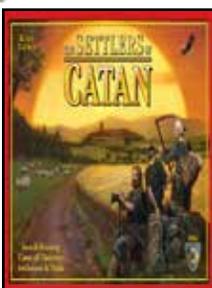


2015 Results

- ♣ James Pei, VA
- ♣ Dennis Mishler, TX
- ♣ Alex Kraska, MD
- ♣ Tom Drueding, MA
- ♣ B. Hanachak, MA
- ♣ Daniel Hoffman, NC

♣ Matt Calkins, VA

† 32 📖 2012-2015



2015 Results

- ♣ Ryan Romanik, MI
- ♣ Robert St.Pierre, PA
- ♣ Carolyn Strock, PA
- ♣ Haim Hochboim, IL
- ♣ Mark Kennel, DE
- ♣ Steve Maurer, PA

♣ Rich Shipley, MD

† 94 📖 1999-2015



James Pei, VA

Top Laurelists

James Pei, VA	88
Daniel Hoffman, NC	84
Tom Drueding, MA	40
Lyman Moquin, DC	28
Dennis Mishler, TX	24
James DuBose, NY	24
Ewan McNay, NY	24
Rob Winslow, NY	24
Alex Kraska, MD	16
David Metzger, NY	16



Ryan Romanik, MI

Top Laurelists

Rob Kircher, RI	126
Brian Reynolds, MD	125
Rick Dutton, MD	114
John Min, NJ	108
Charlie Faella, RI	96
Tom Dunning, NY	87
Jeremy Osteen, MD	84
Matt Tolman, UT	84
Natasha Metzger, NY	72
Andrew Arconti, MD	66

Sekigahara (SKG)

Statistics can be deceiving. Although the field was the smallest yet in the four-year history of the event, the number of games played was the highest. In 2015 66 matches were played and 15 winners took home a prize.

The Final featured Dennis Mishler versus defending champion James Pei. Dennis began aggressively, bidding 2 for Tokugawa and racing towards the front with his Date and Maeda armies. James built Ishida forces at Kyoto. The first serious clash happened when James' Kyoto force smashed the Fukushima contingent for 35 impact, with perfect alignment of blocks and cards, completely eliminating the army. This led to an early rout in the western region of the board.

If anything, this setback made Tokugawa play even more aggressively. Now he had a card advantage, on account of those lost blocks, and he pressed the attack at Gifu and at Aizu castle with a suited Date army. It would take a remarkable move to bring Tokugawa back from the dead, but in Week 4 Dennis delivered it. A double march (end of Turn 3, start of Turn 4) brought an army of eight down the Nakasendo into Kyoto vs eight Ishida. Tokugawa's impact was spectacular, and only one defending block survived. However, the comeback, as remarkable as it was, failed to stem the tide. Pei

finished with a 5-0 record, defeating in the process all but two of the laurel winners. One wonders if Caesar has begun another streak to rival his mastery of *For the People*.



Settlers of Catan (SET)

Settlers got off to a fast start as the first game finished just a half hour past the opening bell. I want to thank everyone for the quick pace as I did not have to adjudicate any games due to time and only a couple lagged. Putting the time limit warning on the scoresheet this time may have helped.

Robert St. Pierre came into the semifinals winning all three of his preliminary games. Everyone with two wins advanced and one person with a win and two seconds completed the 16 qualifiers. Robert won 10-7-6-6 to advance with a perfect 4-0 slate. Joining him were Haim Hochboim (10-7-5-5), Ryan Romanik (10-8-6-5), and Carolyn Strock in the closest semifinal at 10-8-7-6.

The Final was a board with plentiful ore, wheat, and sheep resulting in every development card being bought. Haim placed first and had a good selection for roads and settlements. Robert placed second and concentrated on sheep and ports. Carolyn took both of the good ore hexes and Ryan used the double placement to secure ore and wheat. Haim built settlements and gained the longest road, ending with eight points. Robert produced many sheep to trade, and Carolyn had the largest army as each garnered nine points. However, Ryan used city upgrades and two victory point cards to win his second shield of the week in his very first WBC.

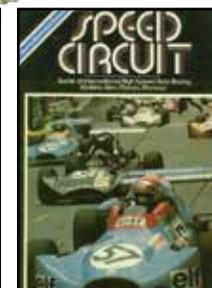


2015 Results

- ♣ Dan Dolan Jr, VT
- ♣ Adam Hurd, on
- ♣ Michael Shea, CT
- ♣ Holiday Saccenti, MD
- ♣ G. Thompson, NY
- ♣ Daniel Long, NJ

♣ Sean McCulloch, OH

† 193 📖 1993-2015

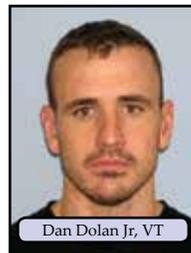


2015 Results

- ♣ M. Aubuchon, PA
- ♣ Kevin Keller, MD
- ♣ Randy Needham, NJ
- ♣ Tim Mossman, MD
- ♣ Chris Long, PA
- ♣ Seth Kirchner, OH

♣ Chris Long, PA

† 33 📖 1991-2015



Dan Dolan Jr, VT

Top Laurelists

Derek Landel, NJ	81
Kaarin Engelmann, VA	66
Ken Gutermuth, NC	54
Dan Dolan Jr, VT	51
Josh Githens, SC	50
Yoel Weiss, NJ	48
Doug Galullo, FL	46
Danny Lewis, DE	40
Kristen LaDue, NY	40
Nicole Reiff, OH	40



