



# **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](http://www.flintbg.com/giants.html).

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

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3022 Highland Ave.                Fax: 847-295-0734                      Carol Joy Cole: [cjc@flintbg.com](mailto:cjc@flintbg.com)  
Wilmette, IL 60091 USA    E-mail: [ya2.yamin@gmail.com](mailto: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**

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