



CRIBBAGE WORLD

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 12 DECEMBER 1986

SANDS REGENT HOTEL TO HOST ACC/WESTERN OPEN & TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

Hundreds of cribbage players will compete in Reno, Nevada, at the Sands Regent Hotel & Casino on January 31 and February 1, 1987, in the ACC/Western Open.

Tournament Director Syl Lulinski of La Grange Park, Illinois, has been working closely with the personnel of the Sands to make this an event to remember.

The Sands Regent is a 670-room casino just 10 minutes from the Reno airport. It has 2 restaurants open "around the clock," 3 casinos, 5 cocktail lounges, beauty and barber shops, a health club and a poker room—in other words, something for everyone.

For those who will be flying in, be sure to make your flight reservations early enough to gain the benefit of any early reservations savings available. Plan ahead and have a great time. (For more detailed information, see enclosed tournament insert.)

THE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS...

is being directed by Bob Madsen and will be held on Friday, January 30, 1987, in

conjunction with the ACC/Western Open. The concept of the invitational is to bring together in a spirit of competition and good "sportsmanship" those players who have been fortunate enough to do well on the tournament trail. Invitations were mailed during the latter part of November, and the criteria for being invited are as follows:

Placing in the top 100 of the Master Point Parade during the past 3 years; placing in the top 50 of a region in the past 3 years; winning any sanctioned tournament during ACC year 1985-86; top 25 in either of the Saturn or Jupiter divisions of the Grass Roots; or the top 25 of the RICA during the current year.

If, by the time you read this article, you have not received an invitation and you feel you should have and wish to go to Nevada for the Invitational, please contact Bob Madsen, 7441 North Osceola Avenue, Chicago, IL 60648, 313-774-3813.

Let's get behind Bob Madsen and Syl Lulinski to make this the best ACC/Western Open and Tournament of Champions ever. These two individuals are working extremely hard to make this a pleasurable winter weekend for all.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Joseph Petrus Wergin

THE ODDS

In the July issue this Column requested the mathematicians to come forward with the correct odds on holding 28- and 29-point hands.

Dick Cornwell of Sunnyvale, California, who is an authority on many aspects of cribbage, came forward with the solution. Dick said that the figure of 649,740 that had appeared in several source books was not actually incorrect. It simply applied to the five-card game which was popular for several centuries before the revolutionary six-card game took over. Here is Cornwell's chart, which should end the controversy.

# of Cards Dealt	Odds Against	
	28 Hand	29 Hand
5	39,505.5	649,740

6 15,028.0 216,580

Of course, these figures are based upon the assumption that the hands are always discarded so as to retain the possibility of holding the 28- or the 29-point hand.

The ratio of the 29-odds for the five-and six-card deals is exactly three-to-one. This ratio arises because there are three times as many combinations of four cards possible among six cards as there are among five.

For those interested in trivia, the odds against receiving a 28-hand with three fives held in the hand are 20,801.686; while against getting 28 with four fives in the hand are 54,145.

EDITORIAL

SEASON'S GREETINGS

This is the time of year when we should take stock and count our blessings for the many things we do have and temporarily forget the many things we don't possess.

During Christmas and Hanukkah people seem friendlier, kinder, more considerate, accommodating and giving. We set aside our complaints and dislikes long enough to see the best in another person rather than the worst.

Despite one's faith, life is material for most of us, and somehow December magnifies that human failing more than any other time of year. Yet materialism

is more often than not offset by the spirit of giving, and the net result has a positive effect on all of us.

CRIBBAGE WORLD would like to thank, on behalf of all of the ACC membership, those individuals who devote their time and energy throughout the year to making life a little more pleasant for all of us through their volunteer efforts. All tournament and Grass Roots directors; President Joe Wergin; Secretary-Treasurer Bob Madsen; Tournament Commissioner Syl Lulinski; Statistician Bob McCabe; Grass Roots Director Jerry Dickinson; Associate Editor Bob Plourde; and the entire Board of Directors.

DBM

Tournaments cannot be scheduled within 250 miles or 2 weeks of one another and approved by the ACC unless previously agreed upon by the tournament directors involved.

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS BIGGER AND BETTER

The American Cribbage Congress continues to grow and improve every year as individuals recognize and appreciate the value of our organization. The following are only a few of the indicators of our progress:

- * More American Cribbage Congress members (3,800+) this year than ever before!
- * More members at the end of 2 months of membership this year than we had total 2 years ago!
- * A projected 60+% increase in clubs participating in the Grass Roots Program!
- * Last season we conducted the greatest number (75) of sanctioned tournaments in our history!
- * First 3 months of this season represent 29 sanctioned tournaments versus the 23 for the same period last season!