Michael Aubuchon, PA

Top Laurelists

Scott Cornett, FL	166
Doug Schulz, MD	164
Kevin Keller, MD	161
Terry Schulz, PA	156
Tim Mossman, MD	89
Gerald Lientz, VA	81
Jimmy Fleckenstein, VA	78
Lane Newbury, TX	66
Michael Aubuchon, PA	64
John Welage, OH	64

Slapshot (SLS)

Following the exodus of the saner part of the crowd for their bedtimes after having said their final good-byes to the ice of the all too realistic Distelfink Ballroom, the playoffs started and Dan Dolan's energetic team rolled over Holiday Saccenti's good but subdued team, 3-1. In the other bracket, Michael Shea had the better team until he bruised Adam Hurd's forward, giving Adam an upgrade into the Superstar! After that lucky turn of events, Adam won the series 3-2. Michael Shea's team was still good enough to edge Holiday for third in the consolation series, and then the Final began.

Both teams had bruisers, but Adam had the Superstar. The first two games went to Adam, but Dan got the better of the "bruiser wars," improving his team enough to win the second two games, tying the series at 2-2. Adam won Game 5, and Dan staved off elimination to take Game 6. The superstar plaque would be decided in a seventh game. But even that wasn't enough. It was tied after regulation.

Somehow, Dan convinced Adam to go along with the "Dolan Rule" of randomly choosing players for overtime in Game 7 of the championship. The first cards came out ...tie again! Both players *still* decided to choose their cards randomly. Then, in the second overtime, Dan's luck prevailed. He drew the high card and took home the title with a Forward 7,5,4 Defense 4,2* Goalie 7 team over Adam's Forward 7,6,1 Defense 7,3* Goalie 10 squad.



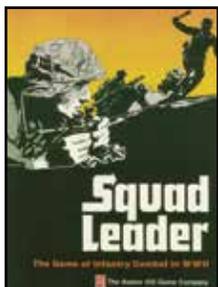
Speed Circuit (SCT)

33 drivers participated over three days in three heats to qualify for the Final on day 4. Mike Aubuchon, Chris Long and Randy Needham led the qualifiers with a pair of top finishes each. When one of the qualifiers failed to post on Sunday, the Final field was reduced to 11 cars.

The last track was Singapore, a tight and unforgiving track that invited risky play—leading to the early dismissal of much of the already reduced field. The first lap saw Don Tatum and Dennis Nicholson exhausting their wear to maintain the lead, but it was all for naught. Seth Kirchner passed them and took the lead early in the second lap. Meanwhile, back in the rear, Mike Aubuchon spent only two wear in the first lap and lost no position doing it.

By the start of the third lap, Seth increased his lead but spent all of his wear doing so. The chase pack began to gain, and then the chaos started. The next three turns claimed more than a third of the field. Tatum and Robert Kirchner lost engines trying to push, while Galullo crashed in the fourth corner taking Nicholson out along with him. Suddenly, Kevin Keller and Aubuchon were less than a turn behind Seth with a lot fewer obstacles to pass. Mike spent the last of his wear to pull away, a full turn and a half ahead of the rest of the field, to win his first *Speed Circuit* championship.





2015 Results

- ♣ Pete Pollard, TN
- ♠ Bill Thomson, TX
- ♣ Chuck Leonard, PA
- ♠ Eric Stranger, OH
- ♠ Bob Osipov, VA
- ♠ Allen Kaplan, NJ

♣ Pete Pollard, TN

† 22 📖 1991-2015



2015 Results

- ♣ Carolyn Strock, PA
- ♠ Larry Lingle, PA
- ♠ Evan Cagwin, PA
- ♠ Chris Kizer, NC
- ♠ John Schoose, FL
- ♠ David Gubbay, TX

♣ Buddy Sinigaglio, ID

† 42 📖 2002-2015



Pete Pollard, TN

Top Laurelists

Pete Pollard, TN	283
Bill Thomson, TX	265
Andrew Cummins, uk	182
Eric Stranger, OH	134
David Bronkhorst, VA	86
Scott Bramley, NJ	84
Phil Grasha, PA	81
Mike Pacheco, CA	78
Chuck Leonard, PA	52
Michael Day, AZ	33



Carolyn Strock, PA

Top Laurelists

Larry Lingle, PA	136
Brian Sutton, MD	117
Karl Henning, CT	66
John Schoose, IL	60
Bill Morse, VA	54
Carolyn Strock, PA	51
David Gubbay, TX	42
Tom Strock, PA	42
Alex Bell, MD	39
Buddy Sinigaglio, ID	37

Squad Leader (SQL)



22 squad leaders managed to log 41 games while mourning the loss of three-time champion Andrew Cummins whose British flair and dry wit had always enlivened our proceedings.

The first semifinal matched a pair of former champs. Bill Thompson's Germans defended a hill vs Eric Stranger's Russians in "Tooth & Nail". It appeared that the Russians would win when they took the victory locations on the hilltop, but German assault engineer reinforcements barely held on to end Eric's title defense. In the other bracket, Pete Pollard and Chuck Leonard opted for the "Mogilev" scenario. It came down to the last dice roll with Pete's sole surviving squad securing the win.

