

NATIONAL BACKGAMMON CIRCUIT

COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT – 2019-20 EDITION ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP CNB

The Amateur Sports Association Circuito Nazionale Backgammon (CNB) is promoting the Italian Championship CNB 2019-20.

In order to participate in CNB tournaments and in the Italian Championship CNB 2019-20, you must register with the association itself and with ACSI (Italian Sports Union for All). Foreign and non-Italian resident players can also participate, if their registration enrollment is in order. Registration fee is €15.00 (fifteen) for a yearly membership card valid for the year 2019. Starting from January 2020, a new yearly card is needed with a cost of €30.00 (thirty).

FORMAT

Regular season points can be obtained in 7 (seven) tournaments organized in different locations in Italy (national events) between 23/06/2019 and 30/06/2020. Tournaments are played in three categories: Champion, Advanced and Beginner/basic; for categories Champion and Advanced there will be distinct rankings.

For Champion and Advanced categories, for the overall ranking in order to access final playoffs, will be considered:

- National Events: all results obtained in the 7 National Events listed below;
- Open CNB: all results obtained in the 7 Open CNB tournaments + Rimini Open (June 2019);
- Sunday CNB events and local club tournaments: all results obtained in the 6 Sunday events and in the 12 local club tournaments (see section "Local Events")

BEGINNER/basic CATEGORY

During national tournaments, for didactic purposes and as an introduction to the competitive phase, according to the number of participants, matches will be played with 'round robin' system.

National Events

National tournament events will be held on the following dates and locations:

1.	September 2019	Cavalese (TN)	11° Città di Cavalese
2.	October 2019	Varenna (LC)	14° Milan Open
3.	December 2019	To Be Defined	1° Winter Cup
4.	January 2020	Venezia	8° Venice Open
5.	March 2020	Torino	29° Città di Torino
6.	May 2020	Jesolo (VE)	20° Città di Jesolo
7.	June 2020	Rimini	6° Summer Cup

Local Events

Each of the clubs listed below will be in charge of organizing one local tournament valid for Classification in CNB 2019-20.

1. Bologna
2. Cagliari (TO BE CONFIRMED)
3. Cavallino
4. Como
5. Grado
6. Milano
7. Padova
8. Roma
9. Torino
10. Treviso
11. Velden
12. Venezia

CNB will provide all support and assistance needed, including promotion and marketing of the event, playing material, consulting and help in managing the event. However, the following rules are mandatory for each participating club:

- a) All local tournaments must be played (and results communicated) at least one week before the last national event (Rimini - June 2020);
 - b) There is no 'Standard' format for local events. Generally, tournaments are by direct elimination (with or without Consolation), Double and Triple Elimination. If the event foresees multiple entries, points will be assigned only based on the results of the first entry.
 - c) A player may participate in local events without being registered to CNB. However, to compete for classification, the player must necessarily hold a valid membership card; at the time of enrollment, the player must state whether the points already acquired are to be inserted in the classification for the Champion or Advanced category, after which points cannot be transferred from one category to another;
 - d) For an event to be valid, there must be a minimum of 16 or more players; in case of 15 or fewer players, the event will be annulled, without any possibility of rescheduling.
- **Scoring (single elimination).** Participation: 1 point; for each match won in the main: 3 points; bonus main: winner 6 points, runner-up 4 points, semifinalists 2 points (for players who have won at least two matches); bonus consolation: winner 4 points, runner-up 2 points, semifinalists 1 point (for players who have won at least two matches)
 - **Scoring (Double Elimination).** Participation: 1 point; for every match won: 3 points in main, 2 points in 2nd chance, 4 points in final phase. Bonus of 3 points to players qualified for the final phase
 - **Scoring (Triple Elimination).** Participation: 1 point; for each match won: 1 point for each round played from third to last (included) and upwards: 1 bonus point; bonus (to be divided among players having the same number of classification points): 8 points for the first, 6 points for the second, 4 points for the third, and 2 points for the fourth.
 - **Scoring (other formulas):** organizing club will communicate scoring to CNB, who will verify the scoring system is in line with those generally used

PLAYOFF

At the end of the regular season, the top 16 players in the Champion category and the top 12 players in the Advanced category will be admitted to their respective final playoffs. The winner of the champion category will be declared Italian Champion CNB 2019-20. The winner of the Advanced category will be declared Italian Champion-Advanced category CNB 2019-20.

