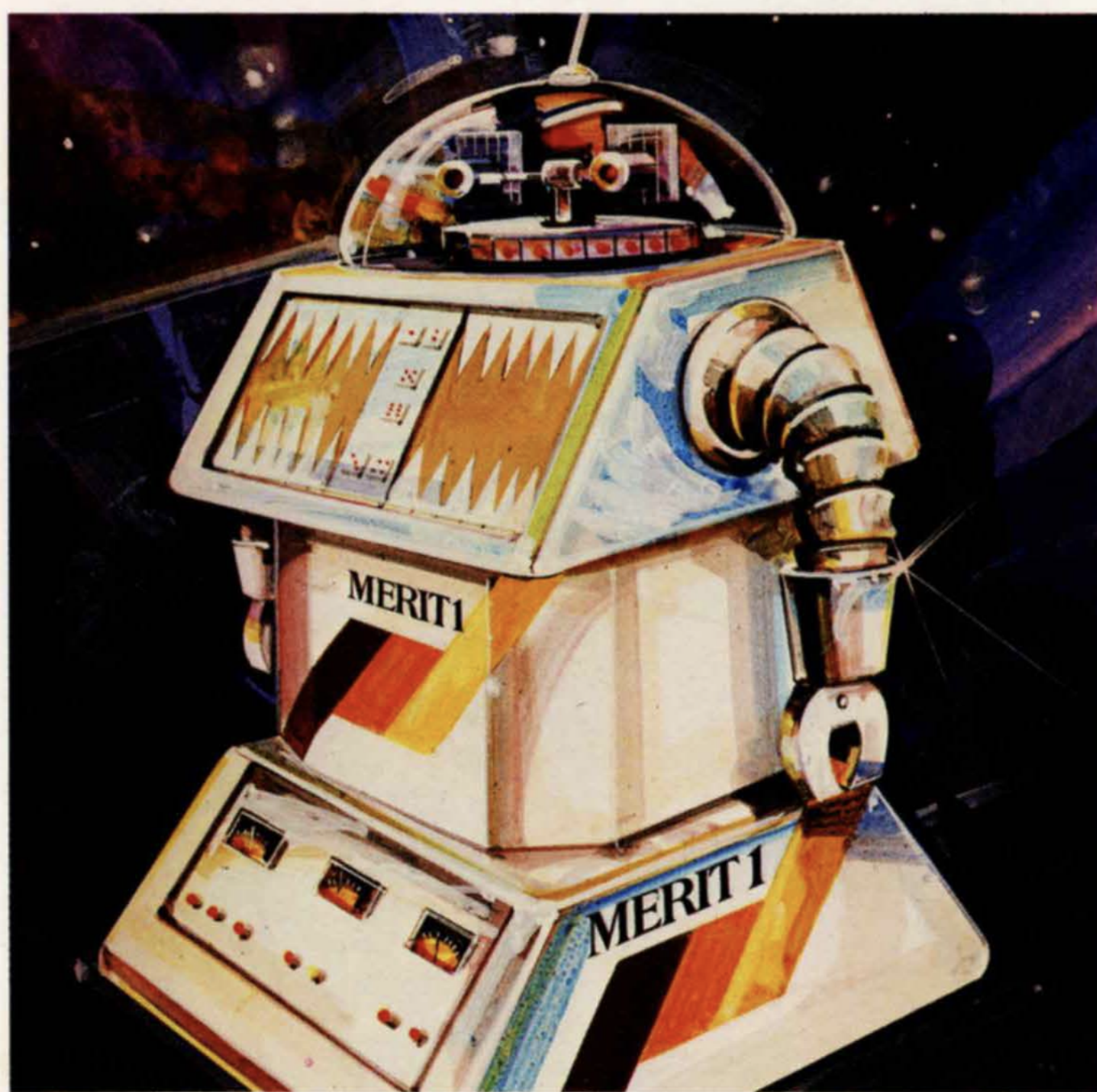


MERIT WORLD BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP

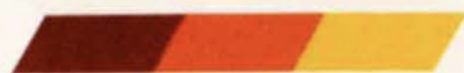
Presented by
La Société des Bains de Mer de Monte Carlo