The Final paired the event's longest rivals for yet another of their memorable title matches. The "King of the Hill" scenario sent Bill's German attack against a Russian defense that returned fire on the assault group and sent the southern thrust packing. In the North, Bill's troops advanced and engaged a defender in the lone stone farm house. A two-turn melee ensued and caused the remaining attackers to pause for its resolution. By then, Bill realized that he needed to continue his advance and skirt past the hill to prevent the Russian reinforcements from reaching the hill. His lone tank outran its infantry support and met a squad defending his approach. The Russians immobilized the panzer with a snake eyes roll to dash any remaining German hopes.



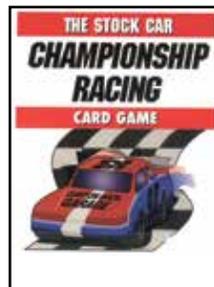
Star Wars: Queen's Gambit (QGB)



Only 11 of 16 qualifiers or alternates appeared for the playoffs. Six former champions participated with five advancing to the elimination rounds led by three-time champ Lawrence Lingle who emerged from the heats with three wins to earn a bye in the first round. The five survivors joined Lingle in a three-match Round 2 wherein Evan Cagwin unremarkably dispatched Dave Gubbay as Anakin breezed through the Starfighter swarm to shut down the droids, Carol Strock used great shooting by the Battle Droids and Droideka to clear the Palace and "John" Schoose bowed again to his nemesis.

GM Buddy Sinigaglio stepped in as an eliminator for the semis. The possible round elimination was made mute, however, as Carolyn, playing Darth Maul, killed both Jedi in the Generator Core. In the other bracket, Lingle eviscerated Cagwin. The resulting title game paired Lingle vs the sister of the defending champion. In a turnabout of Lingle's last game, Carolyn, playing Darth Maul, killed both Jedi in the Generator Core and six Palace Guards. The final touches were provided by her Battle Droids as they picked off the rest of the Palace Guards and Captain Panaka on the upper floors of the Palace. Lingle, for his part, drove Anakin adjacent to the Federation Control Ship before stalling next to a stack of Starfighters.

Carol, who had previously trained her "little" brother to the title, now became the first woman to run the *Queen's Gambit* gauntlet.

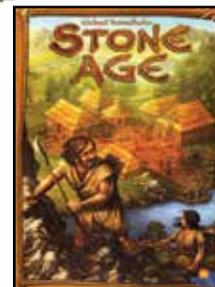


2015 Results

- ♣ Jim Bell, MD
- ♠ Mike Buccheri, MD
- ♠ Mark Mitchell, VA
- ♠ Doug Porterfield, VA
- ♠ John Koski, NC
- ♠ K. MacFarland, NJ

♣ Michael Garton, VA

† 50 📖 1999-01, 2005-15



2015 Results

- ♣ R. Davidson, AZ
- ♠ Scott Saccenti, MD
- ♠ Haakon Monsen, no
- ♠ Andrew Emerick, CT
- ♠ Christopher Bert, PA
- ♠ Eric Freeman, PA

♣ Peter Staab, PA

† 188 📖 2009-2015



Jim Bell, MD

Top Laurelists

Phillip White, MD	117
Seth Gunar, NJ	102
Jim Bell, MD	69
Ralph Gleaton, SC	48
Mike Buccheri, MD	42
Steve Caler, OH	42
Luke Koleszar, VA	42
Brian Mongold, MD	36
Mark Mitchell, VA	33
Bill Beckman, SC	30



Rodney Davidson, AZ

Top Laurelists

Dominic Blais, qc	120
Cary Morris, NC	118
Eric Freeman, PA	97
Rod Bacigalupo, MD	90
Scott Saccenti, MD	72
Rodney Davidson, AZ	60
Dan Eppolito, PA	58
Andrew Emerick, CT	42
Scott Fenn, MD	42
Cliff Ackman, PA	42

Stock Car Racing (SCC)

Three heats generated six qualifying 150-lap shootouts with no pit stops. The qualifying races ranged from nine to 12 turns with an average length of 11 plays per player. That meant there wasn't much time for those in the back to move to the front to qualify for the big race. As always, the Final was a very different animal with more adversaries and laps with which to work.

The 250-lap Final took place on a Tri-Oval track for 24 cars with pit stops. It turned into a 16-turn marathon going over the allotted time but everyone stuck it out to the very end. The top five starting positions belonged to Shannon Keating, Tom Bivens, Mark Mitchell, Eric Ritter and Josh Githens in that order. Only Mitchell remained in the lead pack throughout, finishing third. Bivens crashed on Turn 3 while leading the race and taking Githens out with him.

There were ten lead changes with Mitchell the dominant force—either leading or challenging for nine turns. Jim Bell started in 17th position and worked his way up to second on Turn 10 before falling back to sixth on the next turn. Bell hung back in sixth for the next four turns letting the lead pack wear themselves out. On the last turn Bell was well positioned to make his move, leap-frogging from sixth to first, with a little help from the field, to take the checkered flag and his first SCC shield.



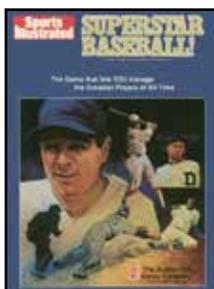
Stone Age (STA)

The preliminaries encompassed 71 4-player games spread over three heats. There were seven multiple winners led by Eugene Yee with three while Cliff Ackman, Eric Engelmann, Paul Klayder, Blair Morgen, Antony Saccenti and Kyle Smith each won twice. Three draws were decided by tiebreakers while Haakon Monsen enjoyed the largest margin of victory with a 76-point spread. The top score was achieved by Charles Faella with 223 points.

