Backgammon Board and 2nd Place is \$300.



Please support Backgammon's #1 sponsor Gammon Stuff by making your next purchase at [GammonStuff.com](http://GammonStuff.com).

In partnership with the USBGF, matches will be streamed all weekend! Please use the following links to view these live streams.

<https://www.twitch.tv/apbg>  
[https://www.twitch.tv/apbg\\_2](https://www.twitch.tv/apbg_2)  
[https://www.twitch.tv/apbg\\_3](https://www.twitch.tv/apbg_3)

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Rory Pascar at (617) 699-9100  
or [Rory@ChicagoOpenBG.com](mailto:Rory@ChicagoOpenBG.com)

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May 20–25, 2020  
[ChicagoOpenBG.com](http://ChicagoOpenBG.com)

*featuring*

**NEW HOTEL** with full hot breakfast buffet included in the hotel rate

**NEW Upgraded Hospitality** details inside

**Carol Joy Cole's Boutique**

**Test & Lecture**

**Sunday** - The Backgammon Proficiency Test  
**Monday** - 2017 Giant #2 Michihito "Michy" Kageyama and a special guest will offer a comprehensive review of the test

**\$1,000 "Spot It" Free Roll**  
if registered by May 6th

Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare  
Rosemont, Illinois



# Schedule of Events

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020

- 2:00 PM** Registration Opens for High Roller & BMAB
- 3:00 PM** High Roller Qualifier Begins
- 4:00 PM** BMAB Begins (1 Round Before Dinner, 2 Rounds After)
- 6:00 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Chicago Style Italian Beef and Sausages
- 7:00 PM** High Roller Begins

## THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020

- 10:00 AM** Registration Continues
- 11:00 AM** High Roller Round of 8
- 11:00 AM** BMAB Continues (Final 2 Rounds)
- 11:00 AM** Seniors Tournament Begins (Continuous Entries to 64)
- 11:00 AM** 1-Point Quickie Begins (USBG Prime \$500 Added)
- 11:00 AM** 5-Point Blitzes Begins
- 12:00 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Build Your Own Sandwiches
- 2:00 PM** Markowitz Masters Qualifier Begins
- 2:00 PM** Faster Master Start Time #1
- 2:00 PM** Open Jackpot Start Time #1
- 2:00 PM** Limited Jackpot Start Time #1
- 3:00 PM** High Roller Semi-Finals
- 6:00 PM** **EVENING MEAL** BBQ Home Smoked Pulled Pork, Chicken, Sides, & Dessert
- 7:00 PM** High Roller Finals
- 7:00 PM** Markowitz Masters Start Time #1
- 7:00 PM** Faster Master Start Time #2
- 7:00 PM** Open Jackpot Start Time #2
- 7:00 PM** Limited Jackpot Start Time #2
- 8:30 PM** Taki Board Tournament Begins
- 8:30 PM** Mustafa Sayid Board Tournament Begins

## FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2020

- 10:00 AM** Registration Continues
- 11:00 AM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Lasagna and Salad
- 12:00 PM** Doubles Tournament Begins (first 3 rounds will be played)
- 12:00 PM** Markowitz Masters Start Time #2
- 12:00 PM** Open Jackpot Start Time #3
- 12:00 PM** Limited Jackpot Start Time #3
- 4:00 PM** **Registration Closes for Open & Advanced Divisions**
- 4:00 PM** Welcome Reception (Beer and Wine)
- 5:00 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Taco Dinner
- 6:30 PM** **Pre-Tournament Announcements**
- CHICAGO OPEN MAIN TOURNAMENT BEGINS**
- 7:00 PM** Round 1 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 9:15 PM** Round 2 for Open and Advanced Divisions

## SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2020

- 10:30 AM** Round 3 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 12:00 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Quizno's Sandwiches and Chips
- 1:00 PM** Play Begins Novice Division
- 1:00 PM** Round 4 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 3:15 PM** Round 5 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 5:45 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Dinner Break / Optional Banquet
- 8:00 PM** Calcutta Auction followed by Round 6 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 9:30 PM** All Side Events Continue
- 10:00 PM** Doubles Tournament Round of 8 (if necessary)

## SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

- 9:30 AM** The Backgammon Proficiency Test
- 11:00 AM** Round 7 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 11:00 AM** Play Continues Novice Division
- 11:30 AM** The "Unlucky Dice" Last Chance Begins
- 12:30 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Turkish Luncheon Buffet
- 2:00 PM** Round 8 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 3:00 PM** Sunday Jackpots begin
- 4:15 PM** Round 9 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 6:00 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Chinese Food Buffet
- 7:00 PM** Round 10 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 8:30 PM** All Side Events Continue
- 9:00 PM** Doubles Tournament Semi-Finals
- 9:00 PM** Round 11 for Open and Advanced Divisions

## MONDAY, MAY 25, 2020

- 9:30 AM** USBGF Lecture: Backgammon Proficiency test
- 11:00 AM** Round 12 for Open and Advanced Divisions
- 12:00 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Build Your Own Sandwiches
- 1:00 PM** Finals of All Side Events
- 4:00 PM** **Closing Ceremonies and Awards Reception** (Beer and Wine)
- 5:30 PM** After Tourney Tourney Begins

**NEW Upgraded Hospitality with more healthy options. Featuring a more social atmosphere with Opening & Closing Ceremonies to include beer & wine**

**NEW Menu Items – Including Italian Beef and Sausages, Lasagna, Tacos and more...**

# Side Event Details

## Markowitz Masters

\$600 entry fee, \$400 Re-buy, 90% return, \$200 side pool, 11-point matches. Optional \$300 qualifier at 2:00 PM Thursday. This is a "Clocks Required" event.

## Faster Master

\$500 entry fee, 90% return, \$200 side pool, 11-point matches. This is a "Clocks Required" event with a 10 second delay and 1 minute per point reserve time.

## Open Jackpot

\$300 entry fee, \$200 Re-buy, 85% return, \$100 side pool, 9-point matches, Top World Class players are not eligible. This is a "Clocks Required" event.

## Limited Jackpot

\$150 entry fee, \$100 Re-buy, 85% return, \$50 side pool, 9-point matches. Open/Championship level players are not eligible.

## Doubles Tournament

\$300 entry fee, 85% return, 7-point matches. This is a "Clocks Required" event.

## FTH Board Tournament

\$125 entry fee, 85% return, 7-point matches, 1st place wins a custom FTH Board (based on 8 players). To be played Sunday and/or Monday. Continuous entries all weekend until field of 8 is complete.

## Taki Board Tournament

\$150 entry fee, 87.5% return, 7-point matches, 1st place wins Taki Board and 2nd place wins \$600 (based on 16 players). Continuous entries all weekend until field of 16 is complete.

## Mustafa Sayid Board Tournament

\$200 entry fee, 87.5% return, 7-point matches, 1st place wins Mustafa Sayid Board and 2nd place wins \$600 (based on 16 players). Continuous entries all weekend until field of 16 is complete.

## Seniors Tournament

\$50 entry fee, 80% return, 7-point matches. Limited to players age 55 and up.

## The Blitz

\$30 entry fee, 83.3% return, 5-point matches. 4-player knock-outs. Winner gets paid \$100

## Sunday Jackpots

\$250, \$100 & \$50 entry fee, 85% return, 7-point matches.

## 1-Point Quickie (USBG Prime \$500 added)

\$20 entry fee, 80% return, 1-point matches

## The After Tourney Tourney

\$100 entry fee, 80% return, \$50 side pool, 7-point matches.

**100% Return in All Side Pools**

# High Roller



## \$1600 High Roller – Limited to 16 players

- 1st Place - \$12,000\*
- 2nd Place - \$6,000\*
- 3rd/4th - \$3,000\*

\*Payouts based on a full 16-player field

## SCHEDULE

### Wednesday May 20th

- 2:00 PM** Registration
- 3:00 PM** \$800 Qualifier – 5-pt. matches
- 7:00 PM** Round of 16 – 17-pt. matches

### Thursday May 21st

- 11:00 AM** Round of 8 – 17-pt. matches
- 3:00 PM** Semi-Finals – 19-pt. matches
- 7:00 PM** Finals – 21-point match

**Starts Wed,  
May 20 at  
7:00 PM**

# BMAB in Chicago

For the First time the BMAB will host a tournament at the Chicago Open. Anyone is eligible to enter this event except for those participating in the High Roller which will be played concurrently. Dmitriy Obukhov will direct this BMAB event. Should you have any questions please email him directly at DmitriyObukhov@gmail.com.

