



ISPA INFO

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From the Editor:

2022 marks the return of our beloved Skat tournaments after the disruption of organized games due to what seems to have been a never-ending pandemic. While we still must be mindful of latest variants of the Covid virus, which do not seem to care about our desires to play, it is great to reconnect with our Skat family. Of course, we have to be responsible and do our part in ensuring that our tournaments are run in a safe manner.

The year was scheduled to start out with the Las Vegas tournament in January. The date was set, rooms were reserved with special group pricing, but it was not meant to happen. Several airlines had canceled flights out of this prestigious venue, which forced the cancelation of the tournament in January. After some reconsideration, Eve Dankemeyer and Guenter Pauly rescheduled the Las Vegas tournament for end of June (June 25-26) with the preceding event of Santa Monica on June 22-23.

This change meant that the Texas Lone Star tournament moved up to be the first on the 2022 calendar. At the time of writing, we have nine tournaments published for this year, of which three have now been played. Connecting with some Eastern organizers we already know of a few more, which we will hopefully be able to put on the tournament calendar.

One tournament which is going to be the focal point this year, is of course the ISPA World Championship, which will be held from August 12 to 21, 2022. Having been canceled in 2020, we are all eagerly awaiting the big event. It was great to see that the online reservation was used to sign up and to date, we have approximately 120 registrations to compete for this utmost prestigious title. We don't play Skat for the money; we play for bragging rights and there is no

bigger title than that of the **Skat World Champion**. We, in collaboration with ISPA World, have extended the registration into May to allow Skat enthusiasts to make up their mind to compete for the biggest bragging rights in the ultimate card game.

We ask you to consider the opportunity of convenience of not having to travel overseas or far distances to partake in the world championship. Rumor has it that the world championships outside Europe may become few and far between.

As a reminder, the next section below is a word from our ISPA Canada president from 2020 with some updated information, and while you may or may not have seen this, it still holds very true.

I sincerely hope to see many of you in Edmonton in August, and when you do come, I hope that the Skat gods are in your favour.

Gerd Reiner

Secretary and Webmaster ISPA North America

Dear Skat friends and Spectators,

Canada is very proud and excited to be hosting the 22nd WM in Edmonton, Alberta. You may ask "Why" and "What" does Edmonton have to offer to the World to come to and play Skat. Edmonton is one of the Top 5 cities in Canada having a population of over a million people. We are mostly known for having the largest shopping mall in North America, the largest in the world until 2004, being one of the largest oil producers in the world and Edmonton had Wayne Gretzky the best hockey player in the world (the Edmonton Oilers

won 5 Stanley Cups). So, if you win the WM in 2022 you would win it in Canada's City of Champions.

In August, the Rocky Mountains (Jasper National Park) show an abundance of beauty with unparalleled scenic views of the mountains, flora and wildlife and are within reach of Edmonton. The excursion for the participants will target an area within the Rockies. The tournament is hosted in one of Edmonton's lovely downtown hotels (Chateau Lacombe). The hotel offers excellent rooms and great food in a central location. Located downtown there are many Bars and Restaurants nearby and a brand-new Arena / Casino within walking distance (Rogers Place).

What should really bring you to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada? It's the SKAT Players, known for having some of the best and some of the worst Skat players in the world. We are all fun to play with and friendly hosts. Alberta has the largest group of organized Skat members in Canada. So, to win this World Championship you better know how to play against all types of players. Berlin was easy, they were all good, you just had to be lucky. Come join us in August 2022 for the 22nd

World Championship. A Canadian Skat experience you'll never forget.

Ron Link

President ISPA Canada

Tournament Report Spring 2022

Lone Star Tournament, Houston Texas

The first ISPA tournament of 2022 was played in Texas at the Houston Liederkrantz. 13 players, 10 from Texas and three from Cleveland, competed for the top spot. Roger Beckerman from Cleveland edged out the competition by 212 points to win the tournament.



From left: 3. Raymond Kipp, 1. Roger Beckerman, 2. Mike Kivlin

Overall Individual Standings Houston 2022

Last Name	First Name	Session1	Session2	Session3	Session4	Session5	Overall
Beckerman	Roger	1605	1480	995	412	1062	5554
Kivlin	Mike	1656	743	1176	1071	692	5338
Kipp	Raymond	1050	793	1137	763	1340	5083
Waak	Conway	1413	684	1418	815	708	5038
Thompson	Bill	942	995	1167	1188	693	4985
Seim	Milton	1007	1484	541	492	1040	4564
Eggers	Johannes	850	1176	843	1095	576	4540
Anders	Alex	511	1111	1003	858	787	4270
Serhan	Ursula	1100	753	-33	856	1529	4205
Gebert	Horst	1104	993	451	627	1021	4196
Definis	Jay	812	208	1039	1060	445	3564
Boykin	Jack	86	584	268	749	569	2256
Schroeder	Juergen	-14	735	1099	0	0	1820

37th Canadian Championship, Montreal 2022

After two years of cancellations, it was decided to go ahead with the Canadian Championship this year, also in part because the AGM needed to be held to elect the new executive. The election preceded the tournament, and the results are as follows:

