

## Big success at XXIII European Backgammon Championship in the charming Velden

Shimon Kagan from Israel is the new king of backgammon in Europe. The new European champion F.2 is Arda Findikoglu from Turkey and the European champion F.3 is the lovely Seda Koc, also from Turkey



From left: Alberto da Pra, Shimon Kagan, Seda Koc, Arda Findikoglu, Marco Fornasir, Othmar Resch

It was a perfect celebration of 10 years of Backgammon in Velden, with some of the most famous players participating at the Velden Backgammon Open. Shimon Kagan won the 10.000 euros (including an added 1.600 euros) and the Super-Jackpot. The new European Champions in the Doubles Consulting Championship are David Boldini from Switzerland and Hormoz Shahrokshahi from Iran. 97 players from 23 countries, took part in the 7 events. They played for 5 days and shared a total money distribution of 49.990 euros, including an additional 1.600 euros for the winner.

Happiness and competition were the characteristics of the latest XXIII European Backgammon Championship, which celebrated 10 years in the charming Velden, right in the heart of the Europe.

The European Champion 2011 is Shimon Kagan from Israel, who also won the Super-jackpot and was finalist in the Warm-up. Shimon is a very good player and he arrived at the top winning against Florin

Pocora from Romania (13 to 4), Kimon Papachristopoulos from Greece/Germany (13 to 12), the British John Broomfield (15 to 4), the German Mario Kühl (17 to 15) and against Alexandru Papadumitru from Romania (19 to 4). In the Master category there was glory also for Costas Chiotinis from Greece, who won the Consolation against Sabri Büyüksoy from Turkey (17 to 3) and for the Austrian Helmut Gerdenits, who won the Last Chance against Hormoz Shahrokshahi from Iran/Germany (7 to 6).

In the Doubles Consulting, 25 teams fought for the title of the Doubles European Champions and the 7.500 euros of prize money, with a total money distribution in this tournament of 12.500 euros. The Champions are the Swiss David Boldini in partnership with the Persian/German Hormoz Shahrokshahi. In the first round they took a late arrival, then they won against the Greeks Deliakis/Vallianos (9 to 6), the Croatian Jurlin/Kovacic (9 to 2), the Austrian Lukas/Urbantschitsch (9 to 6) and finally the Italian/Austrian team Azizian/Parlow (11 to 10). In the Champion category the new European Champion is Arda Findikoglu from Turkey, president of WBF Turkey and great tournament

### Mochy's Lecture

"Great success of the interesting lecture about the priming structure and blitzing structure."



Masayuki Mochizuki, known as Mochy, 2009 World Backgammon Champion and n.1 Backgammon Giant 2010/2011 explained perfectly the difference of these important steps of the game".

organizer. Findikoglu reached the top, winning against the Ukraine Vasily Kavun (11 to 2), the Croatian Mislav Kovacic (11 to 9), the Swiss David Boldini (13 to 0), the Turkish Mehmet Güven (15 to 5) and the Czech Pavel Zaoral (17 to 16) in an incredible final game. The German Günther Holzinger won the Consolation against the Italian Andrea Sirch (15 to 11) and the Czech Honza Cerny won the last chance against the Austrian Thomas Leitner (5 to 3).

In the Intermediate, the new European Champion is the lovely Seda Koc from Turkey, girlfriend of Arda Findikoglu and perfect assistant in every Turkish competition. She won the European title defeating the Italian Maria Croce (7 to 0), the Romanian/Italian Viorel Popa (7 to 6), the Slovakian Maria Kaceriakova (10 to 7), the Chinese Kwok Yan Ip (9 to 6) and in the last match the Egyptian/Austrian Mahmoud Taha (11 to 10). In the Super-Jackpot, as written above, Shimon Kagan won against Kimon Papachristopoulos (11 to 10).

11 Ladies played the Ladies tournament and the winner was the Hungarian Dora Gabanyi, who won (9 to 8) against the Turkish Seda Koc (her again!).

51 players in the Warm-up played for the accommodation in Velden for next year. Gültekin Uygur from Turkey won against the Israeli Shimon Kagan (5 to 1).

50 players in the R&R (Rizzello & Romagnoli) Trophy played for the Backgammon board (the T-board) offered by our professional boards provider. The American champion Bob Wachtel won against the Turkish Mehmet Güven (5 to 3).

Finally the two One Point Matches were a British Kingdom: in the first one the winner was John Broomfield and in the second one Martin Barkwill.

The next European Backgammon Championship is already scheduled for 2012: from the 11th till 15 April, 2012, the week-end immediately after Easter. See you there!



### BACKGAMMON IN VELDEN RESULTS OF ALL TOURNAMENTS

## CASINO VELDEN

Machen Sie Ihr Spiel

Minimum guaranteed prize money for the Master Winner: 10.000 euro.

