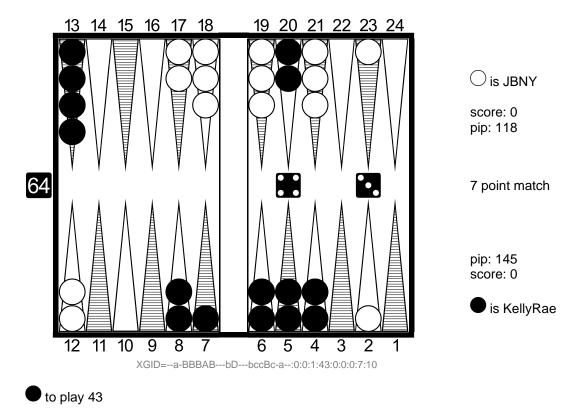
PROBLEM OF THE WEEK #17 – APRIL 6, 2021

THE POSITION:



THE TOURNAMENT AND THE PLAYERS:

For this week's problem, I've taken a position from a match I played in the 2020 year-end online backgammon tournament for the Long Island Backgammon Club, which was hosted on the Backgammon Galaxy website. I ("KellyRae") am playing the role of protagonist in in this week's problem, and I am playing the Black checkers in the problem position above. In this week's problem I am pitted against backgammon superstar, preeminent tournament director, and true legend in his own mind, John "JBNY" Barnett (above, playing the White checkers). For those that don't know, John was once almost elected to the board of directors of the prestigious United States Backgammon Federation.

THE GAME SITUATION:

It's the first game of a 7-point match, and I am on roll, with the cube remaining centered. Of course, I would have liked to roll a 6, allowing me to complete a five-prime and leaving White's last back checker stranded on the 23-point. Sadly, the dice Gods have refused to cooperate, and I am left with a roll of 43 to play.

THE QUESTION:

So, my loyal readers, what should I do here?