

CRIBBAGE WORLD

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CARDS MUST BE CUT

Ye gads and suffering succotash. The biggest change in American cribbage since the English brought it over on the Mayflower. The rules have been changed to protect the innocent, & they now read: "The Cards MUST Be Cut after the shuffle.

It all started a month or so ago at a recent tournament where they say they caught a player red-handed stacking the cards. The cards MUST be cut after the shuffle was put into a motion with an appropriate second. The result of a telephone vote by the Congress Officers and Directors was 27 to 3 in favor of the new rule. The three votes were not actually against it. They weren't too happy with monkeying around with rules which would further delay the printing thereof.

After checking with several tournament operators we find they highly suspect players of the same thing AND it is coming from every section of the country; far-west, midwest, west, east, northeast and southeast. The southwest is clean - we don't know of any tournaments in that part of the country...

Why are cribbage players so trusting ? That is the question !!!!! With a little practice anyone of you could stack two five-spots as second and fourth cards from the top of the deck, keep them there for three, four or five riffles and there you've got it.

Who ever heard of not cutting the cards during a game of poker, pinochle, bridge, and

CUT (Continued)

gin rummy. These games you play with friends and acquaintances while at a cribbage tournament you haven't even seen 90 percent of your opponents before you sat down at the table with them. We like to say it is a game for ladies and gents, but there are strong indications others play it too.

Just think about it. Who wouldn't like to have two five-spots every other hand????? So we're asking that you accept this vital change with good graces and help us improve the game. If you fight it and beat it - you beat yourself.

- end -

LEAGUE PLAYERS RATING SYSTEM

It's off the drawing board & just about ready for presentation to the Board of Directors... The "Rating Index" (classy name huh) will take into consideration a player's won-lost percentage, average peg-count per game and skunks. Lots of people tell us skunks are an important part of the game & that's why they are part of the rating index. It is a simple system, one which players can easily remember and readily calculate.

There are only three basic elements to consider. Here is how it works:

- 1) The player's average score is understandably the base of the index. The average is figured out to the one-hundredth decimal.
- 2) Next comes the won & lost percentage which is multiplied by ten & then added to the index.
- 3) The difference of skunks won over skunks lost are worth one-tenth of a point each. However, should a player lose more skunks than he

RATING SYSTEM (Continued)

wins then this would have an adverse effect on his rating index. One-tenth of a point minus for each skunk lost over the number of skunks won....Here are some examples:

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>GP</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Averag</u>	<u>SkW</u>	<u>SkL</u>
A-	20	4	.833	24	2838	118.25	10	1
B-	15	5	.750	20	2224	111.20	4	2
C-	16	8	.667	24	2736	114.00	5	3
Z-	4	16	.200	20	2008	100.40	1	7

Index Rating

	<u>Average</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Skunk</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
A	118.25	8.33	+ .90	127.48
B	111.20	7.50	+ .20	118.90
C	114.00	6.67	+ .20	120.87
Z	100.40	2.00	- .60	101.80

Forms are being prepared, on the reverse-side of which will include instructions for completion and basic qualifications. The forms will have columns for the basic league data plus a column for membership number. Non-members will not be rated. These forms will be furnished league secretaries who will submit them periodically to the Congress Rating Secretary.

If you plan to join or start a league, hold onto this issue & when the time comes apply for a sanction. The sanction fee is currently \$1.00 per player with a \$16.00 minimum.. Larger leagues that are split into divisions (& provide for a super-bowl type play-off) will submit a form for each division of the league. Should the Directors vote favorably, this sytem will be placed in effect on the 1st of September 1981. Doubles leagues may participate, however, only singles competition will be considered & entered on the form.

- SCORE BOARD -

Where to begin ? So much has happened since the last results and the latest Master Point list were published in the February edition. The last ranking list included seven tournaments, the largest being the Milwaukee Open with 150 entries. Since then there has been another ten sanctioned tournaments and the inaugural at Green Bay broke all previous records with 282 entries. Hail to the MGM Open for its great attendance.

The Wisconsin Big Cheese Classic didn't go over as well as everyone connected with it had hoped. On the other hand, it wasn't a flop either. Three of the original 6 sites had to fold-up their tents. They didn't get started in sufficient time. Another thing that hurt was that the reins were transferred during the very late stages of the big operation. The word is "Wait til Next Year."