49 of the 63 qualifying winners appeared for the quarterfinals which resulted in 13 games. The top three runners-up by percentage in these games also advanced to the semifinals. Rod Davidson, Andrew Emerick, Scott Saccenti and Monsen advanced to the Final.

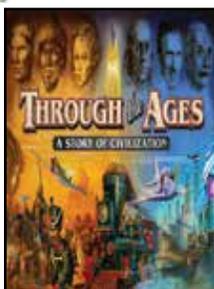
The Final ended quickly after just eight turns with 12 cards stranded in the deck. Scott scored 94 on six buildings (72), card bonuses (19) and resources (3). Andrew had 80 points on four buildings (52), civilization bonus (10) and other card bonuses (18). Of the 16 civilization bonus cards in the deck, only six were drawn keeping those points very low. Haakon had 84 points on four buildings (62), civilization bonus (4), other card bonuses (16) and resources (2). Finally, Rod scored 40 points while building three buildings but he had six tool makers and seven tools, five hut builders to go with his three buildings and three farmers with two farms to give him 63 end game points and six additional resources for a total of 109 points and his second WBC shield.





2015 Results

- ♣ Bill Beckman, SC
 - ♣ Terry Coleman, CA
 - ♣ Winton LeMoine, NV
 - ♣ Bill Ashbaugh, NY
 - ♣ Harry Flawd, PA
 - ♣ John Vogel, OH
 - ♣ Bill Beckman, SC
- † 38 📖 1991-94, 96-15



2015 Results

- ♣ Joel Lytle, NY
 - ♣ Sceadeau D'Tela, NC
 - ♣ Kyle Smith, PA
 - ♣ Aran Warszawski, il
 - ♣ Alan Sudy, VA
 - ♣ Andrew Emerick, CT
 - ♣ Randy Buehler, WA
- † 66 📖 2008-2015



Top Laurelists

Harry Flawd, PA	174
Rich Moyer, MN	174
Bill Beckman, SC	152
Terry Coleman, CA	120
Chris Palermo, NY	47
Jacob Hebner, CO	46
Mark Giddings, NY	40
Randy Cox, SC	28
Ken Samuel, VA	28
James Terry, NJ	27



Top Laurelists

Randy Buehler, WA	182
Joel Lytle, NY	174
Jason Ley, WA	168
Sceadeau D'Tela, NC	78
Nick Henning, DC	60
Zvi Mowshowitz, NY	60
Aran Warszawski, il	58
Andrew Emerick, CT	54
Raphael Lehrer, CA	52
Alan Sudy, VA	32

Superstar Baseball (SSB)

The tournament saw 38 managers select teams and play a total of 90 games en route to the World Series. Once again the playoff teams consisted of the three heat winners and runners-up, plus two wildcards. Because of a tie in the second heat, only one wildcard team was selected. Heat winners were Bill Beckman (95 Indians), Harry Flawd (46 Red Sox), John Vogel (98 Padres) and Bill Ashbaugh (66 Dodgers). The rest of the playoff field included wild card James Terry (98 Yankees), Mike Lam (71 Orioles), Winton Lemoine (01 Diamondbacks), and defending champ Terry Coleman (55 Yankees).

In Game 1 of the Series, the Yanks took a 4-0 lead on a solo homer by Hank Bauer, and a 3-run shot by Joe Collins but the Tribe rallied for five and Indian pitching shut the Yanks down, retiring the last 13 in a row as Cleveland won 5-4. In Game 2, the Indians struck first to take a 4-0 lead. The lead was short lived however as Collins and Bauer hit two-run homers to tie the game 4-4. Lofton homered in the top of the 9th to win the Series 5-4.

The Yanks were paced by Hank Bauer and Joe Collins with two homers apiece. Cleveland was led at the plate by Kenny Lofton's six hits, including two doubles and three homeruns. He scored four times. Eddie Murray was on base six times, with three hits and drove in three.



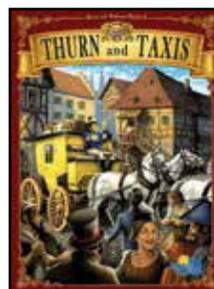
Through the Ages (AGE)

The one newcomer to the Final— Kyle Smith—ran out to an early culture lead thanks to Michaelangelo and Hanging Gardens. Just as Kyle was about to complete St. Peter's Basilica (by spending a food via Trade Routes Agreement), however, the Rats showed up and ate fully 10 food from Kyle's board. The other players lost 4, 5, and 2 food as well to some very hungry rats. While Kyle lost the most food (and tempo), it was actually Aran who suffered the most as the event contributed to him never quite being able to build a decent infrastructure.

The game quickly turned into a military arms race, as high-level AGE games often do. Sceadeau held the lead early (and got to 50 strength early in Age 3), but Joel kept pace. Kyle was able to draw both Classic Army and Napoleon, which he used to defend his culture lead until Ghandi appeared, and once that happened no one had the military actions required to target him with a War.

In the end it was Joel who got to the maximum possible 60 strength, and then also completed a 27-point First Space Flight. Before Impacts Joel led Sceadeau and Kyle 89 - 77 - 62, with Aran lagging behind at 37. Once the counting was done, Sceadeau only cut three points off Joel's pre-Impacts lead and we had our third two-time champion:

Joel Lytle - 153, Sceadeau d'Tela - 144, Kyle Smith - 113, and Aran Warszawski - 96.



