



50. BACKGAMMON FINNISH OPEN

WARM-UP - FRIDAY 23.5.2025

MAIN TOURNAMENT - SATURDAY - SUNDAY 24.-25.5.2025

CLARION HOTEL MESTARI - HELSINKI

INTRODUCTION

- Backgammon Finnish Open has reached its 50th edition and we are excited to organize the anniversary tournament in the heart of the capital: 4-star Clarion hotel Mestari, meaning "master". Fitting name!
- After warming up on Friday, players may travel in *Business* or *Economy class* where the format is swiss, followed by play-offs and consolation, and last chance. Those new to the scene can test their wings in 3-elimination flight *Learn to fly*. In Business and Economy everyone is guaranteed at least 38 points worth of play and in Learn to fly at least 21 points. Win and you get to play more!
- Speedgammon, DMP-tournament, cancelgammon and four player jackpots of varying sizes are also available.
- For announced arrivals, please visit www.suomenbackgammon.fi
- Why not spend a lovely weekend in vernal Helsinki rolling the dice!



VENUE & DATE

- **Clarion hotel Mestari**
- Fredrikinkatu 51, Helsinki
- The house of master builders was built in 1932 and has a rich cultural history. Clarion hotel Mestari is the newest link in the chain. The hotel is located right in the heart of Helsinki few steps away from the buzz of the capital. The hotel has excellent reviews for its location and overall quality.
- **Warm-up - Friday 23.5.2025**
- Conference room Vasara - Mitta, 1. floor
- **Main tournament - Saturday - Sunday 24.-25.5.2025**
- Conference room Höylä - Viila, -1 floor

CLASSES AND FEES

Business class

- **350€**
 - 270€ main
 - 50€ two meals
 - 30€ registration fee
- Side pools:
 - **A. 200€ B. 100€ C. 50€**
- Players may choose 0, 1 or 2 side pools. If two, only A+B or B+C.
- Last chance sidepool 20€

Economy class

- **140€**
 - 75€ main
 - 50€ two meals
 - 15€ registration fee
- Side pools:
 - **A. 80€ B. 40€ C. 20€**
- Players may choose 0, 1 or 2 side pools. If two, only A+B or B+C.
- Last chance sidepool 10€

Learn to fly

- **80€**
 - 30€ main
 - 50€ two meals
 - No registration fee
- Side pools:
 - **A. 20€ B. 10€**
- Players may choose 0, 1 or 2 sidepools.
- Last chance sidepool 10€

FORMAT

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY CLASSES

1. SWISS STAGE: 3 x 11 p. (max. 16 players) or 4 x 7 p. (17-32 players). Tournament is run with Drawboss software. During swiss players with the same record are paired, if possible. Bye is awarded to a player with the worst record. Only one bye per player until all remaining players have got a bye. Players can only face each other once, if possible. Next round will be drawn when all of the matches of the current round have been finished.
2. PLAY-OFF STAGE: After swiss player(s) who won all their matches go(es) to main semi-final cup bracket. Those who suffered one loss during swiss will play a cup bracket in main quarter-finals to fill rest of the semi-final spots. If a player got a bye during swiss, he/she can't get another in quarter-finals.
3. CONSOLATION STAGE:
 - Players who didn't make it to the play-off stage after swiss will play a seeded cup bracket, the winner of which is the consolation semi-finalist #1. The seeding will be decided according to swiss standings.
 - Players who lose in main quarter-finals will play a cup bracket, the winner of which is consolation semi-finalist #3.
 - Two players who lose in the main semi-finals will fill the last two consolation semi-final spots (consolation semi-finalists #2 and #4).
 - All players will eventually fall to consolation, except main finalists.
4. LAST CHANCE STAGE: Players who lose in consolation will fall to last chance stage. All players will eventually fall to last chance, except consolation finalists.
 - The ranking of the tournament is main 1, main 2, conso 1, conso 2 etc... Sidepools will follow to consolation stage.
 - Clock obligation: 2 min / point + 12 seconds delay

FORMAT

LEARN TO FLY

- Swiss with triple elimination - Last chance - DMP-tournament
- Tournament is run with Drawboss software. During swiss players with the same record are paired, if possible. Bye is awarded to a player with the worst record. Only one bye per player until all remaining players have got a bye. Players can only face each other once, if possible. Next round will be drawn when all of the matches of the current round have been finished.
- Player is eliminated after 3 losses.
- When a player is eliminated he/she will fall to last chance- tournament. However players who cash in main tournament don't go to last chance.
- All players will participate in a 1-point cup bracket, DMP-tournament
- Clock option: 3 min / point + 15 seconds delay (clocks are recommended)

MATCH LENGTHS

Business class

- Swiss 3 x 11 pts. (max. 16 players) OR
- Swiss 4 x 7 pts. (17-32 players)

- Main quarter-finals:
 - 11 pts. (if only one round)
 - 7 pts. (if two rounds)

- Main semi-finals: 11 pts.
- Main final 15 pts.