Final classification in both categories will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- 1) Total points earned
- 2) Highest number of points earned in national events
- 3) Highest number of participations in national events
- 4) Highest points earned in a single national event
- 5) Second highest points earned in a national event, and so forth until all points earned in national events are considered
- 6) Highest points earned in a single local event
- 7) Second highest points earned in a single local event, and so forth

CHAMPION CATEGORY:

National Events

- **Format:** The 7 (seven) events of the Circuit will have a 'CNB double elimination' format.
- **CNB Double elimination.** This is a system of double elimination in which 8 players qualify for the final phase. This final phase is composed of 4 semifinalists from the principal flight called "main" and of 4 semifinalists from the secondary flight called "second chance". Defeated players in the main enter in progressive order into the "second chance" flight, where they have a second chance to participate in the final phase. The pairing of the 8 players at the beginning of the final phase is decided by draw, with the exception that in the first round of the final phase rematches between players that have already played against will be avoided. "Main" is played to 11 points, "second chance" to 9. Final phase is played to 11 -13 points and the final match to 15.
- **Scoring:** Participation: 3 points; for every match won: 9 points in main, 6 in 2nd chance, 12 in final phase. Bonus of 9 points to players qualified for the final phase
- **Time-controls:** matches are disputed using digital clocks (Simple Delay) 12 seconds each move, 2 minutes each point.

PLAYOFF

At the end of the circuit events, the top 16 players classified will play playoff matches valid for the title. Players from the 9th to the 16th place will play the first round, and the 9th player classified has the option of choosing his opponent among those who were classified from 13th to 16th place (and so forth, according to ranking). Players from 5th to 8th place will play the round of 16, and the 5th has the option of choosing his opponent from the four players coming from the preceding rounds (and so forth, according to ranking). Players from 1st to 4th place will play in the quarterfinals and the 1st player may choose among the 4 players coming from the preceding rounds (and so forth, according to ranking).

In the semifinal, the player with the best ranking in the regular season may choose his opponent from among the other semifinalists.

In addition to the final, a final for the 3rd/4th place will be played.

Up to the round of sixteen matches will be played to 13 points, quarters and semifinals to 15 points, final matches to 17 points.

Matches will be played using digital clocks (Bronstein system) 12 seconds each move, 2 minutes each point.

The total of reserve funds forms the prize pool for playoffs. All prizes are awarded with the following structure: 50% to the winner, 30% to the runner-up, 20% to 3rd place.

ADVANCED CATEGORY:

National events

- **Format:** More Swiss Quadruple Elimination to 9 rounds will be used. At the end of round 9, all players with less than 4 losses will get a prize according to the number of matches won (i.e. all players with the same number of victories will get the same points and prize). Only to define the ranking among players with the same number of victories, the following criteria will be used:
 - Total Buchholz (sum of the points obtained by players encountered)
 - If needed, in case two players have played against only once during the tournament, the result of that match will be considered
 - If needed, a new tie-breaker match will be played
- **Clock:** Clock Preference will be used, i.e. if one of the players wants to play with the clock, the clock has to be used. If none of the players wants to use the clock, no clock will be used. When needed, tournament director has the option to request the match to be played with the clock (12 seconds each move, total minutes depending on the current score)
- **Scoring.** Participations: 3 points; for every match won in the event: 3 points; for each round played from third to last (included) and upwards: 3 points; bonus: (to be divided among players having the same number of victories): 24 points for the first, 18 points for the second, 12 points for the third, and 6 points for the fourth. No points are awarded for byes.

PLAYOFF

At the end of the regular season, the top 12 players in the ranking will dispute playoffs valid for the title. Players from the 5th to the 12th place will dispute the round of 16, and the 5th player classified has the option of choosing his adversary among those who were classified from 9th to 12th place (and so forth, according to ranking).

Players from 1st to 4th place will dispute the round of 8, and the 1st has the option of choosing his adversary from the four players coming from the preceding rounds (and so forth, according to ranking). In the semifinal, the player with the best ranking in the regular season may choose his adversary from among the other semifinalists.

Up to the semifinals matches will be played to 11 points, the final match to 13 points. Matches are played with digital clock (same settings as Champion category). The total of reserve funds will form the prize pool for the playoffs. All prizes are awarded according to the following price structure: 2/3 to the winner and 1/3 to the runner-up.

TOURNAMENT RULES

Tournament rules are the same for all events and can be found at www.cnbackgammon.eu and in tournament venues. Please also note that:

- In every tournament the scheduled dinner breaks and timetable of following day's matches will be posted.

- Any players who wish to leave the playing area must previously notify the Tournament Director and must be reachable by telephone, otherwise a penalty in points will be imposed (up to complete elimination from the tournament).

- The awarding of prizes will take place ONLY during "Official Prize-giving".

- All prizes are awarded according to current rules regarding sports associations; amounts above € 1.000 will be payed by nominative cheque or bank transfer.