\$15,000 ADDED PRIZE MONEY

9th-15th July 1979



MERIT



Filter Cigarettes

With the participation of
the Direction du Tourisme et des Congrès de la
Principauté de Monaco



COMITÉ D'HONNEUR

Prince Louis de Polignac	President de la Société des Bains de Mer
M. Louis Blanche	Directeur du Tourisme et des Congrès de la Principauté de Monaco
M. Bernard F. Combemale	Directeur General de la Société des Bains de Mer
Mr. David Zelkowitz	Director Marketing Philip Morris Europe
Mr. Michael Horst	Directeur General Philip Morris France

Tournament Director: Lewis Deyong (UK)

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Brazil:	Miguel d'Almeida
Finland:	Matti Karsikko
France:	Marquis d'Arcangues Gaston Murray
Greece:	Yanni Zographos
Italy:	Angelo Ferretti
Mexico:	Jacques Davidoff
Monaco:	Baronne Taubert-Natta Jimmy Bensimon
Spain:	Claudio & Rafael de Osborne
South Africa:	Brian Young
UK:	Lord Rennell of Rodd Nicholas Coral
USA:	Dr. Reg Kernan Alan Morgan

RULES AND SEEDING COMMITTEE

Peter Bader (South Africa)	Roland Jakober (Switzerland)
Guy Baguenault (France)	Sidney Jackson (USA)
Charles Benson (UK)	Paul Magriel (USA)
Lewis Deyong (UK)	Stephen Raphael (UK)
Maurice Elghanyan (Iran)	Raoul Rosenzweig (Germany)
Andre Rolfo-Fontana (Monaco)	Luigi Villa (Italy)
Tom Gilbert (USA)	James Wykoff (USA)

PAST WINNERS

1976 Joe Dwek (UK) 1977 Jean Noel Grinda (France)
1978 Richard de Surmont (France)

ASSISTANT TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Roland Jakober Sidney Jackson Mrs. Lorrie Mickle

TIMETABLE

Monday July 9th	
10:00am-6:00pm	Registration of Players in the Sporting d'Hiver. Place du Casino.
8:30pm	Auction Dinner. Salle des Etoiles Monte Carlo Sporting Club.
10:00pm	Auction.
12:00pm	Payment of Auction Purchases. Followed by the Draw. Salle des Etoiles Monte Carlo Sporting Club.
Tuesday July 10th	
2:30pm	Final Auction Payments. Sporting d'Hiver.
4:30pm	Play commences. Sporting d'Hiver.
Wednesday July 11th	
4:30pm	Play continues. Sporting d'Hiver.
Thursday July 12th	
4:30pm	Play continues. Sporting d'Hiver.
Friday July 13th	
4:30pm	Play continues. Sporting d'Hiver.
11:00pm	Semi-Finals Sporting d'Hiver. (Closed Circuit TV).
Saturday July 14th	
2:30pm	World Championship Final. Sporting d'Hiver. (Closed Circuit TV).
11:00pm	Play continues in all flights. Distribution of Prize Money in the Monte Carlo Casino.
Sunday July 15th	
2:30pm	Merit Rules Inter-Club Tournament \$10,000 prize money. (No entry fee). Sporting d'Hiver.
8:30pm	Prize Giving Cocktail Party. Salle Empire Hotel de Paris.
11:00pm	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CHALLENGE MATCH. THE GAMMONOID MERIT I VERSUS 1979 MERIT WORLD CHAMPION. Monte Carlo Casino. (Closed Circuit TV).

MERIT INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP \$10,000 PRIZE MONEY

- i This event is open only to teams which represent a Club, Association, Casino, Publication or Organisation WHICH HAS AGREED IN WRITING TO RECOGNISE THE MERIT TOURNAMENT RULES. Such written agreements must be in the possession of the organisers no later than **5:00pm July 13th**.
- ii Final registrations must be received no later than 5:00pm July 13th.
- iii The organisers would appreciate your co-operation in registering early. It will assist smooth organisation if the approximate number of participants is known in advance.
- iv Each team will consist of three players. These players must be members in good standing of the club they represent.
- v Any eligible club may enter an unlimited number of teams.
- vi The Championship Committee will consist of the members of the World Championship committee. Other members may be added later at the discretion of the organisers.
- vii All players in the Merit Inter-Club Championship must be competitors taking part in one of the 3 divisions of the World Championship.
- viii The sponsors reserve the right to refuse admission to any player (or team) without giving a reason.
- ix No player may be a member of more than one team.
 - x The Club Championship will be played on a "Knockout" basis and the draw posted at 12:00 noon on Sunday July 15th.
- xi Each round is decided as follows:
Each player will play one match against a member of the opposing team. The first team to win 2 matches advances to the next round. There will be **NO** consultation between team members during a match.
- xii The usual time penalties will be in effect and unnecessarily slow play will result in penalty points being added to an opponent's score if the committee feels justified in doing so. The number of points required to win in each round will be determined by the committee. This information will be available well before the start of play.