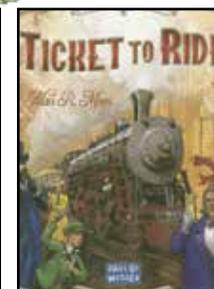
2015 Results

- ♣ Antero Kuusi, fi
 - ♣ Yoel Weiss, NJ
 - ♣ Jay Fox, NJ
 - ♣ Romain Jacques, qc
 - ♣ Rich Meyer, MA
 - ♣ Forrest Speck, MD
 - ♣ Andy Latto, MA
- † 161 📖 2006-2015



Top Laurelists

Andy Latto, MA	128
Anne Norton, NJ	75
Rob Kircher, RI	72
Kyle Smith, PA	66
Randy Buehler, WA	61
Aran Warszawski, il	54
Antero Kuusi, fi	50
Robert Murray, NJ	48
David Meyaard, NY	48
Amy Rule, MD	48



2015 Results

- ♣ Max DuBoff, NJ
 - ♣ Alan Elkner, NJ
 - ♣ Eric Raymond, PA
 - ♣ Steven Alfieri, PA
 - ♣ Ben Carter, FL
 - ♣ Antony Saccenti, MD
 - ♣ Claire Brosius, MA
- † 302 📖 2004-2015



Top Laurelists

Alan Elkner, NJ	102
Jay Fox, NJ	84
Virginia Colin, VA	70
Eric Monte, NY	70
Steve Shambeda, PA	69
Henry Allen, FL	68
Max DuBoff, NJ	60
Hilary Haagen, VA	60
Anni Foasberg, NJ	60
Kyle Greenwood, HI	60

Thurn & Taxis (T&T)

The T&T event grew in size for the sixth straight year. The seven previous champions emerged from the record field again to qualify for the elimination rounds. 2011 champ Kyle Smith won in all three heats to earn a bye to the semifinals. Of the remaining 53 qualifiers, 45 appeared for the quarterfinals giving us a perfect field of 15 3-player games. Next year we will use byes rather than 3-player games to increase the incentive to keep playing in future heats. Had we done so this year, there would have been six players with byes to the semifinals.

Bidding for seats in the quarterfinals was very light with only three bids of a full point. In no case did the bid affect an outcome. Bids in the later rounds were also low, with three players bidding .5 for first, and one bid of .5 for each of third and fourth places. But winner Antero bid .5 for first in both his games so maybe position makes a difference after all!

A tight Final revealed players very reluctant to use the administrator. The board was cleared of cards only twice. The first of these, on Turn 5, got Antero the often-sought-after Lodz card, which proved useful, since by Turn 11, only the Finn had a house in Lodz. This enabled him to appropriately enough get the first world-traveler hit for six points, defeating Yoel by (after adjusting for Antero's .5 bid to play first) a .5 point margin, the narrowest margin of victory in a title game to date.

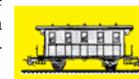


Ticket to Ride (TTR)

The naysayers said that topping 300 players was just an anomaly caused by being part of the Days of Wonder 2014 TTR World Championships. Attendance would surely erode thereafter. I guess they were right. The erosion has begun ... the 2015 field dropped ... by one. Ticket to Ride again exceeded 300 participants. A record-setting field of 208 in the first heat topped all previous starts. Is 400 out of reach? We'll add a fourth heat in 2016 and see. The Jay's Basement gaming group again had a strong contingent in the playoffs with Brett Fox earning the top seed with three wins. The other triple qualifiers were Erin Griffin and Todd Trahan. All three got byes into the semifinals to limit the quarterfinals to 4-player games.

The Final was a quick 30-minute contest with defending champ Alan Elkner defending his title. There was a massive traffic jam in the Northeast as the players fought to get into NY and Boston (simulating real life!). Many flushes of the cards put lots of wilds in the discard pile for later use. So few tickets were taken that all four players got the Globetrotter bonus for finishing three tickets. Max Duboff pulled out the win with the largest route score and Longest Train.

Special congratulations to young Antony Saccenti who won his first plaque in an adult tournament—a much coveted 6th place sand plaque—making him a new qualifier for the first Sandman Parade at Seven Springs!





2015 Results

🏆 Arthur Wines, PA
 🥈 Michael Pustilnik, NY
 🥉 Jon Bluett, FL
 🏆 Dan Strock, PA
 🥈 Robert Masso, NY
 🥉 Rich Atwater, WA

🏆 Bruno Wolff, WI

† 44 📖 1991-2015



2015 Results

🏆 Brian Sutton, MD
 🥈 Aaron Fuegi, MA
 🥉 Bruno Wolff, WI
 🏆 Michael Pustilnik, NY
 🥈 Akihisa Tabei, jp
 🥉 Arthur Wines, PA

🏆 Rich Atwater, WA

† 26 📖 1994-2015



Arthur Wines, PA

Top Laurelists

Dave Finberg, MA	289
Aaron Fuegi, MA	273
David des Jardins, CA	185
Dan Strock, PA	175
Rich Atwater, WA	174
Jason Ley, WA	151
Arthur Wines, NJ	144
Kevin Hillock, VA	130
Brian Sutton, MD	117
Michael Pustilnik, NY	113



Brian Sutton, MD

Top Laurelists

Aaron Fuegi, MA	283
David des Jardins, CA	179
Brian Sutton, MD	123
Dan Strock, PA	109
Jason Ley, WA	68
David Finberg, MA	57
Sean McCulloch, OH	57
Bruno Wolff, WI	50
Andrew Gross, WA	49
Michael Pustilnik, NY	42

Titan (TTN)

The event rebounded with its best numbers since 2007. Consequently, there was more pressure to earn or keep semifinal slots as the heats drew to a close. 17 Thursday games ensued as opposed to only eight in 2014.