A nice surprise were the 184 entries at the Minnesota Open at St Paul; especially when director Bob Immel was prepared to drop one hundred bucks. St Paul is definitely a big cribbage haven - no doubt about it.

St Paul: The winner of the Minnesota Open was its organizer Mr Robert L. Immel, the ex-Captain of Semper Fi, while the runner-up was Ken Gross. Both these gents hail from the little burg of Northfield, MN, which just may be famous for rearing cribbage players if nothing else. Two perfect hands, the first 29-hands in Congress history were scored by Dennis Backdahl of St Louis Park and Robert Olson of Minneapolis. Congrats to you two gents and we hope you hung the beautiful plaques in a con spicuous place, like the front door ! Rich Maringer of Greendale, WI scored a 28 hand, his first in over twenty-five years

- SCORE BOARD -

of cribbage. After the Minnesota Open results were dumped into the computer the big list showed Rich Maringer in the lead by a slim two points, followed by Dwight VanCleve of Denver, Colo. Arnold Crews, who was idle (did not play), was in 3rd place & Bob Immel moved all the way up to 4th place.

Kissimmee: The Gateway to the Worlds Meet was won by Tony Pesce of Orlando who beat out Arnold Crews. This was an exceptionally good tournament for Mr Crews, it put him back on top of the Master Point ladder by a 55 point margin over a fast-closing Rich Maringer and 56 points over Dwight VanCleve the Denver bronc. Jim Arblaster, our hard-working secretary, took 3rd place.

Green Bay: The MGM Open with a gargantuan attendance of 282 naturally would produce a bundle of rating points capable of choking a giraffe. Ver Hackbart of Poynette, Wisc was the big winner, taking home the \$2000.00 first prize. Mike Burke of Waukesha, Wisc was the, \$1000.00 richer, runner-up. But the third place finisher, Rudy Hebein of Mukwonago, Wisconsin was just as pleased with his 279.58 Master Points as he was with the \$500.00 prize. His total Master Points at this point was 428.36 which moved him up to the top of the ladder, a cool eight points in front of Vern Hackbart.

Hamburg: The Western New York State Open registered 44 contestants in a double elimination contest where, again, the organizer, Mr Elbert Hargesheimer Jr, emerged to the top. Frank O'Connor of Dedham, Mass, our chairman of the Youth Program, was the runner-up, while Del Taylor of Greensboro, NC finished third. If you hadn't heard, Del is the guy who fin-

- SCORE BOARD -

ally got on the TV show, Wheel of Fortune, where he won \$4000.00 in prizes including a 15-day trip to Japan. Nice going Del. Did you find any cribbage players in Japan ? If so, how much did you take them for ?

Milwaukee: One-third of the Wisconsin classic was hosted in Milwaukee where 88 contestants registered to vie for the state championship. Bob Julian, an all-round good fellow from the Beer City, was the tournament winner. He had a tough time beating out Rudy Hebein of Mukwonago. Ken Lindner, also a local lad, finished a strong third. Rudy "H" picked up another 93.10 points to add to his first place pile and the ample total now climbs to 521.46 points. The word out of Madison was that Point Parade runner-up, Vern Hackbart, did not make the qualifying play-off. This meant Rudy was standing alone, at least 100 points ahead and an excellent chance to pick up more in the Wisconsin Finals.

Madison: Here the final match was between two ladies with Alvina Smith of Lyndon Station beating out Pat Kufahl from Brokaw, WI. Pete Cerniglia, a local player, finished 3rd. Nice going ladies. You two will probably be right up there when the computer kicks out the top ten Ladies All-Star team. The old computer will list just about every imaginable All-Star team, including All-State & All-Cross-eyed....

Hudson: AND the winner here was also a lady, Darlene Althaus of St Paul, MN. She beat out another Gopher, Jim Winch, from Minneapolis. Roger Cable and Sherry Koopman, both from St Paul, finished 3rd and 4th respectively. Of the top 16 qualifiers, 14 were from Minnesota, in fact 99 percent of the player were Gophers.

- SCORE BOARD -

Wilmington: The 12th Annual City Tournament was captured by a local gent, Bob Kraus who beat out Bear Creek's (NC) own Richard Dacey. From Myrtle Beach and everybody's favorite, James Zip Foley, finished third. This port city hosts four tournament a year and this has been going on for 12 years. Just recently, however, attendance from outside the local area has been picking up. The Riverfest Classic is scheduled for October 4-5, 1981, and this is the baby they hope will develop into a major east coast event.