- Consolation: 5 pts.
- Consolation final: 9 pts.

- Last chance: 5 pts.

Economy class

- Swiss 3 x 11 pts. (max. 16 players) OR
- Swiss 4 x 7 pts. (17-32 players)

- Main quarter-finals:
 - 11 pts. (if only one round)
 - 7 pts. (if two rounds)

- Main semi-finals: 11 pts.
- Main final 13 pts.

- Consolation: 5 pts.
- Consolation final: 7 pts.

- Last chance: 5 pts.

Learn to fly

- Triple elimination match length will be decided according to attendance, most likely 5 pts. Final rounds might be shortened / extended based on the schedule.

- Last chance: 5 pts.

- DMP-tournament 1 p.

SIDE TOURNAMENTS

	Warm-up (On Friday)	Speedgammon (re-buy) max. 32 players	DMP (re-buy) max. 32 players	Cancelgammon (re-buy) max. 16 players	4 player jackpots, throughout the weekend
Format	Single elimination	Single elimination	Single elimination	Single elimination Both players can cancel their opponents roll once per game, forcing a re-roll.	Single elimination
Fee	40€ + 10€ reg.	20€	10€	20€	10€ / 20€ / 50€ / 100€
Side pool	20€	10€	10€	10€	-
Match length	7 pts.	5 pts.	1 p.	3 pts.	5 pts. (10/20/50€) 7 pts. (100€)
Clock setting	Option 2 min/point + 12 sec.	Obligation 2 min + 10 sec.	Option 2 min + 12 sec.	Option 6 min + 12 sec.	Option 2 min/point + 12 sec.

SCHEDULE

Friday 23.5.

- 17.30 - 18 Registration - Warm-up
- 18 Warm-up starts
- 24 Doors close

Saturday 24.5.

- 10.30 - 11.45 Registration - Business, Economy & Learn to fly
- 11.45 - 12 Draw and opening speech
- 12 **Business, Economy & Learn to fly starts!**
- 17.30 - 19.30 Dinner buffet available
- 19 Main quarter-finals and consolation starts
- 21 - 22 Main semi-finals start
- 24 Doors close

Sunday 25.5.

- 10.45 Doors open
- 11 Consolation semi-finals in Business and Economy - Learn to fly continues
- 11 - 12 Registration - last chance side pools
- 12 **Last chance in Business, Economy & Learn to fly starts!**
- 13 Main and consolation finals in Business and Economy
- 12.30 - 14.30 Lunch buffet available
- Prize giving ceremony after the finals
- 17 Tournament ends at latest (estimation)

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

Business & Economy	Learn to fly	Warm-up	Speed-gammon	DMP	Cancel-gammon	Jackpots	Sidepools
1. Main 40 % 2. Main 20 %	1. 40 % 2. 20 % 3. 15 %	1. 70 % 2. 30 %	1. 50 % 2. 25 % 3. 12,5 % 4. 12,5 %	1. 50 % 2. 25 % 3. 12,5 % 4. 12,5 %	1. 70 % 2. 30 %	1. 100 %	1. 100 %
1. Conso 15 % 2. Conso 10 %	1. LC 12 % 2. LC 5 %						If two or more players are eliminated in the same round, the pool will be split.
1. LC 10 % 2. LC 5 %	1. DMP 8 %						
Trophies to the main finalists, consolation winner and last chance winner	Trophies to the main finalists, last chance winner and DMP-winner	Trophy to the winner	Trophy to the winner	Trophy to the winner	Trophy to the winner		
The winner of Business class will be awarded with a painting by Pia Hovi . The painting on the right "Lover's Leap" was awarded to Finnish champion 2024.							



EAT & DRINK

Buffet dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday are for all the players. Special diets are taken into account, so please inform us beforehand.

- ❖ 30€ Saturday dinner: Roasted salmon, tzatziki, potato purée, roasted cauliflower, bread assortment, coffee / tea & biscuits
- ❖ 20€ Sunday lunch: chicken caesar salad and baguette

Communal dining helps in schedule maintenance and the hotel restaurant is closed on Sunday anyway. Food is served next to the playing room. Social guests can join too, if they are announced in advance.

We've arranged for a private bar outside the playing room on Saturday 16 - 24.

We must inform the hotel about the rough turnout to the two meals few days before the tournament so please announce your arrival.

Restaurant Maestro 51 à la carte on Friday and Saturday 17 - 22. Sunday closed.

Maisu Bread & Sparks in hotel lobby is open 24/7 and serves snacks and drinks.