The semifinals advanced Jon Bluett over Isaac Fuegi, Kevin Hillock and Brady Achterberg in Game 1. Dan Strock won Game 2 over defending champ Akihisa Tabei, Jason Ley and David des Jardins. Art Wines emerged from Game 3 over Rich Atwater, Dave Finberg and Ed Rothenheber. Michael Pustilnik took the last Final seat from Aaron Fuegi, Julie Ehlers and Bob Masso.

Dan was first to fall in the Final courtesy of Jon, but this allowed Art to start chasing down smaller stacks. Several turns later Art rolled a 6 which let him tower teleport and control most of the board. He was then able to get points, giving him titan teleport and an archangel. A few turns after that he was able to catch Jon's titan stack on the bottom. Jon saw the battle as hopeless, so he left his titan out to minimize the number of points Art received for eliminating him. Art was able to catch Michael's titan in the brush while it still had only one hydra. He got hot with a gargoyles and a cyclops to kill a griffon with only one swing each. This allowed the archangel to be summoned and the archangel killed Michael's titan in two swings, giving Art his second Titan shield.



Titan shield.

Titan 2-Player (TT2)

In one semifinal, Michael Pustilnik decided his best result would be if he attacked with his 6 titan, three trolls and a ranger with a summon against Aaron Fuegi's Angel, behemoth and three cyclops. The attack did not go well. In the other bracket, Bruno Wolff observed five opposing stacks recruiting hydras, so he took the opportunity to attack Brian Sutton's titan with his two-behemoth, two-gorgon titan stack. Brian had two hydras and a couple other creatures on the defense, and both titans were 7 high. As expected, the hydras made the difference.

The Final was short but had plenty of drama. There were only three battles and all were critical. The last took place in the hills defended by three rangers and two minotaurs. Aaron's 7 titan also had three ogres, two trolls and a cyclops with an angel to summon. When only Aaron's unwounded titan was left, he advanced on a hilltop ranger needing two hits and got them, but the ranger was replaced by a ranger with one hit, and Aaron failed to roll three dice of 5 or higher in riposte. The rangers had 12 dice, and were able to get seven combined hits of 4 or better, creating a mutual.

Brian returned to the 2-player championship after a long hiatus. More than 15 years previously Brian had won three 2-player titles in a five-year span. Aaron continued his impressive streak of eight consecutive trips to the semifinals with five resulting titles.



2015 Results

🏆 Matt Calkins, VA
 🥈 Steven Sabatino, PA
 🥉 Kevin Burns, MA
 🏆 Donte Saccenti, MD
 🥈 Nick Kiswanto, NY
 🥉 Isaac Clizbe, VA

🏆 Greg Crowe, MD

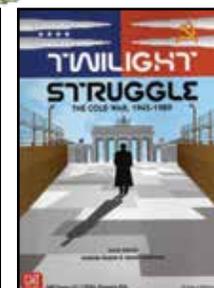
† 73 📖 1997-2015



Matt Calkins, VA

Top Laurelists

Matt Calkins, VA	80
Rebecca Hebner, CO	57
Alan Witte, NJ	50
Ewan McNay, NY	48
Harry Flawd, PA	45
Brendan Coomes, OH	44
Devon Miller, VA	42
Jordan Shea, CT	42
Joseph Sposito, NJ	40
Greg Crowe, MD	39



2015 Results

🏆 David Amidon, PA
 🥈 Riku Riekkinen, fi
 🥉 George Young, VT
 🏆 Anthony Russo, MD
 🥈 Randy Pippus, on
 🥉 Chris. Crane, NY

🏆 George Young, VT

† 68 📖 2006-2015



David Amidon, PA

Top Laurelists

Stefan Mecay, TX	428
Chris Withers, CA	161
Keith Wixson, NJ	143
Riku Riekkinen, fi	140
Chris Byrd, CT	122
Marvin Birnbaum, NY	108
Rick Young, NC	100
Randy Pippus, on	82
David Amidon, PA	68
Bill Edwards, VA	60

Titan: The Arena (TTA)



18 of 20 qualifiers advanced, so two alternates were added to make four 5-player games. When one semi winner declined further advancement, the next strongest runner-up (two-time champ Matt Calkins) also advanced and the patron saint of second chances duly took notice.

The unloved Cyclops (except for Nick's secret bet) perished in the Final's opening round almost without a word. Thereafter, the silent alliances formed: Kevin bet on Matt's Troll and the Unicorn vice versa. Steven bet on Matt's Hydra and Donte's Ranger. Though Nick supported Donte's Titan, the others managed to eliminate it. In the third round, Nick decided to kill the Ranger, who Kevin had adorned with a 2-point bet. In the fourth round Matt played Head Referee on Dragon, revealing Kevin's secret bet. This allowed Matt to kill it, leaving his two first-round bets, second-round and secret bet (Unicorn) still alive.

