

Master Points

Masterpoints recognise the achievements of a player. Each Northern Ireland Bridge Union member has a separate individual Masterpoint number.

Each Northern Ireland Bridge Union member may view on the Union website the number of Masterpoints he holds. The web-site is up-dated frequently.

Masterpoints are awarded in affiliated clubs for each duplicate competition held by an affiliated club provided that results are notified to the Masterpoints secretary.

Masterpoints are awarded for all competitions – leagues, pairs and teams – organised by or under the auspices of Northern Ireland Bridge Union.

About the top third of players in a competition will be entitled to receive Masterpoints in a one session event. In a two session event one half of the players receive Masterpoints.

The Masterpoints awarded are linked to the number of players in the event.

There is a maximum award of 400 Masterpoints for an event of between 18 and 36 boards.

There is a maximum award of 1200 Masterpoints for an event of more than 36 boards.

Some Union competitions award National Points, otherwise known as Red Points. 1 National Point is the equivalent of 100 local points. Pairs and Team competitions in which players are awarded National Points are listed below.

NIBU awards a nominal “Player of the Year” title to the player who wins the most Masterpoints **in NIBU events** in a season in each of the Intermediate A, Intermediate B, and Senior Grades (including Expert).

Master Point Definitions

A ***Novice*** player is one who, on the first of September of the year concerned, has less than 200 Local points. Some novice competitions allow up to 1000 MPs.

An ***Intermediate 'B'*** player is one who, on the first of September of the year concerned, holds less than 7,500 Local points and who has not represented his/her country at any level, nor represented any province at inter-provincial level, and who has not won an open Northern Ireland Bridge Union competition.

An ***Intermediate 'A'*** player is one who, on the first of September of the year concerned, holds more than 7,500 local points but less than 30,000 local points or less than 10 National Points and who has not represented his/her country at Senior level, nor represented any province at Senior inter-provincial level.

A ***Senior*** player is one who, on the first of September of the year concerned, holds more than 30,000 local points or more than 10 National Points but less than 100 National Points and has not represented his/her country at Camrose level nor Ireland at any Senior level.

A ***Expert*** player is one who, on the first of September of the year concerned, has more than 100 National Points or has represented his/her country at Camrose level or Ireland at any Senior level.

The ***Grading Committee*** has, however, the right to take into consideration a player's experience, general competence and such factors as they may consider relevant in assigning a grade to a player.

Appeals Any player wishing to appeal his grading must do so in writing to the Master Points Secretary.

A ***Non-Expert*** player is a member of the Northern Ireland Bridge Union who, on the first of September of the year concerned, has not been graded Expert

Master Point Ranks

The ranks attainable by Union members are determined by the number of Master Points held as follows:-

<i>Unranked</i>	less than 200 Master Points
<i>Club Master</i>	200 Master Points
<i>Local Master</i>	1,000 Master Points
<i>County Master</i>	2,500 Master Points
<i>Master</i>	5,000 Master Points
<i>Advanced Master</i>	7,500 Master Points
<i>* Master</i>	10,000 Master Points A * is added for each additional 5,000 Master Points
<i>Tournament Master</i>	40,000 Master Points A * is added for each additional 10,000 Master Points
<i>Junior Provincial Master</i>	10,000 Master Points – including 25 National Points A * is added for each additional 10,000 Master Points
<i>Senior Provincial Master</i>	20,000 Master Points– including 50 National Points A * is added for each additional 10,000 Master Points
<i>National Master</i>	30,000 Master Points - including 75 National Points
<i>Premier National Master</i>	40,000 Master Points - including 100 National Points
<i>Life Master</i>	60,000 Master Points - including 150 National Points
<i>Premier Life</i>	90,000 Master Points - including 300 National Points
<i>Grand Master</i>	120,000 Master Points - including 600 National Points
<i>Premier Grand Master</i>	120,000 Master Points - including 1,500 National Points

National Point competitions - Pairs

<i>Northern Ireland Pairs</i>	Belfast Evening Telegraph Cup. The premier NIBU pairs competition. Open pairs usually held over 3 sessions
<i>North Down Pairs</i>	Bradley Cup. Open pairs held in North Down area over 2 sessions
<i>East Down Pairs</i>	Cohen Cup. Open pairs held in East Down area over 2 sessions
<i>Belfast Pairs</i>	Samuels Cup. Open pairs held in Belfast area over 2 sessions
<i>Northern Pairs</i>	Kings Arms Cup
<i>Mid-Ulster Pairs</i>	Bamber Trophy. Open pairs held in mid-Ulster area over 2 sessions
<i>Spring Congress Pairs</i>	Senior Cup. Open pairs held over 2 sessions. Players need not be members of a club affiliated to the Union
<i>Autumn Congress Pairs</i>	Barnett Cup. Open pairs held over 2 sessions. Players need not be members of a club affiliated to the Union
<i>Camrose Trials</i>	
<i>Teltscher Trials</i>	
<i>Lady Milne Trials</i>	
<i>Northern Ireland Mixed Pairs</i>	Douglas Salvagers. Each pair must consist of one lady and one gentleman
<i>Provincial Mixed Pairs</i>	Each pair must consist of one lady and one gentleman

National Point competitions - Teams

Knockout teams

<i>Kelvin Cup</i>	Premier NIBU knock-out competition open to any team of up to 6 player
<i>Mackinnon Cup</i>	Open to any team of 4 – 6 players. The team captain must play with every other member of the team [only 4 players may play in a match]
<i>Millership Cup</i>	Knock-out team competition restricted to players graded below Expert

Leagues

<i>Premier League Division 1</i>	
<i>Premier League Division 2</i>	

Teams and Swiss teams

<i>Northern Ireland Teams</i>	Schenker Cup. . The premier NIBU teams competition. Open teams held over 2 sessions
<i>Inter-club Teams</i>	Guinness Cup. Each team to consist of 4 players from the same bridge club
<i>East Down Teams</i>	Slieve Donard Cup. Open teams held in East Down area over 2 sessions
<i>Allan Trophy</i>	Team event. Each partnership must comprise one lady and one gentleman. Usually held over 2 sessions
<i>Spring Congress teams</i>	Northern Counties Cup. Open teams held over 2 sessions. Players need not be members of a club affiliated to the Union
<i>Autumn Congress teams</i>	Belfast Newsletter Cup. Open teams held over 2 sessions. Players need not be members of a club affiliated to the Union