HOTEL ROOMS

Hotel Mestari offers -15% discount for 3 nights for time period Friday-Monday 23.-26.5. for "standard double" rooms.

[Link to the room reservation.](#) Credit card required.

130€ 1 person

150€ 2 persons

Either one king size bed or two separate beds (update 14.3.)

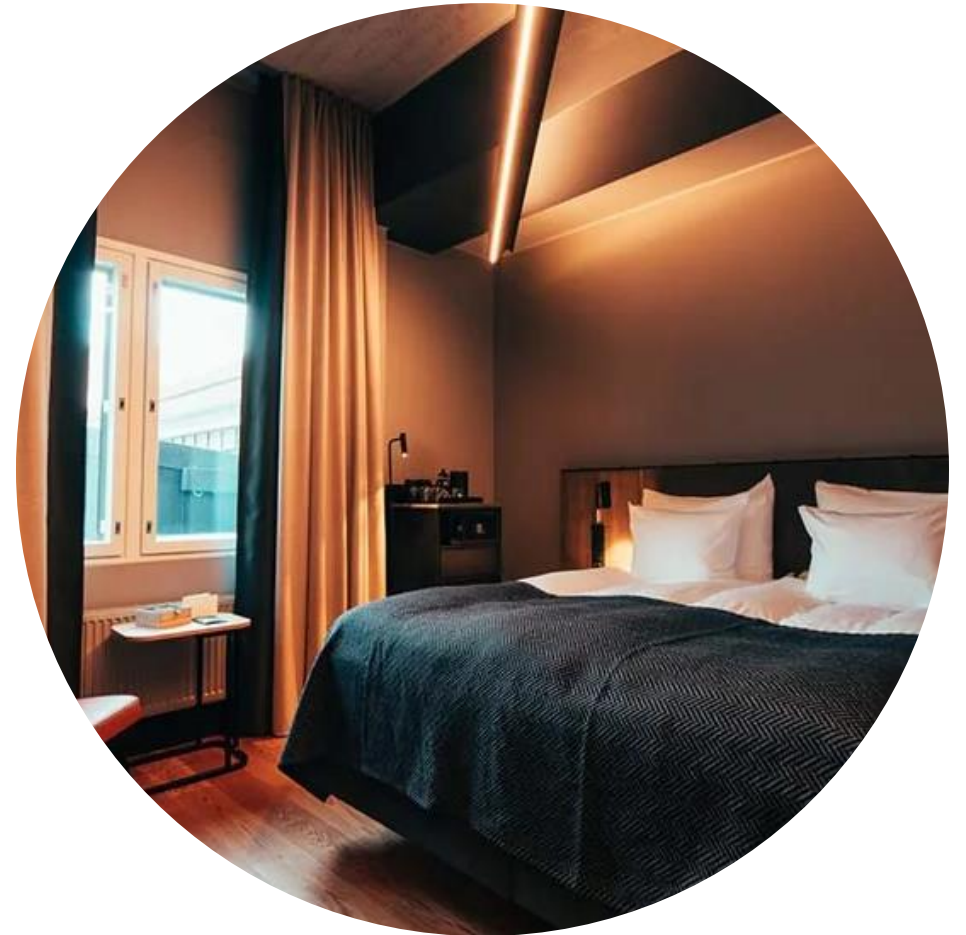
Breakfast and WiFi is included in the price.

Cancellation without cost until 3 days prior to reservation.

The hotel reserves 30 rooms for each 3 nights until 24.4. After that the vacant rooms will be released but will be available with the discounted price as long as there are rooms available.

But it's good to check if [Strawberry hotels](#) have other discount campaigns going on!

Check-in 15:00 - check-out 12:00



ARRIVAL TO THE HOTEL

- 21 km from the Helsinki-Vantaa airport
- 2,25 km from Katajanokka terminal (Viking Line)
- 1,9 km from Olympia terminal (Tallink & Silja Line)
- 0,7 km from main railway station
- 0,65 km from the closest metro station
- 0,25 km from the Helsinki bus station

- Journey planner, tickets and timetables:
<https://www.hsl.fi/en>



WHAT ELSE?

- Please announce your arrival to Warm-up, Business, Economy and Learn to fly (social guests if you wish to take part in the meals) to e-mail address: suomenbackgammon@gmail.com. The announcement is important regarding the food orders, and it makes the work of the organizer easier.
- Please bring your own board (and clock) if you have one!
- membership of Suomen Backgammon ry. is required of Finnish players.
- [WBGF tournament rules](#) apply. Legal moves apply.
- The tournament organizer holds the right to adjustments regarding the tournament.
- Welcome to Finland!
- Warm-up director: Miki Laukkanen
- Tournament director: Simo Huovinen
- Tournament organizer: Finnish Backgammon Association