- * A few months ago we had the largest attendance ever (258) for our Grand National!

These positive signs of continued growth belie the occasional nattering of negativism that has appeared in this publication. Those destructive comments are self-serving, unfounded, and unhealthy. The best that can be said about them is that they appear infrequently.

I am proud to be a member of the Board of Directors of the American Cribbage Congress, and I will continue to attend and participate in its meetings, utilizing those meetings as the proper forum for discussing our continued improvement. I am certain that the majority of my dedicated colleagues on the Board share similar beliefs and intentions.

We've made some mistakes, but we have learned and improved. The American Cribbage Congress is a great organization that's getting bigger and better.

Syl Lulinski
La Grange Park, IL

PLAN TO ATTEND THE ACC/WESTERN OPEN

THE LATEST BOOK!

"HOW TO PLAY CRIBBAGE—WELL"

- Discarding when it's your crib
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- Complete official rules
- And a special section on
four-handed—partnership—cribbage

List price \$9.95 less 30% to A.C.C. members, making your price \$6.95 postpaid.

FRANK L. BROWN, 3 Michael Lane, Bella Vista, AR 72714

PEGGING POINTERS

Dan Barlow

As we all know, strategy can change drastically as we come down 4th street; and the closer we get to home, the more our play is governed by the position of the pegs.

One situation we often encounter is that in which we have enough points to go out, and it is our first count; but we must first keep our opponent from pegging out. It takes a lot of luck to keep someone from pegging two or three holes in such a situation, but let's say he or she needs 5 or 6 holes.

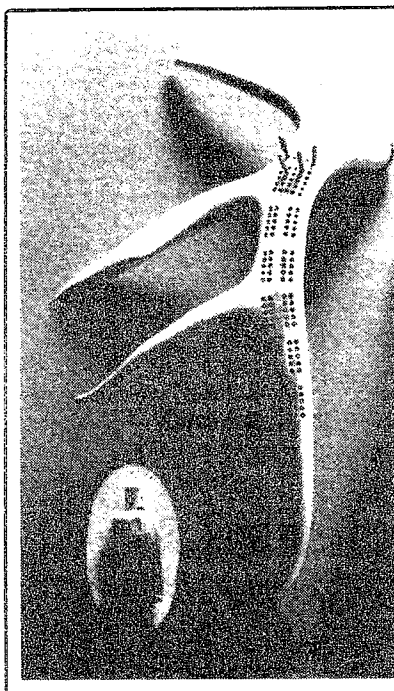
The most obvious play in holding an opponent's pegging down is to lead a card below a 5, preventing a 15-2. But is it always right to lead a low card? Say you hold A-J-Q-K. A four-spot has been cut and you have enough to go out, but your opponent is six holes away. If you lead the Ace and he or she plays a J, Q or K,

you are in deep trouble. You risk getting up at least five holes no matter what you do, and your opponent still has a "go" coming. This danger is much greater than that of leading a high card.

If you lead the deuce from 2-5-6-7 and your opponent plays a 5, 6 or 7, you will probably get involved in a disastrous run and he or she will peg out. By leading the six from this hand (or the Q from the earlier hand), you leave yourself with a diversity of cards, which should help you prevent a run. In short, when you do not need to peg and your opponent must peg a lot, and you hold a sequence of cards, unload the middle card of the sequence as early as possible.

Editors' Note

Dan Barlow is the author of the book, **CRIBBAGE FOR EXPERTS**, and resides at 108 Carl Drive in Chapel Hill, NC 27514.



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**To: Jan Kaulins, P.O. Box 288,
Jackson, Michigan 49204**

IS AN ACC HISTORIAN NEEDED? A ROUND OF APPLAUSE IS WELL DESERVED

With each passing year, it's becoming more and more difficult to recapture the origins of the founding of the American Cribbage Congress. As time goes on, memories naturally begin to fade as to who said what to whom and who suggested this or that. A number of individuals have stated they were in Raleigh when the ACC became a spark of reality, and they were part of one or several discussions; but it is unclear who sat in on the initial group meeting and just what transpired after that.

Before the accuracy of the past is lost forever, an historian should be appointed; and that individual should reconstruct the events that transpired by interviewing or communicating with the known founding members and gleaning from the the historic roots of the ACC. Naturally, not everyone is interested or cares, but there are several ACC members who might like to learn about the past; future members won't have that chance if we wait too long.

Scott Kooistra and all of the terrific staff who helped make the Grand National Tournament a huge success deserve a huge "Thank You" from all those who attended.