Negotiations now became more animated. Matt's visible 13 points were a major concern, but all favored different creatures. When Kevin played a low Hydra card, Steven even tried to bargain with Matt. When Matt rebuffed, Steven had no choice but to reveal his secret bet on the Hydra, play a card to save it, and attack the Unicorn. Matt then simply played the Centaur (1) on the Warlock, killing it (and Donte's secret bet). Thus Matt won a 10-point victory with a near-perfect score of 18 to become the event's only hat trick.



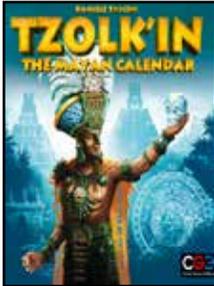
Twilight Struggle (TWS)

Even with balancing rules in effect, the game play, as usual, favored the Russians who enjoyed a 49 to 37 split. This was an improvement over previous margins. However, among the eight players who tallied four or more wins, the US/USSR win totals were virtually even.

After four rounds, four unbeaten players remained: David Amidon, Riku Riekkinen, Tony Russo, and George Young. Riku's Russians downed 2014 runner-up, Tony in the first semifinal by gaining a favorable position with multiple plays of Red Scare and Decolonization, and won on the last turn by playing Wargames. In the other bracket, David's Russians also gained an early positional advantage. All of George's attempts to gain on the VP shortfall were thwarted, with the Russians ending it again with Wargames on Turn 8.

Both players used unconventional tactics and strategies in the Final, starting with Riku's American setup. They spent much of Turn 2 fighting over MidWar regions, all while the USSR had little presence in the Mideast. The Space track never got beyond Animal in Space, despite frequent Space attempts from both sides. No wars were successful. The USSR hardly ever used the action round one battleground coup opportunity and prevailed despite not having Decol or DeStal ever happen. By Turn 9, the Russians even captured Japan, allowing for USSR domination. This eventually allowed David to win through the play of Wargames on Turn 9.





2015 Results

- ♣ Andrew Emerick, CT
- ♠ Henry Dove, MD
- ♣ Keith Dent, KY
- ♠ Blair Morgen, PA
- ♠ Loc Nguyen, PA
- ♠ Cary Morris, NC
- ♣ Chris Yaure, PA

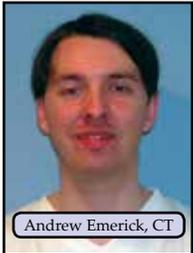
† 85 📖 2014-2015



2015 Results

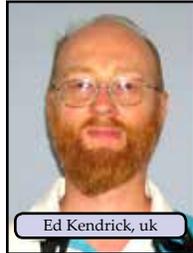
- ♣ Ed Kendrick, uk
- ♠ Richard Irving, CA
- ♣ Jeremy Billones, VA
- ♠ Bruce Young, SC
- ♠ Andrew Maly, TX
- ♠ Ken Whitesell, PA
- ♣ Jim Burnett, TN

† 29 📖 1991-2015



Top Laurelists

Keith Dent, KY	52
Andrew Emerick, CT	46
Henry Dove, MD	36
Randy Buehler, WA	30
Jefferson Meyer, MA	24
Sceadeau D'Tela, NC	24
Jon Senn, PA	16
Loc Nguyen, PA	15
Blair Morgen, PA	9
Daniel Farrow IV, PA	6



Top Laurelists

John Emery, SC	227
Bruce Young, SC	186
Ed Kendrick, uk	130
Ray Stakenas II, MI	118
Bruce Wigdor, NJ	112
Richard Irving, CA	84
Ray Stakenas Sr, MI	74
Jeff Spaner, MD	52
Paul Wright, PA	52
Ralph Gleaton, SC	48

Tzolk'in (TZK)

Tzolk'in switched to three heats with a corresponding 39% attendance increase. Five players won twice: Cary Morris, Henry Dove, Geoff Pounder, Dominic Blais, and Jay Boring. 23 others won a single heat. High score belonged to Keith Dent with 146; Rob Flowers had the largest margin of victory, 61. The average winning score was 98.3. 16 of the top 20 seeds appeared for the semifinal, thus requiring two wins or a win in the first heat entered to advance.

The semifinals produced Henry Dove, Andrew Emerick, Keith Dent and Blair Morgen who were seated in that order. At the end of the second quarter Andrew advanced twice on the religion tech track, turned in the skull he received from the starting tiles, and took the bonus in all three temple tracks. Andrew led Blair 32-12 early with the others well behind. In the second half, Keith collected several monuments, Andrew sent two workers deep into Chichen Itza and Blair focused on the temple tracks, taking the top spots in red and green.

Throughout, Andrew and Henry had been swapping start player. Keith took it on the fourth to last round, then Henry took it back on the third to last round and double-spun the gears, hurting Keith and Blair who had used nearly all of their workers. Henry then grabbed a temple monument worth 16 points to him but that would have been worth 28 to Andrew. Nonetheless, Andrew won easily by 17 points: 96-79-73-73.

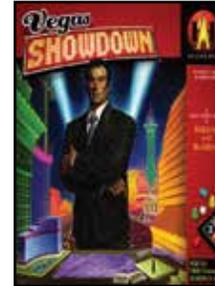


Up Front (UPF)

After the casualties from five swiss rounds had been removed, the only man still standing with a perfect 5-0 slate was 2012 champ Richard Irving who repeated his 2014 feat of navigating the Swiss rounds unscathed. Joining Richard in the playoffs with one loss were regulars Ken Whitesell, Ed Kendrick, Andy Maly, Bruce and George Young. The 8-man field was completed by the two strongest of five 3-2 players, Jeremy Billones and Ray Stakenas.

