

38th CHICAGO OPEN

BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT

Memorial Day Weekend
May 24 – 28, 2018

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Chicago-O'Hare
10233 West Higgins 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 (September 2017).
- ▶ USA vs Japan, the Markowitz Masters, the Faster Master, and the Doubles Tournament will be "**Clocks Required**" events. All other events will be "**Clocks Preferred**." Any Novice or Intermediate player using a clock in any event may request an extended delay time of 15 seconds. 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 USA vs Japan may be recorded.
- ▶ The Chicago Open is a USBGF Prime Tournament. \$500 will be added to the 1-Point Quickie. 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



Hotel Reservations

The Holiday Inn & Suites is offering a special rate of **\$109** per night for single or double occupancy. 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 HIRosemont.com and enter the group code **B18**.

Call for Reservations

800-972-2494 or 847-954-8600
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Chicago-O'Hare
10233 West Higgins Road
Rosemont, IL 60018

All reservations must be made by May 14, 2018 to guarantee the group rate.



Saturday Banquet Dinner

During the Saturday night dinner break, Rory Pascar will be hosting an optional dinner banquet at the Ram Restaurant and Brewery (9520 West Higgins Road, Rosemont, IL 60018). Rory will take a moment to recognize some members within our small Backgammon community for their dedication to the game and its continued growth.

The cost of the dinner will be \$30 and includes appetizers, an entrée of your choice, dessert, and a non-alcoholic beverage.

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

USBGF.org/stream and USBGF.org/stream2

QUESTIONS? Contact Rory Pascar at (617) 699-9100 or Rory@ChicagoOpenBG.com

Hotel Information

The Holiday Inn and Suites Chicago O'Hare Rosemont completed a \$10 million dollar renovation in 2016. The entire hotel: 300 guest rooms, suites, public areas, meeting rooms, fitness center and business center are newly designed and look fantastic!

Amenities Include

- ▶ HD flat screen televisions
- ▶ Complimentary high-speed wired/wireless Internet access
- ▶ Microwaves
- ▶ Refrigerators
- ▶ Free parking
- ▶ Business center
- ▶ Fitness center
- ▶ Gift shop
- ▶ Snack shop
- ▶ Harry Caray's Italian Steakhouse is adjacent to the hotel's lobby and there are over 30 restaurants within a 5 minute drive.

Transportation

O'Hare International Airport (ORD)

The hotel is located in the O'Hare International Center just one mile from Chicago O'Hare Airport. The hotel offers a complimentary 24-hour hotel airport shuttle.

Chicago Midway Airport (MDW)

Approximate driving time to the hotel is 45 minutes and the distance is about 30 miles. As you leave the airport follow signs to I-55 South. Drive 8.3 miles and take exit 277A. Merge onto I-294 North and drive 16.8 miles. Take the I-90/N-W Tollway exit toward I-190 W/O'Hare and follow the signs to I-190 W. Once on I-190 W follow the driving directions below.

Driving Directions

Head towards O'Hare from any Chicago Area highway. Once you are on I-190 W towards O'Hare, take the Mannheim Rd North exit. Go to the second stop light on Mannheim Rd and turn right at Higgins Rd. The entrance to the hotel is an immediate right once on Higgins Rd. Look for the Harry Caray's sign on the side of the building to your left.

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featuring

USA vs Japan



\$500 Added from the USBGF Prime Tournament Fund

Customized FTH Board

(The Winner of the Open will compete against the Winner of the Intermediate)

Customized P-40 Board

will be awarded to the Winner of the Unlucky Dice Last Chance

Carol Joy Cole's Boutique

Test & Lecture

Sunday - The Backgammon Proficiency Test

Monday - 2015 Giant #1 Masayuki "Mochy" Mochizuki & Giant #2 Michihito "Michy" Kageyama will offer a comprehensive review of the test

**Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
@ O'Hare International Airport
Rosemont, Illinois**



Entry Form

Mail a minimum \$50 deposit **before May 14th** to:
Rory Pascar
325 Munroe Circle
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Make checks payable to Rory Pascar.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE & ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please enter me as follows:

- AFTER MAY 14
- Open Division \$400 ... \$420
- Intermediate Division \$150 ... \$165
- Novice Division \$30

Markowitz Masters

- 4:30 PM Qualifier \$300
- 7:00 PM Start \$600
- Faster Master \$500
- Limited Jackpot \$150
- Taki Board Tournament \$150
- Doubles Tournament \$300

PARTNER _____

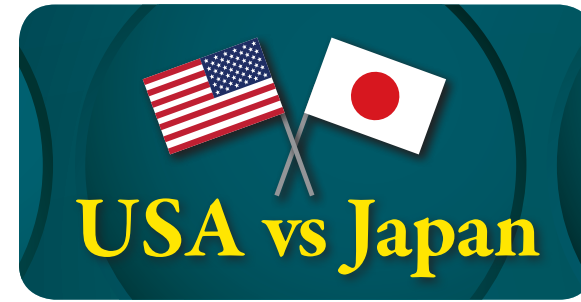
- After Tourney Tourney \$100
- Optional Banquet Dinner
on Saturday Night \$30
- Hospitality Fee \$60
Children Eat Free!!!

