



BACKGAMMON GIANTS OF THE WORLD **WHO STANDS OUT ABOVE THE REST?**



Official Ballot for 2017

You are invited to vote for the **32 best backgammon players** in the world, based on their active backgammon participation and performance in **2016-2017**. Whose backgammon skills do you respect the most among players around the world? (Sample names of international players are listed on page 2 of this ballot.)

To be eligible to vote, you must be an Open / Championship-level player or a tournament director / organizer at the regional, national or international level. If necessary, eligibility to vote will be determined by the Committee of Yamin Yamin (Chairman), Jake Jacobs (Auditor), and Carol Joy Cole (Editor). Results will be published in 2018 in the *FlintArea BackgammonNews* and on the Giants website at: www.flintbg.com/giants.html.

Voter returns must be e-mailed, faxed or postmarked by **January 31, 2018**. Please send your ballots to:

Yamin A. Yamin Phone: 847-295-3322 Jake Jacobs: tobaksa@rocketmail.com
3022 Highland Ave. Fax: 847-295-0734 Carol Joy Cole: cjc@flintbg.com
Wilmette, IL 60091 USA E-mail: ya2.yamin@gmail.com

Name your top choices in descending order on the lines below. **Put your own name on line #2.** (This eliminates any problems of how to rank yourself. What matters is how others rank you.)

PLAYER NAMES

PLAYER NAMES

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2. (Your name) _____
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32. _____

Voter's Name (Confidential): _____ Tel. _____

Address: _____ Fax _____

_____ E-mail _____

Please submit your ballot by **January 31, 2018**. Watch for updates at <http://www.flintbg.com/giants.html>

POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FOR THE GIANTS OF BACKGAMMON — 2017

These names are only suggestions. You may vote for other active players who are not on this list.

