

*Last call: don't miss the great event of Georgia!!*

VIII Gogi Bukia Memorial International Backgammon Tournament is waiting for you!

Come to Chakvi and enjoy **20.000 USD** added money-prize and the amazing Black Sea of Georgia



10th - 14th September, 2014

Last year 4 World Champions were in Chakvi (Ben-Zion, Mochy, Pryadkin and Svobodny), 92 players from 13 countries: it was a great result! The defending champion is Najibullah Salamzy (Afghanistan)

Georgia is truly a beautiful country, rich in tradition and with an important cultural heritage stretching back thousands of years. The ancient name of Georgia was Colchis, a territory that gave rise to myths and legends that are famous throughout the world, such as Medea and the Argonauts. Both the history and culture of Georgia are European even if its territory is in Asia, located on the Eastern shores of the Black Sea. It was one of the first kingdoms to declare Christianity a state religion in 337 AD.

Georgia has a sub-tropical climate and thanks to this it is a large producer of mandarins, lemons and tea. Today Georgia is an independent country since 1991, when the Soviet Union ceased to exist, and currently enormous efforts are being made to equip it with important infrastructure.

In particular **Batumi**, which is the main Georgian resort on the Black Sea and has an international airport, is being rapidly transformed into the Monte-Carlo of the Black Sea. Situated in the Southern region of Ajara, close to the border with Turkey, Batumi has some major hotels such as the Hotel Sheraton and the Hotel Radisson, and shortly an impressive Hotel Kempinski, a Holiday Inn and a Hilton will open. The construction of the **Batumi Trump Tower** has already begun and it will dominate the city. There are currently near ten casinos but other gaming companies are planning their entry into the area. The comfortable **Oasis Hotel SPA & Resort in Chakvi** (15 minutes from Batumi) will host the **VIII Gogi Bukia Memorial International Backgammon Tournament**. The hotel will offer the backgammon players 15% discount on normal rates. It is an excellent hotel, surrounded by a eucalyptus forest and has Hyatt style furnishings.

The leisure facilities by the sea are especially well-kept and meet the highest requirements. We shouldn't forget that Georgia is also very well-known for its special cuisine and its fine wines. After the success of the 2013 edition, this year **the added money-prize increase to 20.000 USD**. Only few rooms are yet available in Oasis Hotel, so you have to book immediately your accommodation in Georgia. The full program is available on-line on [www.wbf.net](http://www.wbf.net)

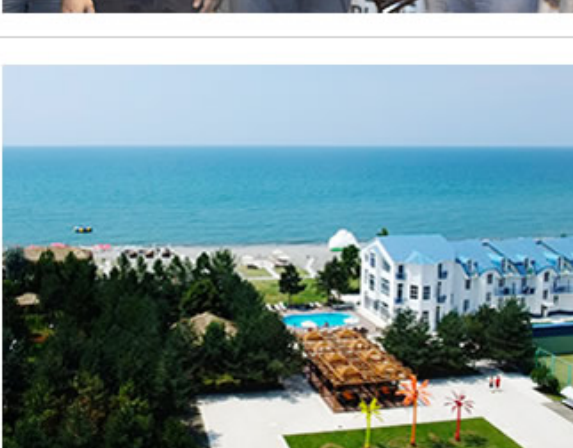
Batumi



Najibullah Salamzy (Afghanistan), winner 2013



OASIS HOTEL  
SPA & RESORT



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**Book immediately your room in the Oasis Hotel!**

If you wish to access the **SPECIAL RATES (-15%)** for players, use the password **"Backgammon"**



HAPPY SUMMER! JOIN BACKGAMMON ON THE BEACH!

The summer starts right now, after days and days with the worst weather of the last 200 years.

The best way to sunbathe and swim in the sea is to come to Grado (Adriatic Sea - Italy), where Thursday 21st August, 2014 starts the Backgammon on the Beach, the traditional summer event of WBF on the main beach of GIT. These Backgammon days are really good for junior player: you can learn Backgammon in two days lessons, play the easy tournament Isola d'Oro with the OPM system (best of three) and play the Friuli Venezia Giulia Championship. No entry fee and no registration fee, but we appreciate a free donation (we suggest 10 euros) to cover the organizational costs. For the winners there will be cups, a complimentary WBF Golden Card 2015 and a very good travel Backgammon board.