President: Ron Link, Edmonton

Secretary: Gerd Reiner, Red Deer

Treasurer: Dinah Kunst, Winnipeg

VP East: Scott McCormick, Ottawa

VP West: Peter Ridder, Edmonton

Director at large: Horst Hagen, Montreal

The meeting concluded and the tournament began with two rounds on Friday. It was Kristina Huisman from Edmonton, who destroyed the competition on Friday, winning both series with 2139 and 1657 points respectively. Well, with a lead of ~ 1100 points after day one Kristina did not sleep well that night. She was visibly nervous, but under the coaching input from Ron she made a plan for the rest of the tournament and executed that plan to perfection, playing over 1000 points average in each of the remaining four series. At the end, Kristina won the title of 37th Canadian Champion with 8052 points, by a margin of just under 1000 points to second place competitor Jürgen Steiner from Germany. Ron Link completed the top three. Congratulations to Kristina, who cleaned up the trophies in a massive assault on her competition. Her first three rounds also gave Kristina a gold pin

(goldenenes Skatsportabzeichen). And can you guess who the best lady of the tournament was?



1. Kristina Huisman, 2. Jürgen Steiner 3. Ron Link



Seriensieger:

1. + 2. Kristina Huisman, 3. Siegfried Speckner, 4. Jürgen Steiner, 5. Ron Link, 6. George Ehret Jr.



Kristina's Canadian Champion Trophy Haul



Kristina's Gold Pin

Top 10 Overall Individual Standings Montreal 2022

	Name	Club	Total
1	HUISMAN, Kristina	EDM	8052
2	STEINER, Jürgen	DEU-HAM	7059
3	LINK, Ron	EDM	6881
4	SCHIRMER, Hans	OTT	6711
5	EHRET JR., George	MTL	6710
6	WEISS, Stephan	USA-PHIL	6565
7	VOIGT, Rolf	MTL	6514
8	KHALIL, Jutta	MTL	6448
9	LUZ, Eric	CAL	6304
10	RIDDER, Richard	OTT	6145

Top 3 Team Standings 37th Canadian Championships

	Team Name	Team Member	Total
1	Skatlink.com	HUISMAN, Kristina LINK, Ron LUZ, Eric REINER, Gerd	26677
2	Reach for the top		24608
3	Hagen Champions		24354

	Skatlink.com	Club	Total
1	HUISMAN Kristina	EDM	8052
2	LINK, Ron	EDM	6881

3	LUZ, Eric	CAL	6304
4	REINER, Gerd	RD	5440



2	McCORMICK, Scott	OTT	5958
3	THOMPSON, Kevin	CLE	5953
4	RIDDER, Danny	EDM	5817
5	LUZ, Eric	CAL	5734
6	ASBURY, Mandi	HAM	5557
7	STEINER, Jürgen	DEU	5438
8	BRINK, Conrad	OTT	5270
9	HUISMAN, Kristina	EDM	5231
10	APEL, Ewald	MTL	5166

2022 Remaining Outlook

Top 3 Lady's Standings 37th Canadian Championships

1	HUISMAN Kristina	EDM	8052
2	KHALIL, Jutta	MTL	6448
3	SCHEER, Christine	CAL	5918

Ottawa Skat Tournament 2022

After the Montreal tournament, players drove to Ottawa for their tournament, where the top three were separated by only 19 points. The win went to Ron Link (5972 points), followed by local Scott McCormick (5958 points), who was trailed by only five points by Kevin Thompson from Cleveland.



from left: 3. Kevin Thompson, 1. Ron Link, 2. Scott McCormick

Top 10 Overall Individual Standings Ottawa 2022

	Name	Club	Total
1	LINK, Ron	EDM	5972

May 28, 2022 10:30 AM	SaSKATchewan Tournament, SASKATOON, SK Contact Shelley Hungness @ 306-203-4645 or by email.
June 4, 2022 9:30 AM	Red Deer Tournament, RED DEER, AB Contact Bert Weiner @ 403-358-1501 or by email.
June 22, 2022 9:00 AM	Santa Monica Tournament, SANTA MONICA, CA Contact Eve Dankemeyer @ 424-223-2149 or by email.
June 25, 2022 9:00 AM	8th US Open Skat Championship, LAS VEGAS, NV Contact Eve Dankemeyer @ 424-223-2149 or by email.
August 12, 2022 9:00 AM	Open Skat World Championship, EDMONTON, AB Contact Ron Link @ 780-907-1936 or by email.
October 21, 2022 7:00 PM	Cleveland Tournament, CLEVELAND, OH Contact Bill Thompson @ 440-724-5189 or by email.

We expect to hear from the remaining clubs hosting ISPA tournaments soon. The minimum lead time discussed during the AGM to provide a tournament flyer is five weeks, the editor is asking all Skat Club presidents to provide their tournament info as soon as possible but no later than five weeks before the planned tournament date.

Gerd Reiner

Secretary and Webmaster ISPA North America