Farzin Aarabi (NOR)	Sean Garber (USA)	Lasse Hjorth Madsen (DK)	Pernille Rosendal (DK)
Jeff Acierno (USA)	Perry Gartner (USA)	Paul Magriel (USA)	Peer Röwer (GER)
Mads Peter Andersen (DK)	Cuneyt Argun Genç (TUR)	Ricardo Malas (LEB/SP)	Eli Roymy (ISR)
Kåre Aronsson (SWE)	Patrick Gibson (USA)	Alfred Mamlet (USA)	Jon Kristian Røyset (NOR)
Victor Ashkenazi (USA)	Harvey Gillis (USA)	Keene Marin (USA)	Ron Rubin (USA)
Alexei Askurava (RUS)	Drew Giovanis (USA)	Howard Markowitz (USA)	Sven Rümcker (GER)
Didier Assaraf (FRA)	Kent Goulding (USA)	Dado Martincevic (CRO)	Joe Russell (USA)
Alain Babillon (FRA)	Jörgen Granstedt (SWE)	Hans Kedde Mathiesen (DK)	Teppo Salo (FIN)
Jeremy Bagai (USA)	Steen Grønbech (DK)	Carter Mattig (USA)	Alvaro Savio (BRZ)
Nack Ballard (USA)	Christos Groutsos (GRE)	Doug Mayfield (USA)	Steve Sax (USA)
Ken Bame (USA)	Georges Grünbaum (SWIZ)	Bernhard Mayr (AUT)	Joel Schiff (ISR)
Henrik Bang (DK)	Alan Grunwald (USA)	Eric McAlpine (UK)	Werner Schmucki (AUT)
Rick Barabino (USA)	Peter Hallberg (DK)	Carlo Melzi (IT)	Jonah Seewald (USA)
Jon Barnes (UK)	Gus Jacobsen Hansen (DK)	Konstantinos Mitrelis (GRE)	Mike Senkiewicz (USA)
Gary Bauer (USA)	Torben Hasseriis (DK)	Masayuki Mochizuki (JPN)	Michel Serrero (FRA)
Saba Bejanishvili (USA)	Steve Hast (USA)	Tak Morioka (USA)	Kenji Shimodaira (JPN)
Ali Çetin Belene (TUR)	Peter Heitmüller (GER)	Richard Munitz (USA)	Barry Silliman (USA)
Art Benjamin (USA)	Tobias Hellwag (GER)	Chris Munk-Christensen (DK)	Phil Simborg (USA)
Peter Bennet (UK)	Roland Herrera (UK)	Artur Muradian (ARM)	Frank Simon (GER)
Pavel Bielewicz (SWE)	Mary Hickey (USA)	Thomas Myhr (DK)	Hall Skaara (NOR)
Dorn Bishop (USA)	Julius High (USA)	Yoshiyuki Nakamura (JPN)	Dagfinn Snarheim (NOR)
Razi Bobrov (ISR)	Götz Hildsberg (GER)	Masahiko Nasu (JPN)	Wilcox Snellings (CR)
Jes Bondo (DK)	Takayuki Hino (JPN)	Falafel Natanzon (ISR/USA)	Tilman Söhnchen (GER)
Chuck Bower (USA)	Al Hodis (NV)	Dana Nazarian (USA)	Volker Sonnabend (GER)
Fernando Braconi (IT)	Grant Hoffman (NZ)	Michael Neagu (CAN)	Abdullah Sorgüven (TUR)
Chris Bray (UK)	Jeb Horton (USA)	Fernando Neumark (ARG)	Franck Stepler (FRA)
Karsten Bredahl (DK)	Iancho Hristov (BUL)	Freddie Noer (DK)	Maik Stieber (GER)
John Broomfield (UK)	Andreas Humke (GER)	Ary Nogueira (BRZ)	Marty Storer (USA)
Steve Brown (USA)	John Hurst (UK)	Sven-Olav Norén (SWE)	Matthias Strumpf (GER)
Sabri Büyüksoy (TUR)	“Othello” Itikawa (JPN)	Stepan Nuniyants (USA)	Mike Svobodny (USA)
Sean Casey (IRE)	Jan Jacobowitz (GER)	Dmitriy Obukhov (USA)	Robin Swaffield (HK)
Giorgio Castellano (IT)	Jake Jacobs (Singapore)	John O’Hagan (USA)	Klaus Switon (DK)
Jan Honza Cerny (CZE)	Raj Jansari (UK)	Ed O’Laughlin (USA)	Frank Talbot (USA)
Cihangir Cetinel (TUR)	Thomas Jespersen (DK)	Andreas Christian Olsen (DK)	Tatsuya Tanaka (JPN)
Ted Chee (USA)	Ralf Jonas (GER)	Marc Brockmann Olsen (DK)	Gerry Tansey (USA)
Odis Chenault (USA)	Shimon Kagan (ISR)	Jürgen Orlowski (GER)	Zafer Tas (TUR)
Matt Cohn-Geier (USA)	Michihito Kageyama (JPN)	Gaz Tafari Owen (UK)	Thomas Tenland (SWE)
Carol Joy Cole (USA)	Bernhard Kaiser (GER)	Jason Pack (USA)	Peter Jes Thomsen (DK)
Olivier Croisille (FRA)	Athanasios Katsios (GRE)	Kimon Papachristopoulos (GER)	David Todd (USA)
Kristijan Kuljat (CRO)	Neil Kazaross (USA)	Stefan Parlow (AUT)	Lars Trabolt (DK)
Dennis Culpepper (USA)	Thomas Kazemieh (GER)	Rory Pascal (USA)	Chris Trencher (USA)
Karen Davis (USA)	John Klein (USA)	Jim Pasko (USA)	Sevdalin Tsvetanov (BUL)
Malcolm Davis (USA)	George Kleitsas (GRE)	Maya Peycheva (BUL)	Stacy Turner (USA)
Olivier Décultot (FRA)	Chris Knapp (CAN/USA)	Bill Phipps (USA)	Timo Väätäinen (FIN)
Lars Degerman (SWE)	Bob Koca (USA)	Dankwart Plattner (GER)	Henrik Veje (DK)
Andrea de Zandonati (IT)	Petko Kostadinov (USA)	Lawrence Powell (UK)	Philippe Vouhé (FRA)
Nevzat Dogan (DK)	Mislav Kovacic (CRO)	Willi Preskar (CRO)	Bob Wachtel (USA)
Mick Dyett (AUSL)	Thomas Kristensen (DK)	David Presser (ISR)	Christoph Wagener (GER)
Jack Edelson (USA)	Elias Kritikos (NOR)	Slava Pryadkin (UKR)	Paul Weaver (USA)
Claus Elken (DK)	Claude Landry (CAN)	Frank Raposa (USA)	David Wells (USA)
Sergey Erokhin (RUS)	Michael “Mik” Larsen (DK)	Thorleif Reisvold (NOR)	Tom Wheeler (USA)
Amir Eshragi (IRAN)	Morten Holm Lassen (DK)	Matt Reklaitis (USA)	Norm Wiggins (USA)
Rune Færevåg (NOR)	Mario Lazzar (AUT)	Rachel Rhodes (UK)	Sebastian Wilkinson (UK)
Paul Farah (USA)	Dirk Leinberger (GER)	Jacob “Stick” Rice (USA)	Antoinette Williams (USA)
Tuvya Felt (USA)	Laila Leonhardt (SWE)	Vincenzo Riceputi (IT)	Sean Williams (UK)
Julian Fetterlein (UK)	Brian Lever (UK)	Alessandro Rietti (IT)	Jacek Wojciechowski (POL)
Arda Findikoglu (TUR)	Hans Liby (NOR)	Sondre Rike (NOR)	Kit Woolsey (USA)
Ray Fogerlund (USA)	Robert Lindbom (SWE)	Bill Riles (USA)	Masahito Yamamoto (JPN)
Martin Foldager (DK)	Heribert Lindner (GER)	Bill Robertie (USA)	Akiko Yazawa (JPN)
Tore Fredriksen (NOR)	Roberto Litzenberger (USA)	Doug Roberts (USA)	Hironobu Yazawa (JPN)
Gary Fries (USA)	Henrik Løber (DK)	David Rockwell (USA)	Erhan Yenisen (TUR)
Ben Friesen (USA)	Michael Löfblad (SWE)	Chris Rogers (UK)	Kazuki Yokota (JPN)
Frank Frigo (USA)	Fabrizio Lo Surdo (IT)	Herb Roman (USA)	Leyla Zaloutskaya (USA)
Konrad Fröschl (SWE)	Sander Lylloff (DK)	Thomas Rönn (SWE)	Bahman Zandi (USA)
Nodar Gagua (GEO/RUS)	Ian Macfarlane (BRZ)	Ed Rosenblum (USA)	Zdenek Zizka (CZE)