The team effort needed to operate a tournament of this size requires teamwork and leadership, plus blood, sweat and tears.

Players, numbering 256, converged upon Minneapolis in late September to find everything operating like clockwork. Scott appeared to be everywhere at once, and he never appeared to lose his composure. The competent staff, including Scott's wife Linda, acted as guides, answered questions and fielded problems as if they did this sort of thing every day. It was obvious to those of us who were visitors that this was teamwork of the highest order. Thank you all for a job beautifully done.

PLAN TO ATTEND THE
ACC/WESTERN OPEN
January 31-February 1, 1987
Reno, Nevada

IN MEMORIAM

Leon Packard Fayville, MA

WE WELCOME YOU BACK TO THE THIRD ANNUAL CAPITAL CITY CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

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TOURNAMENT RESULTS

MONTANA CRIBBAGE CHAMPIONSHIP

Missoula, Montana
October 10, 11 & 12
Director: DeLynn Colvert
Number of Entries: 92/36

Main Tournament

1. Bud Clark, Missoula, MT
2. Milo Roinstad, Missoula, MT
3. Rex Paddock, Missoula, MT
4. DeLynn Colvert, Missoula, MT

Consolation

1. Greg Van Metre, LaGrande, OR
2. Clay Dunbar, Missoula, MT
3. Al Langel, Missoula, MT
4. Judy Branson, Ronan, MT

VERMONT CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

Burlington, Vermont
October 19
Director: Fred McGibney
Number of Entries: 90/68

MP	<u>Main Tournament</u>	MP
132	1. Al Musard, Lincoln, RI	130
104	2. Stu Stromberg, W. Spfld., MA	102
86	3. L. LeBlanc, S. Burlington, VT	84
73	4. Bob Dekennip, Shirley, MA	71

MP	<u>Consolation</u>	MP
18	1. Joe Wergin, Madison, WI	54
14	2. F. McGibney, S. Burlington, VT	40
10	3. Carl Palmer, W. Spfld., MA	31
6	4. John Lefebvre, Burlington, VT	25

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS TOURNAMENT

Kahaku, Hawaii
October 11 & 12
Director: Wilbur S. Lummis
Number of Entries: 28

Main Tournament

MP		MP
28	1. Cynthia Pa, Honolulu, HI	
20	2. Yorio Shigamura, Honolulu, HI	
12	3. Tats Tsuruda, Honolulu, HI	
4	4. Harry Sawyer, Honolulu, HI	

CALIFORNIA STATE TOURNAMENT

San Jose, California
October 19
Director: Mary K. Cornwell
Number of Entries: 134

MP	<u>Main Tournament</u>	MP
174	1. Vince Catalano, Santa Cruz, CA	174
146	2. Jim Anzell, Concord, CA	146
128	3. Bill Jensen, Los Altos, CA	128
115	4. Al Eames, Isleton, CA	115

WEST BEND CLASSIC

West Bend, Wisconsin
October 12
Director: Gene Biegler
Number of Entries: 142/78

Main Tournament

MP		MP
182	1. Glen Krueger, Madison, WI	
154	2. Betty LaGassie, Marinette, WI	
136	3. Syl Lulinski, LaGrange Park, IL	
118	4. Jim Lepow, Racine, WI	

Consolation

MP		MP
59	1. Pam Stewart, Minneapolis, MN	
45	2. Sue Nuelk, Milwaukee, WI	
36	3. William Cook, Rhinelander, WI	
30	4. Don Tofte, Madison, WI	

MINNESOTA VALLEY OPEN

Chaska, Minnesota
October 25
Directors: Joan & Jim Rein
Number of Entries: 114/56

MP	<u>Main Tournament</u>	MP
154	1. Gordon Gray, Minnetonka, MN	154
126	2. Carl Larson, Duluth, MN	126
108	3. Jim Rein, Carver, MN	108
95	4. Roger Frank, Mound, MN	95

MP	<u>Consolation</u>	MP
48	1. Jim Morelan, Little Canada, MN	48
34	2. Greg Goskeson, Albert Lea, MN	34
25	3. Sandra Dawson, Codena, MN	25
19	4. Roger Packer, Waseca, MN	19

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

In order to give our readers as much cribbage news as possible, it has been our policy to limit advertising to approximately 2½ pages per month. In August we resumed adding inserts for tournament directors who wished to have a flyer.

We've had more requests for ads than we have space to give and, as a result, we have a waiting list of potential advertisers; we've always given space preference to those who have advertised in the past.