The quarterfinals yielded wins to Irving's American defenders vs Stakenas' Japanese, Billones' German defenders vs Maly's Americans; and Kendrick's Americans over Whitesell's Germans in three Scenario L games. In the battle of the Youngs, Bruce's Russians bested George's Germans in Scenario "E".

Irving returned to Outpost Line (L) in the semifinals as his Russian defenders bested Young's Germans in the best match of the event. Victory depended on the last attack exhausting the deck before Bruce could land a riposte. In the other bracket, Ed's Germans broke Jeremy's British in Scenario "A". That set the stage for a classic Final between former champions. The players chose Scenario "E". Ed's Germans attacked well to break Richard's Russians early in the second deck and carry back his third UPF shield across the pond as Richard showed why he is considered one of the best by falling just short in his only loss of the tournament. Seven straight wins, impressive though it may be, is one short when running the WBC UPF gauntlet.



2015 Results

- ♣ Steve LeWinter, NC
- ♠ Redie Smith, NC
- ♠ Ben Scholl, PA
- ♠ Richard Boyes, WA
- ♠ Robert Kircher, RI
- ♠ Greg Thatcher, CA
- ♣ Eric Freeman, PA

† 99 📖 2008-2015



Top Laurelists

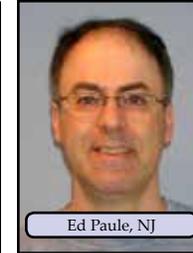
Steve LeWinter, NC	82
Redie Smith, NC	54
Randy Buehler, WA	54
Doug Faust, NY	49
Eric Freeman, PA	48
Mike Kaltman, PA	39
Nick Page, on	36
Andrew Gerb, MD	33
Sceadeau D'Tela, NC	26
Cary Morris, NC	24



2015 Results

- ♣ Ed Paule, NJ
- ♠ Ted Drozd, IL
- ♠ Charles Drozd, IL
- ♠ Tim Tow, WA
- ♠ Andy Gardner, VA
- ♠ Dan Blumentritt, TX
- ♣ Charles Drozd, IL

† 25 📖 1991-2015



Top Laurelists

Andy Gardner, VA	498
Dan Henry, IL	272
Ed Paule, NJ	264
Michael Kaye, MD	252
Ed Menzel, CA	250
Charles Drozd, IL	248
John Pack, CO	150
Darren Kilfara, uk	146
John Sharp, FL	126
Eric Freeman, CA	118

Vegas Showdown (VSD)

The event drew its biggest field yet, barely missing triple digits. The increased number of preliminary games yielded five multiple winners (Dominic Blais, Eugene Yee, Kevin Burns, Rob Kircher, and Steve LeWinter).

2014 runner-up, Andrew Drummond, again injected humor by wearing a leisure suit. It seemed to work for him when he punched his ticket to the semifinals again. Alas, that is where his sartorial splendor ended, as his lounge act was short circuited by Rob Kircher. Redie Smith returned to the Final for the first time since his 2012 title run with a relatively comfortable 7-point win over John Corrado. Steve LeWinter made his third straight Final in emphatic fashion by winning his semifinal by the largest margin of any game in the entire tournament with a crushing 25-point win over Nick Page. Newcomer Richard Boyes ended Mike Kaltman's first title defense in the fourth semi. The last semifinal yielded the closest game top to bottom (3 pts) as Ben Scholl used 40 points and a \$9 money tiebreaker to edge Greg Thatcher's \$1. The close loss made Greg a bridesmaid once again as he repeated his 2014 sixth place finish. Eugene Yee (38 and \$8), Jim Fry (38 and \$1), and Randy Buehler (37) rounded out the extremely tight finish.

Steve continued his dominance in the Final with his fourth straight win. He did so with no Restaurant tiles, producing just the second recorded winning board to accomplish this feat.



Victory in the Pacific (VIP)



Despite the smallest field ever, 50 games were played. The IJN won 56%; one of the most balanced win/loss records in recent history. Those games played with the new "Menzel Option" were even closer with a 53% Japanese edge. The change further modifies the second edition rules by limiting the Pearl Harbor raid to six carriers and two air strikes.

After five swiss rounds, Ed Paule, Ted and Charlie Drozd each had four wins. Tim Tow, Andy Gardner, Daniel Blumentritt, Jim Eliason, and Mark Smith completed the playoff field with 3-2 records. The quarterfinals yielded no upsets as the top two seeds recorded USN wins over #8 Smith and #7 Eliason in four turns. #3 Paule's IJN defeated #6 Blumentritt in seven turns, while #4 Tow's USN prevailed over #5 Gardner in a game that went the distance.

In the semi's Ed bid 8.5 POC for the IJN vs. Charlie and managed to stop every USN invasion. The game came down to an IJN LBA shot vs. a USN Marine on Turn 7, securing the game for Paule. In the other bracket Tow bid 3.5 POC for the IJN vs. Ted but was forced to concede after Turn 5.

Ted accepted Ed's bid of 8.5 POC to play the IJN in the Final but the 2014 runner-up would not be denied this year and finished 7-1 with the IJN to claim his second VIP shield.