Madison: The Wisconsin State Finals turned out to be an all-Madison finish with young Richard Lehman beating out Pete Cerniglia for the state championship. Ray Wileman of Edgerton, Wisc was the 3rd place finisher. The two Madison boys took home \$600 and \$400 respectively. Must have been the home-court advantage. Rudy Hebein, our big parade leader, was among the qualifiers BUT he picked up only ten points.

Madison: The Capital City Open, which was conducted in conjunction with the Classic Play-off, drew only 48 contestant but this can be blamed on some foul weather which blew down poles and wires, darkening a major portion of the capital city. Pete Kufahl of Brokaw edged-out Rich Maringer, the whiz from Milwaukee-way. Dick Cossack, one of the many who represented Minnesota, was 3rd. Pretty Nicky Kniech, the dear from Brown Deer, Wisc finished a good 4th. They say she always finishes better than her ole man. The consolation tourney had more entries than either the Capital City or Wisconsin Classic Finals. AND the winner was Congress president, Joseph Petrus Wergin, who beat Steve Hadfield of St Paul in a good match.

MASTER POINT LEADERS

After 17 sanctioned tournaments the list of rated members continues to climb. We still have five more, maybe six, sanctioned events remaining, including Super Open VIII at Raleigh, before the current crib season closes.

Any one of the top rated members could end up on top of the heap. Even a bottom rated player could get lucky and jump right on up there to take all the marbles.

We're still in the market for a super trophy for our #1 guy. A gold-toned replica of a large crib-peg seems appropriate enough, with the same in chrome or silver-tone for the next best nine tournament players. They will be dubbed as our All-American team. Next year we hope to do the same for our members who participate in sanctioned leagues. Who knows what comes after that ? Could it be duplicate cribbage ? Just in case, we have a group pondering over a system that just might be workable. If it comes to duplicate cribbage your Congress will be ready.

Please note that 28 Badgers are in the top fifty. That's 58 percent.....

Rudy Hebein	Mukwanago, WI	531.46
Vernon Hackbart	Poynette, WI	430.36
Eddie Green	Madison, WI	308.21
Richard Maringer	Greendale, WI	299.67
Mike Burke	Waukesha, WI	297.86
Arnold Crews	Jacksonville, FL	292.41
John Mitchell	Racine, WI	279.33
Major Laskowski	Libertyville, IL	241.86
Roger Cable	St Paul, MN	238.97
Robert Immel	Northfield, MN	238.62
Dwight VanCleve	Denver, CO	236.03
Robert McCabe	Brown Deer, WI	227.86
Gene Lindgren	St Paul, MN	212.62
Leo Schwedrsky	Lyndon Station, WI	203.86
Ken Gross	Northfield, MN	200.62

MASTER POINT LEADERS

16	Leonard Davy	Madison, WI	186.50
17	Jim Arblaster	Kissimmee, FL	183.33
18	Ray Rodahl	Milwaukee, WI	174.50
19	Nicky Kniech	Brown Deer, WI	164.41
20	Ed Schotanus	Groton, CT	140.62
21	Dan Sokolowski	Milwaukee, WI	136.50
22	Robert Julian	Milwaukee, WI	134.57
23	James Z. Foley	Myrtle Bch, SC	134.54
24	Peter Cerniglia	Madison, WI	132.49
25	Earl Winch	Minneapolis, MN	130.62
26	Alvina Smith	Lyndon Sta, WI	130.35
27	Richard Goelz	Milwaukee, WI	127.86
28	Joe Wergin	Madison, WI	127.41
29	James Winch	Minneapolis, MN	122.37
30	Vic Lyngaas	Middleton, WI	120.50
31	Jerry Bechler	Garner, IA	117.86
31	Craig Hessell	Madison, WI	117.86
31	Scott Kooistra	Kalamazoo, MI	117.86
31	Fred Tilker	Madison, WI	117.86
35	Bob Michaelis	Marinette, WI	114.50
36	W. Sondericker	Greenfielf, WI	112.50
37	Ray Wileman	Edgerton, WI	110.49
38	Clayton Brotski	Green Bay, WI	107.86
38	John Hurd	Edgerton, WI	107.86
38	Wendell Riherd	Forest City, IA	107.86
41	Frank O'Connor	Dedham, MA	105.08
42	Les VanHorn	St Paul, MN	102.62
43	Wilmer Gilles	Garner, IA	96.62
44	Gene Hassa	Milwaukee, WI	95.24
45	Ken Lindner	Milwaukee, WI	95.10
46	Ken Martin	Agawam, MA	92.62
47	Patricia Kufahl	Brokaw, WI	92.35
48	Bob Madsen	Chicago, IL	89.41
49	Guy Pence	Northfield, MN	88.52
50	Ed Kloeppel	St Paul, MN	88.50