In January, to help defray our costs and to allow space for those who have requested it, we're going to have a "one-shot," four-page advertising supplement in addition to our normal 16 pages. This will be just like the big guys do. The cost of a camera-ready 4" high by 4½" wide ad will be \$45. We have space for only 8 ads, and we're trying this to see if there is any interest and/or response. If all works out well, we'll try it again in the future whenever there is available space.

For those interested and for more information, call Dale Munroe (203) 673-4007. We'll reserve space on a first-come, first-served basis. We have a December 26 deadline for our January issue, so don't delay!!

It has not been an easy task to follow in the footsteps of Jim Arblaster and Bob Madsen as the third editor of CRIBBAGE WORLD. Each of these men has played an important role in shaping the policy of the ACC and, in fact, still does. Starting last February I began, with the help of Bob Plourde, to make changes wherever I thought I could make our publication more informative and more appealing to all our members. I'm not saying that has been accomplished, but rather it has been the intent to pack as much info received from as many sources as possible into the limited space available.

Plourde and I invite everyone, once again, to share your point of view. No one has a lock on any page we print. If someone out there wants to write a guest editorial, feel free to do so and we'll print it; Cribbage Corner is open to everyone. In summary, the more you write, the less we have to; let's hear from more of you.

Dante's Doubles, West Springfield, Massachusetts, February 1, 1987. George Bickford, 35 Elbert Road, Agawam, MA 01001, 413-786-8199.

CRIBBAGE MASTER

for the IBM PC

CRIBBAGE MASTER is a cribbage program for your IBM PC-compatible home computer. Play game against computer. Or select from other play options. Ex.: You can specify a deal for analysis or request random deals, and Discard Query/Master determines best discards--and your discarding "batting average"--by using probability analysis. Excellent feedback. Seen at the 1985 Nat'l Open, Raleigh. See 1986 Grand Nat'l (Minn., MN) program.

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- Duplicate
- Game Challenge

- Discard Query
- Discard Master

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THE TOURNAMENT TRAIL

December 13 & 14 - John Hill's Elbow Room Championship

The Elbow Room, 1025 Strand, Missoula, Montana. Entry fee: \$26.

Contact DeLynn Colvert, P.O. Box 5604, Missoula, MT 59806.

January 16, 17 & 18 - Belle City Classic

Inn on the Lake, 535 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin. Entry fee: \$40. Meal, Early Bird, Saturday Night Special, Consolation.

Contact: Don Wrzesinske, 8020 Durand Avenue, Sturtevant, WI 53177, 414-886-6360.

January 17 - Rocky Mountain Championship

Littleton Elks Club, 5749 South Curtice, Littleton, Colorado. Entry fee: \$26. Coffee and doughnuts.

Contact: Dick Graham, 300 East Hampden, Englewood, CO 80110, 303-781-7854.

January 17 & 18 - The Georgia Open

VFW, 1 Gun Club Road, Augusta, Georgia. Entry fee: \$38. Coffee, doughnuts and Saturday lunch, Early Bird, Consolation, Last Chance.

Contact: Ken Cambell, 83 Lee Drive, Modoc, SC 29838, 803-333-2575.

January 30 - Tournament of Champions

Sands Regent Hotel & Casino, Arlington at Third, Reno, Nevada. Entry fee: \$100 (invitation only - no Master Points awarded)

Contact: Bob Madsen, 7441 North Osceola Avenue, Chicago, IL 60648, 312-774-3813.

January 31-February 1 - ACC/Western Open

Sands Regent Hotel & Casino, Arlington at Third, Reno, Nevada. Entry fee: \$46.

Contact Syl Lulinski, 1429 Scotdale Road, LaGrange Park, IL 60525, 312-352-4759.

February 1 - Great Plains Winter Classic

Airport Inn, Lincoln, Nebraska. Entry fee: \$11.

Contact: Jack Wunderlich, 2821 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68503, 402-477-2900.



STARR STUDIOS wishes the members
of the American Cribbage Congress a...

MERRY CHRISTMAS

- Read "PLAY WINNING CRIBBAGE", written by DeLynn Colvert, ACC's 1986 No. 1 player. \$9.95 (postpaid) or 2 for \$16.
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- Montana Long Boards \$24.95 (postpaid)
- Ask about our trophy boards

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THE TOURNAMENT TRAIL

February 7, Fairfield Cribbage Tournament

Fairfield Senior Center, 1200 Civic Drive, Fairfield, California. Entry fee: \$42. Coffee, doughnuts, breakfast and lunch. Saturday Night Early Bird. Contact: George Halterman, 3410 Astoria Circle, Fairfield, CA 94533, 707-428-4343.