THERE WILL BE NO CONSOLATION EVENT AND THE WINNING TEAM WILL RECEIVE THE \$10,000 PRIZE MONEY.

AUCTION

- i All players in the Championship Division will be sold in the Auction — 32 seeded players will be nominated by the seeding committee and sold individually, the rest will be sold in Fields of 8. Any byes will be allocated to the seeded players in order.
- ii All payments for Auction purchases and/or buy backs must be made in cash or Travellers Cheques (unless prior arrangements have been made with the Committee). There will be no exceptions to this rule.
- iii The Auction will be conducted in US DOLLARS. Other major currencies will be accepted.
- iv
 - (1) Seeded players may buy back up to 50% of themselves.
 - (2) Players in Fields may buy back up to 10% of their Fields. Any purchases above or below this optional 10% will be treated as a private matter between the player and the purchaser. The organisers will be responsible **only** for the 10% described here.
 - (3) Please make all purchases and buy backs through the organisers.
 - (4) Private auction transactions will be treated as a matter entirely between those players concerned.
 - (5) Under **NO** circumstances will the organisers accept transfers of private debts or recognise prior liabilities between players.

TENNIS

Tuesday July 10th:—A Mens Double Tennis Tournament will commence at 11:00am (Monte Carlo Country Club). Play will continue each day with the Final on Sunday July 15th at 11:00am. There will be no entry fee.

CONDITIONS

- i **PARTICIPATION IN THE MERIT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IS BY INVITATION ONLY. THE SPONSORS AND/OR THE COMMITTEE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY APPLICATION WITHOUT GIVING A REASON.**
- ii **ENTRY FEES: CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION \$350
INTERMEDIATE DIVISION \$100
BEGINNERS DIVISION \$50**
100% OF ALL PRIZE MONEY (AND AUCTION PURCHASES) WILL BE RETURNED TO THE WINNERS.
- iii All payments to the winners will be made on Saturday July 14th starting at 11:00pm in the Monte Carlo Casino.
- iv Prize money in all Divisions (and the Auction Pool) will be allocated as follows:—
- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Championship | 60% |
| First Consolation | 15% |
| Second Consolation | 15% |
| Last Chance | 10% |
- The following breakdown will adhere in all flights* (and Auction Pool).
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Winner | 60% |
| Runner Up | 20% |
| Both losing Semi Finalists | 10% |
| *Last Chance: Winner | 70% |
| Runner Up | 30% |

ADDED PRIZES

- v (1) Golden Falcon Trophy and over 40 other trophies. (The World Champion will receive the GOLDEN FALCON TROPHY presented by S.G.).
- (2) World Champion *\$2,500 and "The Backgammon Players" a bronze by Chris Melling.
*\$2,500 will be used as the World Champion's stake in The Artificial Intelligence Challenge Match versus The Gammonoid, Merit I. This match will be played for \$5,000, winner take all.
- (3) Runner Up \$1,250 and a replica of "The Backgammon Players" by Chris Melling.
- (4) Intermediate Champion \$750.
- (5) Beginners Champion \$500.
- vi Prizes have been graciously donated by the following sponsors:—
- (1) 50 Bottles of Buchanan's Reserve 12 Year Old Scotch.
 - (2) Van Cleef et Arpels (Ladies Prize).
 - (3) St. Laurent Rive Gauche.
 - (4) Gian Maria Buccellatti.
 - (5) Champagne Moet et Chandon.
- vii All competitors must be at least 18 years old.
- viii **THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WILL OBSERVE THE MERIT TOURNAMENT RULES, WHICH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COMPETITORS ON ARRIVAL.**

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

All reservations must be accompanied by \$100 deposit. Cheques should be made out to the Hotel of your choice and sent to one of the Regional Agents listed on this Invitation. Due to very high seasonal demand (July 14th weekend) players are advised to book accommodation as early as possible. Although a substantial number of rooms have been allocated for the World Championship, reservations cannot be guaranteed after June 15th 1979.