## Format

Participants will play 5-rounds of 9-point matches. The first three rounds are random pairings followed by two rounds of Swiss pairings. All matches will be played with clocks set to the standard 2-min per point bank with a 12-second delay. All matches will be recorded and transcribed to electronic match files then analyzed by the current version of eXtremeGammon using BMAB settings.

## Fees

Entry Fee is \$100 (100% return)  
Side Pool A \$50 and B \$100 (100% return)  
PR Side Pool C \$50 and D \$100 (110% return)  
To enter side pool B, side pool A must also be entered.  
Similarly, to enter PR side pool D, PR side pool C must also be entered.  
Registration Fee \$40  
Transcription Fee \$25 (will be refunded if you transcribe 2 matches)

## SCHEDULE

### Wednesday May 20th

- 2:00 PM** Registration begins
- 4:00 PM** Round 1
- 6:00 PM** Dinner
- 7:00 PM** Rounds 2 & 3

### Thursday May 21st

- 11:00 AM** Rounds 4 & 5

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## BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT

### Entry Form

Thank you for planning to attend the 40th Chicago Open Backgammon Tournament. There are many exciting events planned for this year's tournament. The schedule and entry form are designed to allow players the ability to enter as many events as possible. Please select **no more than one event from each block**, then enter the entry fee and side pool, if applicable, on each line to the right. Remember, should you lose in a re-buy event you may choose to re-buy into another block start time onsite. Events not listed on this entry form do not have preregistration. Please enter these events onsite.

#### PAYMENTS:

##### OPTION 1

Mail a minimum deposit of \$100 along with your entry form **before May 6th** to:

**Rory Pascar**  
**325 Munroe Circle**  
**Des Plaines, IL 60016**

*Make checks payable to Rory Pascar.*



##### OPTION 2

Pay online with Zelle. Send your payment to Rory Pascar using his email address:

**Rory@ChicagoOpenBG.com**

If paying by Zelle please also email a completed entry form.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**A Late fee of \$20 will added to all entries not mailed before May 6, 2020**

# 40th Chicago Open Entry Form

Select **no more than ONE Event** from each block

Main Event	Entry Fee	Side Pool
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Division	\$400	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Division	\$150	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Novice Division	\$30	\$ _____

\$1600 High Roller or BMAB	Entry Fee	Side Pool
<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 PM HR Qualifier	\$800	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 PM BMAB	\$100	onsite
<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 PM HR Full Entry	\$1600	\$ _____

Thursday May 21st 2:00 PM	Entry Fee	Side Pool
<input type="checkbox"/> Markowitz Masters Qualifier Winners will play again at 7:00 PM	\$300	
<input type="checkbox"/> Faster Master	\$500	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Jackpot	\$300	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Jackpot	\$150	\$50 \$ _____

Thursday May 21st 7:00 PM	Entry Fee	Side Pool
<input type="checkbox"/> Markowitz Masters	\$600	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> Faster Master	\$500	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Jackpot	\$300	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Jackpot	\$150	\$50 \$ _____

Friday May 22nd 12:00 PM	Entry Fee	Side Pool
<input type="checkbox"/> Doubles	\$300	

PARTNER'S NAME

<input type="checkbox"/> Markowitz Masters	\$600	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Jackpot	\$300	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Jackpot	\$150	\$50 \$ _____

Other Side Events	Entry Fee	Side Pool
<input type="checkbox"/> FTH Board	\$125	
<input type="checkbox"/> Taki Board	\$150	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mustafa Sayid Board	\$200	\$ _____

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hospitality (Novice Pay 1/2 Price)	\$80	\$ 80
Total Entry Fees		\$ _____

**Total Enclosed** (Minimum \$100 Deposit) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**A Late fee of \$20 will added to all entries not mailed before May 6, 2020**