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Schedule of Events

THURS. MAY 24	10:30 AM	Registration for USA vs Japan
	11:00 AM	Tournament Rules and Public Draw
	12:00 PM	USA vs Japan Begins
	3:00 PM	1-Point Quickie Begins (USBGF Prime \$500 Added)
	6:00 PM	MEAL BBQ Pulled Pork & Pulled Chicken
	9:00 AM	MEAL Bagels, Lox, Fresh Fruit, & Yogurt
FRIDAY MAY 25	10:00 AM	Registration Continues USA vs Japan FINALS
	1:00 PM	Blitz Begins
	2:00 PM	Faster Master Begins Limited Jackpot Begins
	3:00 PM	Seniors Tournament Begins
	4:30 PM	Markowitz Masters Qualifier Begins
	6:00 PM	MEAL Chinese Food Buffet (First Serving)
	7:00 PM	Markowitz Masters Begins
	7:30 PM	Doubles Tournament Begins
	8:00 PM	Taki Board Tournament Begins
	8:30 PM	MEAL Chinese Food Buffet (Second Serving)
	10:00 PM	Registration Closes
SATURDAY MAY 26	9:00 AM	MEAL Bagels, Lox, Fresh Fruit, & Yogurt
	10:00 AM	Calcutta Auction
	11:00 AM	MEAL Bari Sandwiches & Chips
	11:30 AM	Play Begins for Open and Intermediate Divisions
	1:00 PM	Play Begins Novice Division
	6:00 PM	MEAL Dinner Break / Optional Banquet
	8:00 PM	Play Resumes All Events
SUNDAY MAY 27	9:00 AM	MEAL Bagels, Lox, Fresh Fruit, & Yogurt
	9:30 AM	The Backgammon Proficiency Test
	11:00 AM	Open, Intermediate, and Novice Divisions Resume
	11:30 AM	Unlucky Dice Last Chance Begins
	12:30 PM	MEAL Turkish Luncheon Buffet
	1:30 PM	Sunday Jackpots begin
	6:00 PM	MEAL Rosati's Pizza & Salad
MONDAY MAY 28	9:00 AM	MEAL Doughnuts, Fresh Fruit, & Yogurt
	10:00 AM	Masayuki "Mochy" Mochizuki & Michihito "Michy" Kageyama will offer a comprehensive review of the Backgammon Proficiency Test
	11:30 AM	Open and Intermediate Divisions Resume
	12:30 PM	MEAL Potbelly's Sandwiches
	2:00 PM	After Tourney Tourney Begins
	4:00 PM	Last Entry For After Tourney Tourney

USA vs Japan



USA vs Japan will feature many of the top backgammon players from both powerhouse countries. Team Japan will be captained by Masayuki Mochizuki, Michihito Kageyama & Akiko Yazawa while team USA will be captained by Victor Ashkenazi, Petko Kostadinov & Matt Cohn-Geier. The number of players on each team will be dependent upon the number of players coming from Japan.

Starts Thursday, May 24th at 12 PM

Tournament Format

The Preliminary Stage will be an Olympiad of Backgammon designed to put all your skills to the test. It will feature four variations of the game: DMP, SpeedGammon, score based scenarios, and standard 7-point matches. The stage will conclude with a most challenging Backgammon Quiz. During Stage 1, points will be awarded for each match victory. The total points earned by each team will determine what advantage will be given to one of the teams in the Championship Stage (example Japan starts 3-0 in 15-point match).

In the Championship Stage, the Nations will divide themselves into 3 teams. These teams will go head to head in three separate 15-point matches. The Nation with the advantage gained during the Preliminary Stage will have the bonus of deciding the team pairings for the Championship Stage. The Nation that wins 2 out of 3 matches will earn the victory.

- ▶ \$600 entry fee per player, 100% Return
- ▶ \$400 Optional Side Pool for Individuals in the Preliminary Stage

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 for full tournament details.

The Intermediate Tournament will match the Open Division and will be a "More Swiss" format. 7-point matches. \$150 entry fee, 85% return, \$50 side pool. Visit ChicagoOpenBG.com 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.

Unlucky Dice Last Chance – All players in the Open and Intermediate that lose 4 matches on Saturday will get a "Free Roll" into this single elimination event to be played on Sunday. All matches are 7 points. Anytime an Intermediate player faces an Open Player they will start with a 1-0 lead. 1st Place is a custom P-40 Backgammon Board and 2nd Place is \$250.

Side Event Details

Markowitz Masters

\$600 entry fee, \$400 Re-buy, 90% return, \$200 side pool, 11-point matches. Optional \$300 qualifier at 4:30 PM Friday. 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.

Limited Jackpot

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

Doubles Tournament

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

Taki Board Tournament

\$150 entry fee, 85% return, 7-point matches, 1st place

wins Taki Board and 2nd place wins \$600 (based on 16 players).

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 (USBGF 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. Continuous entries from 2 PM until 4 PM on Monday.

100% Return in All Side Pools