February 14 and 15, Florida Cribbage Classic

Quality Inn East, East Space Coast Parkway, Kissimmee, Florida. Entry fee: \$32. Early Bird, Saturday lunch, Q-Pool, Consolation, Saturday Night Special. Contact: Jim Arblaster, Florida Cribbage Association, P.O. Box 565, Kissimmee, FL 32741, 305-396-8615.

February 20, 21 and 22, Arizona State Tournament

Venture Out Mobile Park, 5001 East Main Street, Mesa, Arizona. Entry fee: \$26. Early Bird, Q-Pool, Consolation, Saturday Night Special. Contact: Charlie Fletchall, 2246 Floyd Drive, Mesa, AZ, 602-985-8705.

February 21, Willows Cribbage Tournament

Elks Lodge, 150 South Shasta Street, Willows, California. Entry fee: 35. Coffee, doughnuts, drink, lunch, door prize. Contact: Carl E. Martens, P.O. Box 666, Willows, CA 95988, 916-934-7961.

February 22, Central New England Open

Moose Lodge, Fitchburg Street, Marlboro, Massachusetts. Entry fee: \$33. Coffee, doughnuts, lunch, Q-Pool, Consolation. Contact: Paul Cormier, 28 Washington Street, Marlboro, MA 01752, 617-485-4252.

March 20, 21 and 22, Warren E. Swett Memorial

American Legion Post 171, Woodstock and Oak Streets, Crystal Lake, Illinois. Entry fee: \$35. Early Bird, Saturday Night Special, Saturday lunch, Q-Pools, Last Chance. Contact: John Swett, P.O. Box 214, Crystal Lake, IL 60014, 815-459-4276.

March 21 and 22, Western New York Open

Regency Best Western, 4408 Milestrip Road, Buffalo, New York. Entry fee: \$35. Coffee, Consolation. Contact: E. Hargesheimer, Jr., 182 Lake Street, Hamburg, NY 14075, 716-649-1234.

March 28, Superbowl of Cribbage II

Elks Lodge #1538, 1309 North Bradley Road, Santa Maria, California. Entry fee: \$75. Continental breakfast, lunch, dinner, awards, gifts, Consolation. Contact: Butch Reynolds, 884 Blake Street, Santa Maria, CA 93454, 805-937-1911.

April 4 and 5, Tri-Cities Open

The Dome, Marinette, Wisconsin. Entry fee: \$36. Friday Night Early Bird, Saturday Night Special, Q-Pools, Consolation, Last Chance. Inquire about the Friday Night Classic (\$50). Contact: Robert Michaelis, 1120 Pierce Avenue, Marinette, WI 54143, 715-735-6704.

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS



NATIONAL STANDINGS

JUPITER DIVISION - RATING POINTS

<u>RANK</u>	<u>-POINTS</u>	<u>NAME-ADDRESS</u>	<u>CLUB #</u>
1	- 147	SCHIFFMAN, Morry ; Portland, OR	28
2	- 112	TILKER, Fred ; Madison, WI	1
3	- 103	TUNGATE, Greg ; Portland, OR	28
4	- 93	STATZ, Raphael ; Cross Plains, WI	1
5	- 90	FURLER, John ; Lake Oswego, OR	28
6	- 85	DUNCOMB, Glen ; Edgerton, WI	1
7	- 73	ROWLEY, Larry ; Madison, WI	1
8	- 72	HENDERSON, Scott ; Madison, WI	1
8	- 72	HARDY, John ; Boring, OR	28
10	- 70	ANDERSON, Merl ; Madison, WI	1
11	- 66	READER, Chuck ; Scappoose, OR	28
12	- 58	HARDY, Debbie ; Boring, OR	28
13	- 56	MATTI, Gaylord ; Madison, WI	1
14	- 54	TAYLOR, Jim ; Bend, OR	12
15	- 53	WEITS, Henry ; Madison, WI	1
16	- 52	STOFFEL, Pearl ; Redmond, OR	12