**BACKGAMMON ON THE BEACH - Garden of Gazebo**

Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd August, 2014 at 17:00 - free training to learn and improve Backgammon

Saturday 23rd August, 2014 at 15:00 - 2014 Isola d'Oro Tournament - one point match event (best of three), final best of five; consolation OPM, final best of three

Sunday 24th August, 2014 at 14:00 - 2014 Friuli Venezia Giulia Championship - main 7 points, final 9 points; progressive automatic consolation 5 points, final 7 points

[info@wbf.net](mailto:info@wbf.net) or call +39 337 303804

THE XVII AUSTRIAN BACKGAMMON OPEN

This year, the traditional Austrian Backgammon Open is scheduled at the **Casino Seefeld** (Seefeld, Austria), from Wednesday **8th till Sunday 12th October, 2014**.

As in the previous editions, the charming Hotel Veronika\*\*\*\*, will be our headquarters to give excellent accommodation for the Backgammon players. The partnership with the Casino Seefeld will help us to organize a greater edition, in a professional Backgammon room and the casino will offer some additional gift for the winners.

Play at the XVII Austrian Backgammon Open, Austrian Doubles Championship & 27th Italian Backgammon Championship it's the best way to spend the second week-end of October in one of the most classic mountain resorts in Austria! The Hotel Veronika is waiting for you. See how beautiful it is at [www.aktivhotel-veronika.at](http://www.aktivhotel-veronika.at) Book your room now sending an email to [veronika@seefeld.at](mailto:veronika@seefeld.at) More info: [www.wbf.net](http://www.wbf.net)



Casino Seefeld (Austria)



Hotel Veronika, Seefeld (Austria)

*Stay tuned*

VISIT THE NEW WBF.NET

The website [wbf.net](http://wbf.net) is being renewed. No more Joomla, but an easier format to find immediately the information requested. The website doesn't have its final look yet, is work in progress, but has the most important info and the tournament countdown, to know in how many days the next tournament will start. At the moment, the most important info are in the section Events. On the right side you can also register and be sure to receive all the WBF information. We hope you will visit [wbf.net](http://wbf.net) and you will register. Suggestions and opinions are welcome!

THE NEW WORLD CHAMPIONS

After a hard week in Monte-Carlo, the final verdict is that the very strong Japanese **Akiko Yazawa** is the 39th World Backgammon Champion. She is the 39th lady to win this title (after Lee Genud - USA 1981 and Katie Scalamandre - USA 2000), but if we consider also the previous editions of this championship in Las Vegas and Bahamas, we see that Carol Crawford (USA) won the 1973 title in Las Vegas.

Second place for the American champion Douglas Mayfield (Los Angeles USA) and third place for the british gentleman John Broomfield (London UK), first gentleman after two profi.

In the Junior tournament (8 players) the new World Champion is the Italian **Santiago Fornasir** (13 years old), that won the final game against little David Broomfield (son of John), 2013 Junior World Champion.

In the Junior Consolation the winner is the Italian Federico Riceputi.

Photos: from the left, Akiko Yazawa, Santiago Fornasir and David Broomfield



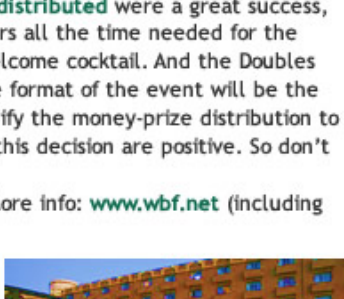
The event of the year: the **2nd Merit Backgammon Open in Cyprus**, from **29th October to 2nd November. 30.000 Euro** added money-prize!

It's true: the 2nd MERIT BACKGAMMON OPEN INTERNATIONAL BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP is a candidate to become the event of the year! The end of October is still far, but 125 rooms are already sold out in **Merit Hotel** and taking other hotels into consideration, total of more than 200 rooms are sold out and reservations still coming in. The added money-prize is increased to **30.000 Euro**, becoming the biggest added of the 2014. But **the main goal** of the Merit Park is also taking care of the guests, as the free transfer from and to the airports (Larnaca is about 90 km from Kyrenia/Girne, Nicosia about 50 km), the exceptional hotel conditions, the free buffet and bar during the tournament. Those are the specialties of our partnership with Merit that attract so many players in North Cyprus, to enjoy the last sunshine of the season in the south Mediterranean.

Last year 134 players from 21 countries and over **70.000 Euro money-prize distributed** were a great success, but what we expect this year is something big. In order to give to the players all the time needed for the matches, the main tournament will start on Thursday evening, after the Welcome cocktail. And the Doubles event is on Friday evening, so the players will have more and more fun. The format of the event will be the Double Elimination + Last Chance. Because of the large attendance, we modify the money-prize distribution to cover the first 9 classified players (instead of the first 5). The comments of this decision are positive. So don't hesitate to contact us to book the last rooms available in Kyrenia.

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Merit Park Hotel & Casino (Cyprus)



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