Winner taked 10.000 euro (including an added of 1.600 euro).

Total money distribution 49.990 euro (including super-jackpot).

#### Notes

Master: 30 giocatori

Champion: 30 giocatori

Intermediate: 29 giocatori

Players of the Double Consulting, Ladies, Warm-up and R&R Trophy not participating in others categories: 8

Total: 97 players (from 23 Countries: Austria, Belgium, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Louxembourg, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, USA).

Director: Marco Fornasir (Italy)

Tournament Committee: Alberto da Pra (president, Italy); John Broomfield (UK); Neculai Draganuta (Romania); Arda Findikoglu (Turkey); Yiorgos Kleitsas (Greece); Masayuki Mochizuki (Japan); Werner Schmuck (Austria); Bob Wachtel (USA).

#### Tournaments

Master flight - 30 players

Winner: Shimon Kagan (Israel)

Main finalist: Alexandru Papadumitru (Romania)

Main semi-finalist: Mario Kühl (Austria)

Main semi-finalist: Roman Korber (Austria)

Consolation winner: Costas Chiotinis (Greece)

Last chance winner: Helmut Gerdenits (Austria)

Ladies Prize: Angelina Charakoglou (Greece)

Champion flight - 30 players

Winner: Arda Findikoglu (Turkey)

Consolation winner: Günther Holzinger (Germany)

Last chance winner: Honza Cerny (Czech Republic)

Ladies Prize: Eva Zizkova (Czech Republic)

Intermediate flight - 29 players

Winner: Seda Koc (Turkey)

Consolation winner: Dora Gabanyi (Hungary)

Last chance winner: Annick Hasdenteufel (Belgium)

Ladies Prize: Seda Koc (Turkey)

Ladies Tournament - 11 players

Winner: Dora Gabanyi (Hungary)

Finalist: Seda Koc (Turkey)

Super Jackpot - 8 players

Winner: Shimon Kagan (Israel)

Finalist: Kimon Papachristopoulos (Germany)

Warm-up - 51 players

Winner: Gültekin Uygur (Turkey)

R & R Trophy - 50 players

Winner: Bob Wachtel (USA)

One Point Match Tournament - President's Tournament

1st One Point: John Broomfield (UK)

2nd One Point: Martin Barkwill (UK)

8th European Doubles Consulting Championship

Team winner: David Boldini (Switzerland) - Hormoz

Shahrokshahi (Iran/Germany)

Team finalist: Shadi Azizian (Iran/Italy) - Stefan Parlow (Austria)

### VIDEO OF VELDEN



WBF is realizing a video of each tournament of the WBF Golden Circuit 2011. The film director Andras Kocsis I.T.I., (see photo) after the video of Istanbul 2011, is now editing the video of Velden and Antalya.

More details >>> info@wbf.net

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

The XXIV EUROPEAN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP 2012 is scheduled from Wednesday 11th till Sunday 15th April, 2012 in the Casino Velden (Austria). Is the traditional week-end immediately after Easter and the Nordic Open.

RVAA  
RIZZELLO & ROMAGNOLI  
PROFESSIONAL BACKGAMMON BOARD

### WBF UPCOMING 2011 EVENTS

6th/10th July, 2011 - 2nd MENTON BACKGAMMON OPEN Casino Barrière de Menton (France)

11th/14th July, 2011 - BACKGAMMON ACTION Casino Barrière de Menton (France) TBC

18th/22nd August, 2011 - BACKGAMMON ON THE BEACH Grado Beach (Gorizia - Italy)

31st August//4th September, 2011 - 20th MITTELEUROPA BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP Grand Casino Baden (Baden bei Wien - Austria)

28th September/2 October, 2011 - XIV AUSTRIAN BACKGAMMON OPEN & AUSTRIAN DOUBLE CONSULTING CHAMPIONSHIP - Hotel Veronika (Seefeld - Austria).

6th December, 2011 - 13th MILAN INTERNATIONAL BACKGAMMON CHALLENGE - Lombardy Championship 2011 Hotel Admiral (Milan - Italy)

7th December, 2011 - 13th MILAN INTERNATIONAL BACKGAMMON CHALLENGE - City of Milan Tournament 2011 Hotel Admiral (Milan - Italy)

### ::Latest News::

In Antalya (Turkey) the MEDITERRANEAN OPEN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP, third step of the WBF GOLDEN CIRCUIT 2011, was won of the Turkish Sabri Büyüksoy, that won 17 - 9 against the Turkish Serkan Koc. Semi-finalists Tassilo Rzymann (Austria) and Shimon Kagan (Israel). 74 players coming from 8 countries participated at the event.