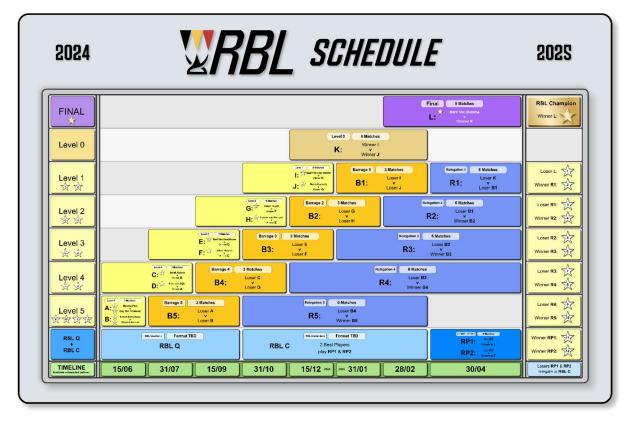
Red Beaver League 24-25 Kick-Off

Hi everyone.

Welcome to the 3rd RBL season. Here's what it will look like:

SCHEDULE

From his summer retreat in the Carpathian Mountains, Robin sends the 24-25 RBL Schedule:



Aim is to work your way up the yellow steps (from bottom left to top right). Winning in the Level stage is the only way to make progress. Players who lose in this Level stage move to the Barrage stage (orange) to jockey for position in preparation of the Relegation duel (lavender). The outcome of the Relegation duel decides who stays in this level and who drops down. For those who find the above representation too arcane, here is a simpler version (with more realistic deadlines):

RBL Start Grid 24-25

Level 5: three matches (to be played before 30/08/2024)

A: (9) Maurits Pino v (12) Guy Van Middelem

B: (10) Daniel Rozenberg v (11) Vincent Hubert

Level 4: three matches (to be played before 15/10/2024)

C: (7) Itzhak Solsky v Winner B

D: (8) Paul van Dijke v Winner A

Level 3: three matches (to be played before 01/12/2024)

E: (5) Bert Van Kerckhove v Winner D

F: (6) Johan Segers v Winner C

Level 2: six matches (to be played before 15/01/2025)

G: (3) Johan Huyck v Winner F

H: (4) Paulus van Rooijen v Winner E

Level 1: six matches (to be played before 01/03/2025)

I: (1) Geert Van der Stricht v Winner H

J: (2) Michel Lamote v Winner G

Level 0: six matches (to be played before 15/04/2025)

K: Winner I v Winner J

<u>RBL Final</u>: nine matches (to be played before 15/06/2025)

L: Marc Van Damme v Winner K

RULES

Rules remain largely unchanged (see: Archive/2022-2023). Here is a reminder:

Analyse Settings

The Analyse Mode remains the same as in season 23-24: RBL ++ 23-24:

? **Options and Settings** X Main Settings Game Mode Analysis Rollouts Paths Sound Layout You define here the way to mode work. To set which RBL++ 23-24 \sim Analyze Mode: mode is used go to the "Game" Tab All moves and Cube actions will be analyzed at this level. XG Roller++ Change 1st Pass: 2nd Pass: If Different: Change None If the move played is different than the one picked in the If Error: Change None 1st pass, then a second pass happens. The level used can be customized based on difference, error, blunder or If Blunder: Change None outplay. If Outplay: None Change 1-ply Luck: Change Use different settings for cube Do not calculate Resign Errors Error compared to XG 🔽 Use Opening book ✓ Wrong Double/Take is an error Do not roll Opening book moves Normal (4 moves within 0,080 equity in 3-ply) Search interval: 15 checkers over 9 points (requires 42 MiB of memory) ~ Bear off database: C:\Program Files (x86)\eXtreme Gammon 2\MET\Kazaross XG2.met Þ Match Equity Table:

What if PRs are close?

Special rule: if a duel ends in a tie *and* the OPR difference is less than 0,10, all matches will be reanalysed using the search interval "Gigantic" to determine the winner.

Duel length

Same as in RBL 23-24.

<u>Venue</u>

Sandeman (Gent), Orée (Brussels) and De Vaart (Leuven) are official RBL venues.

The player with home advantage may propose playing at an alternative venue (e.g. at home). This invitation needs concurrence by both the opponent *and* the TR.

NEW! Players who host a duel at their home do not need to pay the TR fee for that session.

Home advantage

Same as in RBL 23-24:

In the Level stage (yellow) the highest ranked player has home advantage.

In the Barrage stage (orange) the lowest ranked player has home advantage.

In six-match duels, both players have home advantage once.

In the Final, the Champion has home advantage twice, the Challenger once.

NEW! Nomenclature

The names RBLq and RBLQ were confusing and are abolished.

The group of players who contend for the chance to challenge RBL's bottom two players are now referred to as **RBL Contenders** (or: **RBL C**). Their playing season starts 1 October 2024.

Players who have the ambition to qualify for RBL C are called the **Qualifiers**. They play in **RBL Q**. They need to play at least two UBC bubbles between 1 July 2024 and 15 September 2024 and demonstrate an OPR below-12 to join.

NEW! Bounties and TR Fees

The aim of bounties/TR fees is not to make players richer, but to enable them to balance their RBL bankrolls. Slight adjustments have been made:

LEVEL	PR
RBL C winner	Below 8
L5 winner	Below 6
L4 winner	Below 5,5
L3 winner	Below 5,0
L2 winner	Below 4,5
L1 winner	Below 4,2
L0 winner/loser	Below 4
Final winner/loser	Below 4

a) The bounty thresholds:

- b) Bounties/TR fees will no longer be paid cash but will serve as discounts for the RBL event in June 2025.
 - a 3-duel: 10%/15€
 - a 6-duel: 20%/30€
 - a 9 duel: 30%/45€

Bounties/TR fees can be accumulated.

And so, we ...

- ... look forward to the first duels of the season:
- A: (9) Maurits Pino v (12) Guy Van Middelem
- B: (10) Daniel Rozenberg v (11) Vincent Hubert

Thank you all for participating and good luck!

Michel Lamote, August 2024.