SATURN DIVISION - RATING POINTS

<u>RANK</u>	<u>-POINTS</u>	<u>NAME-ADDRESS</u>	<u>CLUB #</u>
1	- 62	EICHLER, Paul ; N. Tonawanda, NY	5
2	- 54	BETT, Richard F., Sr. ; Lackawana, NY	5
3	- 51	JOHNSON, Haley ; St. Cloud, FL	22
4	- 48	PRUDHOMME, Al ; Fayetteville, NC	35
5	- 45	HARGESHEIMER, Elbert Jr. ; Hamburg, NY	5
6	- 43	WILLIAMS, Wayne ; Fayetteville, NC	35
7	- 38	WEBB, Jinnie L. ; Pasco, WA	30
8	- 36	HARTUNG, Jim ; Kennewick, WA	30
9	- 32	McMURDO, Mac ; Pasco, WA	30
10	- 31	DYE, Randall ; So. Lake Tahoe, NV	11
10	- 31	ROBARDS, Clyde ; Sparks, NV	11
12	- 30	WIDENER, Tom ; Kennewick, WA	30
12	- 30	YOUNG, Bob ; Ankeny, IA	17
14	- 29	SCHAUF, Fred ; Boston, NY	5
14	- 29	SLADE, Margaret ; Orchard Park, NY	5
14	- 29	WATTERS, Keith ; So. Lake Tahoe, NV	5

BOTH DIVISIONS COMBINED : GAMES-WON AVERAGES

<u>RANK-AVERAGE</u>	<u>NAME-ADDRESS</u>	<u>CLUB #</u>
1 - .889	BORNEMAN, Linda ; Astoria, OR	18
2 - .778	BLACK, Joy ; Astoria, OR	18
2 - .778	DAVIS, Ralph ; NY	5
2 - .778	HARGESHEIMER, Elbert, Jr.; Hamburg, NY	5
2 - .778	PRUDHOMME, Al ; Fayetteville, NC	35
2 - .778	WILEY, Dorothy ; Phillipsville, CA	33
7 - .750	RANCOURT, Donald ; Hartford, CT	26
8 - .722	QUACKENBUSH, Delores ; Sparks, NV	11
8 - .722	SCHWEIG, Roberta ; Carpentersville, IL	3
10 - .708	TILKER, Fred ; Madison, WI	1
11 - .704	KNIGHT, Albert ; LaGrande, OR	38
12 - .694	BETT, Richard F. Sr.; Lackawanna, NY	5
12 - .694	EICHLER, Paul ; N. Tonawanda, NY	5
12 - .694	JOHNSON, Haley ; St. Cloud, FL	22
15 - .686	WILLIAMS, Wayne ; Fayetteville, NC	35
16 - .681	BETRIDGE, Dennis ; Denver, CO	34
17 - .667	ALTER, Red ; Aurora, CO	23
17 - .667	DiBELLA, Jonalyn ; Elmwood, CT	26
17 - .667	LAW, Edwin ; Longmeadow, MA	26
17 - .667	PITTNER, Mike ; Minden, NE	16
17 - .667	SALUSTRO, Sal ; New Hartford, CT	26
17 - .667	SCHAUF, Fred ; Boston, NY	5
17 - .667	SCHIFFMAN, Morry ; Portland, OR	28
17 - .667	SHERIDA, Randy ; Redway, CA	33
17 - .667	SLADE, Margaret ; Orchard Park, NY	5
17 - .667	VAN METRE, Greg ; La Grande, OR	38
17 - .667	YOUNG, Bob ; Ankeny, IA	17
28 - .657	DULIN, Virgil ; Fayetteville, NC	35
29 - .639	LICHTY, Esther ; Des Moines, IA	17
29 - .639	MUNROE, Dale ; Unionville, CT	26
29 - .639	NICHOLS, Susan ; Underhill, VT	36
29 - .639	NUEHRING, Louie ; Independence, IA	8

Due to the necessity for providing equitable coverage of all of the expanding activities of the American Cribbage Congress, the National Standings for the Grass Roots Program published in the CRIBBAGE WORLD are only a capsule version of the full Standings that are periodically published and distributed to participating Grass Roots clubs. Groups or individuals wishing to obtain a copy of the full Standings may do so by sending a stamped (22¢), self-addressed envelope to: Grass Roots Program, P.O. Box 126, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.

Jerry Dickinson

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

MASTER POINT PARADE



HOW MASTER POINTS ARE EARNED:

TOURNAMENT MUST BE SANCTIONED BY THE AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS.

Qualifying Round: Top 1/8 earns one-quarter points, i.e., 100 players, top qualifier earns 25 points, 2nd earns 23, etc.

Main Tournament: Top 1/8 earns full points, i.e., 100 players, champion earns 100 points, 2nd earns 92, 3rd earns 84, etc. If 40 or more players, BONUS POINTS are earned: 1st earns 40 bonus points, 2nd earns 20, 3rd earns 10 and 4th earns 5. In this example, No. 1 earns 140 points (100 + 40).

Consolation Tournament: Top 1/8 earns one-half points, i.e., 64 players, 1st earns 32 points, 2nd earns 28 points, 3rd earns 24 points, etc. BONUS POINTS are earned: 1st earns 20 bonus points, 2nd earns 10 points, 3rd earns 5 points and 4th earns 3 points. In this example, No. 1 earns 52 points (32 + 20).