All players who are **NOT** resident at the authorised Hotels will pay a surcharge of \$100 per couple for the Auction Dinner, Prize Giving Parties and use of the SBM facilities — The Sporting Club, Country Club and Golf Club, Monte Carlo Beach, Piscine des Terrasses etc. This surcharge will be paid whether or not the players concerned attend the Auction Dinner.

AUTHORISED TOURNAMENT HOTELS

All rooms are Air Conditioned.

All prices quoted with service included.

Hotel de Paris	Suite	1,230 Fr. Frs.
	Double Room First Category	586 Fr. Frs.
	Double Room Second Category	540 Fr. Frs.
	Single Room	420 Fr. Frs.
Hotel Hermitage	Suite	885 Fr. Frs.
	Double Room First Category	452 Fr. Frs.
	Double Room Second Category	405 Fr. Frs.
	Single Room	336 Fr. Frs.
Loews (Hotel deposit must be paid by May 10)	2 Bedroom Suite	1,365 or 1,215 Fr. Frs.
	1 Bedroom Suite	900 or 800 Fr. Frs.
	1 Bedroom (Junior Suite)	580 Fr. Frs.
	Double Room	420 Fr. Frs.
	Single Room	385 Fr. Frs.

SPECIAL FLIGHT LONDON~NICE RETURN

Departure	Sunday July 8th	Flight BA 342 12:15.
	Monday July 9th	Flight BA 342 12:15.
Return	Monday July 16th	Flight BA 343 16:15.
	Price is £110 (subject to any IATA increase).	
	All details:—Sky-Sea Travel, 24 Down Street, London W1Y 7DQ.	
	Tel: (01) 499 8222.	

SPECIAL EVENT

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CHALLENGE MATCH

The Gammonoid, Merit I, will play a Challenge match versus the new Merit World Champion on Sunday July 15th at 11:00pm.

Location — The Monte Carlo Casino.

Prize Money — \$5,000 winner take all.

REGIONAL AGENTS

CENTRAL COORDINATOR:

Andre Rolfo-Fontana, La Société des Bains de Mer,
Place du Casino, Monaco. Tel: 30 99 31.

BRAZIL: Miguel d'Almeida. Tel: Rio de Janeiro 227 8692/
224 9736

GREECE: Harry Lymberopoulos. Tel: Athens 322 9405/322 9412

HOLLAND: Rene Beerlage, 151 Mont Blanc 36, Amstelveen.
Tel: Amsterdam 453 214

ITALY: Luigi Villa, 22 Via Moscova, Milan. Tel: Milan 659 1612

SWITZERLAND: Roland Jakober, 150 Chemin de la Montagne,
Geneva 1224. Tel: Geneva 49 01 79

SPAIN: Maika Perez de Cobas. Tel: Madrid 233 2024

VENEZUELA: Gilbert Laulhe, Sorinter C.A., Centro Ciudad Comercial
Tamanaco Tiso 6, Oficina 618, Caracas, Venezuela.
Tel: Caracas 92 41 35/92 04 91/92 33 91

UK: Stephen Raphael, 42 Charles St., London W.1.
Tel: London 628 4000

USA: **US Coordinator:** Lorrie Mickle, Flagler Gardens, 1201
South Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401.
Tel: (305) 833 7513

California: Sidney Jackson, 12 Buccaneer St., Los
Angeles, Calif 90291. Tel: (213) 396 4551

New England: Francesca Parkinson, NEBC, P.O. Box 366,
North Falmouth, MASS. Tel: (617) 563 5787

MONACO: For Hotel information and reservations:

Hotel de Paris, M. Planchette. Tel: 50 80 80

Hermitage Hotel, M. Ioannides. Tel: 50 67 31

Loews Hotel, M. Hajjar. Tel: 50 65 00



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