

IT'S TIME OF VELDEN. DON'T MISS the XXVI European Backgammon Championship, 11th European Doubles Championship & 13th Velden Backgammon Open

As last year, the Master Winner will receive a minimum guaranteed prize money of 10,000 euros, but there are many news in this edition: the format is now the **WBF Swiss Triple Elimination WMB Winner Match Bonuses**, only two categories, reduction of the Master entry fee (500 euros this year) and we introduce the challenge **The best play the best** to celebrate the past European champions. Regarding the Casino Velden, is on the way the rebuilding of his façade.



100% OF ALL ENTRY WILL BE RETURNED. THE MASTER WINNER WILL RECEIVE MINIMUM GUARANTEED PRIZE MONEY OF 10.000 EURO.

A few days more and on Wednesday 26th March, 2014 the XXVI European Backgammon Championship will open the games in the enchanting Velden am Wörthersee. Last year the event distributed to the winners more than 35,000 euros in total, 10,000 euros (including an added prize money of 4,400 euros) for the Master Winner Michihito Kageyama (Japan) and 7,000 euros for the Doubles.

Also this year many players are pre-registered at this traditional challenge and the 2014 edition is full of news. The most important is the new format, no more the classic Main, Consolation and Last Chance, but the new **WBF Swiss Triple Elimination WMB Winner Match Bonuses**, an evolution realized by Jakob Garal. With this format the player is still in the main event even after losing two matches and can win the first prize. After three lost matches the player is out. 70% of the entry fees is for the winners (40% winner, 20% finalist, 10% third classified), 30% is the amount to pay the match bonuses: for each match won, the player will receive an amount corresponding to 10% of the paid entry fee (not paid in case of bye). The players showed enthusiasm for this format so we hope to see many players in Velden. In addition we will only have two categories: Master (500 euros) and Intermediate (100 euros).

Another piece of news is the tournament **The best play the best**. It's a direct elimination format reserved to the past European champions (Master category): no entry fee (but they have to pay the registration and the WBF Golden Card 2014) and the winner is registered for the Master main event. It's a way to celebrate the past European champions. As usual in the WBF Golden Circuit tournament, the time clocks will not be used during the event, except when a specific match is unduly delaying the tournament. However, by mutual agreement both players may use a clock. The draw is public, random and it is conducted manually, as a guarantee to all the players. We confirm the sponsor for the second satellite tournament: **869BG** will provide the board for the winner of the **869BG Trophy**. We also take care of the equipment: all matches will be played on professional tournament boards. We are the only organization that regularly cleans and disinfects our boards after every tournament. Some news also for the Casino Velden. The casino is rebuilding his façade: you can see the final result in the rendering above.

Also the social side is famous in the Velden: two cocktails, the first one on Wednesday 26th March and the Welcome Cocktail on Friday 28th; the Sunday Gala Dinner will end the XXVI edition of the European Backgammon Championship. The casino bar will be open during the tournament matches.

Last, but not least, the money is an interesting element of the Championship: again this year the Master Winner will receive **minimum guaranteed prize money of 10.000 euros**.

WHO'S NEXT?



From left: The defending European Champion Rudolf Prohaska (F.3 Intermediate), Michihito Kageyama (F.1 Master) and Antonio laquinta (F.2 Champion). On the right side Marco Fornasir.

WBFF Golden Circuit 2014 The next step...



After Velden, the next WBF Golden Circuit tournament will be the 2014 International **Mediterranean Open Backgammon Championship**, scheduled from 25th till 27th April, 2014 in Antalya, the sunny southern coast city of Turkey. In this giant championship of 8 different tournaments, we estimate having more than 100 players from many countries including well known backgammon masters. This year the Mediterranean Championship will take place at Harrington Park Resort Hotel. Detailed info: www.wbfturkey.com



WBFF GOLDEN CIRCUIT 2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

- 17th-19th January, 2014
2014 ISTANBUL OPEN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP - Istanbul Armada Hotel (Istanbul - Turkey)
- 26th-30th March, 2014 - XXVI EUROPEAN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP, 11th EUROPEAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP, 13th VELDEN BACKGAMMON OPEN (10.000 euro minimum prize-money for the Master Winner) - Casino Velden (Velden - Austria)
- 25th-27th April, 2014
2014 MEDITERRANEAN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP - Harrington Park Resort Hotel (Antalya - Turkey)
- 10th-14th September, 2014
8th GEORGIAN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP - MEMORIAL GOGI BUKIA (added prize money 20,000 USD) - Hotel Oasis (Chakvi - Georgia)
- 8th-12th October, 2014
XVI AUSTRIAN BACKGAMMON OPEN & AUSTRIAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP - Hotel Veronika (Seefeld - Austria)
- 29th October / 2nd November, 2014
2nd MERIT OPEN - INTERNATIONAL BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP (added prize money 30,000 euros) - Merit Park Hotel & Casino (Girne - North Cyprus KKTC)



NB. We will probably add more tournaments to this list. Stay tuned! During this year we hope to add some more tournaments, many things are on the way.

WBFF SURPRISE: WRITE TO US NOW!

We are preparing a nice gift for you...

Each participant will receive the celebrating XXVI European Championship umbrella.

If you intend to participate in the Championship, please confirm your presence (let us know which hotel you are staying in) by sending NOW an email to: info@wbf.net



RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATION IN VELDEN

We recommend the following hotels that have been long time WBF partners and will grant you

A SPECIAL PRICE

Prices (breakfast included) are per person/per night, but valid only for reservations made directly and not through travel agencies. It is preferable to book in advance, mentioning the password *Backgammon*

Seeschlössl Hotel****

Klagenfurter Strasse 34 - 9220 Velden - Austria
ph. +43 4274 2824 - fax +43 4274 2824.44
email: seeschloessl@aon.at - www.seeschloessl.at
euro 60,00/95,00 B&B per person/per night

Hotel Goritschnigg****

Casinoplatz 3-5 - 9220 Velden - Austria
ph. +43 4274 2035 - fax +43 4274 3452
email: info@goritschnigg.com - www.goritschnigg.com
euro 60,00/77,00 B&B per person/per night

Barry-Memle - Lakeside Resort****

Klagenfurter Strasse, 26 - 9220 Velden - Austria
ph. +43 664 1442835 - fax +43 4274 21164
email: info@barry.at - www.barry.at
euro 40,00/55,00 B&B per person/per night

Hotel Kirchenwirt***

Kirchenstrasse 19 - 9220 Velden - Austria
ph. +43 4274 3254 - fax +43 4274 3254.20
email: info@kirchenwirt-velden.at
www.kirchenwirt-velden.at
euro 44,00/46,00 B&B per person/per night

Hotel Velden Bacherlwirt***

Rosentaler Strasse 22 - 9220 Velden - Austria
ph. +43 4274 2120
email: office@hotelvelden.at - www.hotelvelden.at
euro 35,50/44,00 B&B per person/per night

Credits

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