ACC EASTERN REGION

NAME	CITY	ST	POINTS YEAR
1 LIZARRIBAR, DELIA	MARTINEZ	GA	321
2 O'CONNOR, FRANK	DEDHAM	MA	260
3 BERHAUPT, ED	SCHENECTADY	NY	230
4 ANDREW, RICHARD	HINSDALE	NH	196
BLESSING, GEORGE	NARRAGANSETT	RI	196
6 L'ITALIEN, AL	PEABODY	MA	195
7 BICKFORD, GEORGE	AGAWAM	MA	178
8 ARONOFF, PHYLLIS	QUINCY	MA	170
9 CLUKEY SR., RICHARD	THOMASTON	CT	168
10 SCHMIDT, PHYLLIS	WILLIAMSTOWN	MA	159
11 GUDAUSKAS, WILLIAM	ROCKVILLE	CT	156
12 VETTERLINE, KEN	BAR MILL	ME	152
13 MUSARD, ALBERT	LINCOLN	RI	145
14 COUSENS, DENNIS	GORHAM	ME	134
15 RAMOS, JOE	W. WARWICK	RI	132
16 SMITH, RHONDA	BRISTOL	CT	128
17 FREY, HEINZ	N. EASTON	MA	126
18 MUNROE, DALE	UNIONVILLE	CT	123
19 STROMBERG, STUART	W. SPRINGFIELD	MA	115
20 REDDY, FRANK	ROCKVILLE	CT	107
21 CYR, BRIAN	BRISTOL	CT	99
22 SARGENT, BART	WESTWOOD	MA	98
23 BROUGHTON, CHARLIE	ORLANDO	FL	96
24 PALMER JR., CARL	W. SPRINGFIELD	MA	92
25 LEFEBVRE, AL	WARWICK	RI	86

ACC
MIDWESTERN REGION

	NAME	CITY	ST	POINTS YEAR
1	HANES, BOB	ANKENY	IA	451
2	LULINSKI, SYL	LAGRANGE PARK	IL	361
3	REIN, JOAN	CARVER	MN	317
4	WERGIN, JOE	MADISON	WI	316
5	DICKINSON, JERRY	MOUNT HOREB	WI	262
6	BERNARD, JOE	LIBERTYVILLE	IL	257
7	MCMANUS, JIM	MILWAUKEE	WI	248
8	BARRETT, JACK	WISCONSIN RAPIDS	WI	233
9	SIVANICH, JOAN	CIRCLE PINES	MN	229
10	GUSTAFSON, DAVE	MINNETONKA	MN	221
11	OLSEN, BILL	EDEN PRAIRIE	MN	218
12	SONDERICKER, WARREN	GREENFIELD	WI	210
13	LIPINSKI, MIKE	MUNDELEIN	IL	196
14	ANDERSON, LYLE	BLAIR	WI	179
15	LAGASSIE, BETTY	MARINETTE	WI	178
16	MAHOWALD, AL	CARVER	MN	177
17	SOMMER, ROBERT	EXCELSIOR	MN	175
18	HAMILTON, RON	WHITE BEAR LAKE	MN	174
19	JACOBSEN, STEVE	WHITE BEAR LAKE	MN	171
20	LARSON, CARL	DULUTH	MN	165
21	AIRD, DONNA	GLADSTONE	MI	161
22	KACER, MATT	ALTOONA	IA	157
23	CONNOR, DORIS	MILWAUKEE	WI	154
	GRAY, GORDON	MINNETONKA	MN	154
25	LEPOW, JAMES	RACINE	WI	149

ACC
WESTERN REGION

	NAME	CITY	ST	POINTS YEAR
1	JENSEN, BILL	LOS ALTOS	CA	454
2	COLVERT, DELYNN	MISSOULA	MT	337
3	WERRE, STAN	NICE	CA	271
4	BLOOM, ED	CUPERTINO	CA	260
5	ROGERS, WALTER	BUELLTON	CA	226
6	MCMASTER, BETTINA	PALO ALTO	CA	220
7	STARK, NORAL	DENVER	CO	215
8	MORGANTI, BOB	NEWMAN	CA	182
9	FRANCIS, JAMES	CLAYTON	CA	181
10	JAMPOLSKY, DAVE	BAKER	OR	167
11	WEBER, ROBERT	VACAVILLE	CA	164
12	CATALANO, VINCE	SANTA CRUZ	CA	162
13	HILL, BILL	HERMISTON	OR	151
14	CLARKE, BUD	MISSOULA	MT	143
15	ENDICOTT, LUCILLE	PRINEVILLE	OR	139
16	RAILSBACK, HELEN	SYRACUSE	NE	137
17	LOGAN, RON	QUINCY	CA	136
18	MACE, C. FRELAND	EL MACERO	CA	135
19	ROINSTAD, MILO	MISSOULA	MT	127
	WEBB, SUNDAE	PITTSBURG	CA	127
21	MONROE, JEFF	CONCORD	CA	125
	PADDOCK, REX	MISSOULA	MT	125
23	HERR, ART	AUBURN	CA	124
24	KIRBY, JO	STANFIELD	OR	119
25	SMITH, RICHARD	FAIRMONT	NE	117

