

# 40th CHICAGO OPEN

## BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT

Memorial Day Weekend

May 25–30, 2022

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 with the following options:
  - Legal Moves
  - Dice on Checker
- ▶ The BMAB, ABT Open Championship, ABT Intermediate Division, Markowitz Masters, Faster Master, Open Jackpot, Intermediate 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.
- ▶ Recording of any/all matches is permissible by either player upon request.
- ▶ 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

### 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* and enter the group booking code **CBACBAC**.

#### Call for Reservations

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

**All reservations must be made by May 18, 2022 to guarantee the group rate.**



### Hotel Information

The Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare completed a full hotel renovation over the past two years. 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.



2019 Doubles Champions Akemi Ota and Emil Mortuk

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

### Main Tournament Details

**The Open Championship** will be a "MoreSwiss" format. 9-point matches. \$400 entry fee, 90% return, \$100 side pool. Visit *ChicagoOpenBG.com/main/#format* for full tournament details.

**The Intermediate Division** will be the "MoreSwiss" format. 9-point matches. \$150 entry fee, 85% return, \$50 side pool. Visit *ChicagoOpenBG.com/main/#format* for full tournament details.

**The Novice Division** will be determined by the number of entrants but will most likely start as a round robin and finish with a playoff. 100% return.

**Unlucky Dice Last Chance** – All players in the Open and Intermediate who lose 4 matches Saturday (end of round 5) will get a "Free Roll" into this single elimination event to be played on Sunday. All matches are 5 points. Anytime an Intermediate player faces an Open Player they will start with a 1-0 lead. 1st Place will receive a custom ArtGammon Backgammon Board thanks to our sponsor Gammon Guys.

#### Tournament Ruling Committee:

Ben Friesen, Bill Riles, Carol Joy Cole,  
Neil Kazaross & Frank Talbot

#### Tournament Eligibility Committee:

Ben Friesen, Dmitriy Obukhov, Rory Pascar

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

<https://youtube.com/backgammongalaxy>  
<https://youtube.com/aplive>

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[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**

**Lecture**

**Sunday** - Professor of Backgammon Phil Simborg presents a lecture titled "Challenge Gammon – participate, learn, and maybe win!"

Sheraton Suites Chicago O'Hare  
Rosemont, Illinois



# Schedule of Events

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022

- 5:00 PM** Registration Opens for BMAB
- 6:00 PM** BMAB Begins (3 Rounds to be Played Wednesday Night)

## THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022

- 11:00 AM** BMAB Continues (Final 2 Rounds)
- 1:00 PM** Registration Opens for All Events
- 1:30 PM** 1-Point Quickie Begins
- 1:30 PM** 5-Point Blitzes Begin
- 2:00 PM** Juniors vs Seniors Begins
- 2:00 PM** SpeedGammon Begins
- 3:00 PM** Markowitz Masters Qualifier Begins
- 3:00 PM** Faster Master Start Time #1
- 3:15 PM** Open Jackpot Start Time #1
- 3:15 PM** Intermediate Jackpot Start Time #1
- 6:00 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Thin Crust Pizza w/ Salad
- 7:00 PM** Markowitz Masters Start Time #1
- 7:00 PM** Faster Master Start Time #2
- 7:15 PM** Open Jackpot Start Time #2
- 7:15 PM** Intermediate Jackpot Start Time #2
- 8:30 PM** Taki Board Tournament Begins
- 10:00 PM** No More Matches Begin

## FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2022

- 11:00 AM** Registration Continues
- 12:00 PM** Doubles Tournament Begins (first 3 rounds will be played)
- 12:00 PM** Markowitz Masters Start Time #2
- 12:15 PM** Open Jackpot Start Time #3
- 12:15 PM** Intermediate Jackpot Start Time #3
- 5:00 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Traditional Turkish Cuisine
- 6:00 PM** Round 3 of All Jackpots Begin
- 6:00 PM** All Side Events Continue
- 10:30 PM** No More Matches Begin
- 11:30 PM** Registration Closes for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions

## SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2022

- 10:00 AM** Welcome Announcements & Calcutta Auction  
**CHICAGO OPEN ABT MAIN TOURNAMENT BEGINS**
- 11:00 AM** Round 1 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 12:30 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Italian Beef & Sausages
- 1:00 PM** Novice Division Begins
- 1:30 PM** Round 2 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 3:45 PM** Round 3 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 6:00 PM** **Dinner Break - Optional Banquet**
- 8:00 PM** Round 4 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 10:00 PM** Round 5 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 11:00 PM** All Side Events Continue
- 11:30 PM** No Matches More Begin

## SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2022

- 9:30 AM** Professor of Backgammon Phil Simborg presents a lecture titled "Challenge Gammon – participate, learn, and maybe win!"
- 11:00 AM** Round 6 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 11:30 AM** The "Unlucky Dice" Last Chance Begins
- 11:30 AM** Play Continues Novice Division
- 12:30 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** Lasagna & Salad
- 1:30 PM** Round 7 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 3:45 PM** Round 8 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 5:30 PM** **EVENING MEAL** Chinese Food Buffet
- 6:30 PM** Round 9 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 8:30 PM** Round 10 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 9:00 PM** All Side Events Continue
- 11:00 PM** No More Matches Begin

## MONDAY, MAY 30, 2022

- 11:30 AM** Round 11 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions
- 11:30 AM** All Side Events Continue
- 12:30 PM** **AFTERNOON MEAL** SAM's Sandwiches
- 2:00 PM** Round 12 for ABT Open and Intermediate Divisions (if necessary)
- 3:00 PM** After Tourney Tourney Begins

**NEW Menu Items – Including Italian Beef and Sausages, Lasagna, Sam's deli sandwichess and more...**

**NEW Upgraded Hospitality with more healthy options and more social atmosphere.**

# Side Event Details

## Markowitz Masters

\$600 entry fee, \$500 Re-Entry, 90% return, \$200 side pool, 11-point matches. Optional \$300 qualifier at 3:00 PM Thursday. This is a "Clocks Required" event (2 min / 12 sec).

## Faster Master

\$500 entry fee, \$400 Re-Entry, 90% return, \$200 side pool, 11-point matches. This is a "Clocks Required" event (1 min / 10 sec).

## Open Jackpot

\$300 entry fee, \$200 Re-Entry, 85% return, \$100 side pool, 9-point matches, Top World Class players are not eligible. This is a "Clocks Required" event (2 min / 12 sec).

## Intermediate Jackpot

\$150 entry fee, \$100 Re-Entry, 85% return, \$50 side pool, 9-point matches. Open/Championship level players are not eligible. This is a "Clocks Required" event (2 min / 15 sec).

## Doubles Tournament

\$300 entry fee, 80% return, 7-point matches. This is a "Clocks Required" event (3 min / 15 sec).

## 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.

## SpeedGammon

\$100 entry fee, 85% return, \$50 side pool, 7-point matches. This is a "Clocks Required" event (2 min total / 10 sec).

## Juniors (under 60) vs Seniors (60+) Tournament

\$60 entry fee, 80% return, \$30 side pool, 7-point matches. There will be 2 brackets. The winner of the Juniors will face the winner of the Seniors for \$500 in added money and a seat in the 2023 USBGF National Championship.

## The Blitz

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

## 1-Point Quickie

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

## The After Tourney Tourney

\$60 entry fee, 80% return, \$30 side pool, 5-point matches.

**95% Return in All Side Pools**



**REGISTER ONLINE**  
on the  
**Chicago Open website:**  
**www.ChicagoOpenBG.com**

## BMAB in Chicago

For the First time the BMAB will host a tournament at the Chicago Open. 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 25th**

**5:00 PM** Registration begins

**6:00 PM** Rounds 1-3

**Thursday May 26th**

**11:00 AM** Final 2 Rounds