CONNECTICUT STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Double Elimination \$15.00

Sunday -- May 17, 1981

PO Box 655

Glastonbury, CT 06033

INTERNATIONAL CRIBBAGE MATCH

The Three Oaks Pub team of Harpenden, England squeaked by the Orlando Elks Lodge team by a score of 82-78, fulfilling a Jimmy the Greek prophecy. It was a well contested tournament from beginning to end with good sportsmanship, gentlemanly play and camaraderie prevailing throughout the two day event.

The British team was led by the brilliant play of George Ross who walked-off with the outstanding player award, a beautiful engraved plaque to commemorate the occasion. Mr Ross, undoubtedly one of the finest cribbage players in the British Commonwealth, was defeated only twice during match play. The Elks are trying to decide whether to submit this incredible feat to the publishers of Guinness Book of World Records.

The Sir John Suckling International Cup made its initial Atlantic crossing to its first nesting place on a pedestal behind the bar at the now world famous Three Oaks Pub where in sentiment it is toasted at least once in the evening and at least a dozen times on league night.

A check with Jimmy the Greek, the famous odds maker, to find out why he posted 30-1 odds the English team would win the Cup. He tells us it was an elementary deduction which involves English drinking habits. Seems the English gentry have two hollow legs and when filled they stand like Gibraltar. Jimmy the Nut tells us the odds are 10-1 the Cup will remain in the London suburb for the next ten years, at least. A few disgruntled Elks don't think Jimmy-boy can pick his nose much less a winner and they say they will bring the Cup back to the United States after the June 1982 rematch. The cry of the Orlando Elgies is, "Wait til Next Year."

- TOURNAMENT TRAIL -

- May 16-17: American Cribbage Championship at
Marquette, MI. \$26.00. For info: Pete
Danielson, 49 Elder Dr, Marquette 49855

- May 23-24: Midwest Masters' Classic at Des
Moines, IA. Entry fee \$31.00. Info:
Midwest Cribbage League, Box 5584, in
Madison, WI 53705

- June 5-6: YMCA Championship, 12th Annual at
Wilmington, NC. \$16.00 for Doubles and
Singles. Info: Maxine Maddox, 2710 Mar-
ket St, Wilmington, NC 28403

- June 6: Kiwanis 3rd Annual, Cupertino, CA
\$35.00 incl Singles & Doubles. Info:
Lou DeLu, Box 98, Cupertino, CA 95015

- Aug 1-2-3: National Open VIII at Raleigh, NC
Double Elimination \$35.00. Consolation
on Sunday \$15.00. Info: Nick Pond, PO
Box 12000, Raleigh, NC 27605

- Aug 29-30: Illinois State Championship, at
Antioch, IL. \$26.00. Info: Bob Madsen
7441 N. Osceola St, Chicago, IL 60648

- Sep 26-27: MGM Open at Marinette, WI \$26.00.
Info: Pete Danielson, 49 Elder Drive,
Marquette, MI 49855.

- Oct 4-5: Riverfest 2nd Annual at Wilmington
NC. Entry \$26.00. Info: Beth Carder,
114 N. 23rd St, Wilmington, NC 28405

- Oct 31-1: Beer City Open at Milwaukee, WI.
\$26.00. Info: Dan Weir, Box 153, in
Milwaukee, WI 53129

- Nov 21-22: Florida State Championship, at
Elks Lodge in Orlando. \$26.00. Info:
Florida Cribbage Assn, PO Box 565, Kis-
simmee, FL 32741

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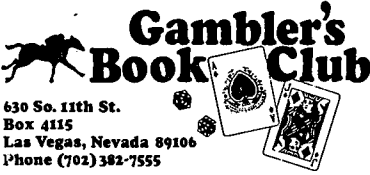
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