WHAT IS YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH 29 HANDS?

Harry Langman of Appleton, Wisconsin, recently wrote to CRIBBAGE WORLD and related his experience in receiving and dealing 29 hands. He began playing cribbage in 1955 and received his first 29 hand in 1973. He was dealt another in 1978 and yet another in 1981; he dealt himself his fourth 29'er in February 1986. He has also dealt two 29 hands to opponents.

It would appear as if Harry has defeated the law of averages several times over. We've all competed against players who have played the game for 30 or more years and have yet to experience the ultimate hand.

Harry Langman may be the unofficial record holder; can anyone top him?

LETTERS TO CRIBBAGE WORLD

It's become increasingly more evident in the last several months that some players competing in qualifying rounds and finding themselves out of contention are playing less than their best against opponents who are still in the running for the top spots.

With ever-increasing prize funds in tournaments and Q Pools, it becomes imperative that each of us play to win at all times. Although effectively eliminated from prize consideration at a certain point, permitting other players to score easily gives them an unfair advantage. This is an unethical practice which should lead to immediate disqualification when brought to the attention of the tournament director. Play hard—play fair. Treat all of your opponents alike.

Joe Seigle
Coventry, CT

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CRIBBAGE CORNER

Lawrence Samet

During the past few months President Wergin and several others have called for changes. I would like to offer my viewpoint on one of the things I feel is needed. Briefly, I think the current tournament system does not do enough to minimize luck, and the master point system does not reflect well on achievement and skill and it even reflects tournament results inadequately.

Cribbage, unlike chess, has a significant component of luck in it; the less-experienced or less-skilled player can often win a given game or short series of games. If an opponent can win 55 of 100 games from me, then that person is tangibly better than I; winning 60 of 100 would be extraordinary. In our current system, after the qualifying round, short single elimination matches are scarcely better than a flip of a coin, in my judgment. Even qualifying rounds of 10-12 games are much less an accurate measure than those of 20 or more.

What formats improve on this? Longer matches, double elimination, certainly helps; but then time, or rather the lack of it, is the factor. During the playoffs, round-robins would be a better indicator of ability than 2 of 3 or 3 of 5 play-downs.

If in the present system one qualifies first and loses the first 3 games in a 3 of 5 playoff, one is eliminated. It's conceivable, for example, for that person qualifying first and then losing 3 games to have an overall record of 20 wins and 5 losses, and yet that player is out of contention. If the playoffs involve a round robin, the same player losing the first 3 games still has an opportunity to turn things around, thus proving the element of skill over the long haul.

The present master point system rewards the individual who plays in large tourna-

ments and plays frequently. It measures endurance as well as skill and the good fortune of receiving excellent cards. However, the individual who wins four tournaments each with 70 players and receives 440 master points is no better off than the person who wins a tournament with 400 players and who also receives 440 points. The person who was fortunate enough to win 4 tournaments has demonstrated consistent, significant skill; in the latter example the situation might very well have been a day with a run of outstanding cards.

A solution is not easy. A performance rating based on wins, losses and opponents' strengths, as in chess, is not easily accomplished by a young, volunteer organization or for a game like cribbage, where many more games are played. A won-lost percentage would be a realistic statistic: won-lost in finals more meaningful and won-lost against the top 50 players more interesting still. Limiting the amount of master points in "big" tournaments would help if the current system is to be perpetuated. A true national championship, based on significant head-to-head play among the top 16, 32 or 64 players, could also be exciting and of media and publicity value.

I feel there must be many ways to improve on some of my suggestions, and perhaps a competent professor of statistics could help by devising formats that would fit the game.

One final point and one last controversial issue: most of the tournament suggestions I have made involve playing more games which, of course, means more time. This leads to one more thorny problem: what to do about the occasional slow player.

Thank you for a chance to air these ideas, and thanks to the ACC for the opportunity to play my favorite game.

Wellesley Hills, MA

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