



The CBF Master Points Scheme

1. History and development

The Cyprus Bridge Federation (CBF) Master Points Scheme came into operation in 2003 in order to enable recognition of players' achievements and in order to help with the selection of the Cyprus national bridge team.

Prior to 2003, the CBF Master Points Scheme had been a very simple one, with no ranking system and operating only at the local club level.

In 2003, the CBF appointed a Master Points Officer who kept track of the master points won by players at their clubs.

In 2007, with help from Micke Melander of Sweden, the CBF formalised the process by producing a detailed document which set out the conditions under which master points were awarded, defined scales of master points for different types of events and introduced a ranking system based on the number of master points accumulated. At the same time, it created a new category of master points for national events, named Gold master points, to be awarded by the CBF for all its events while master points won at the local clubs were called Silver master points, thus achieving differentiation based on the importance of the event. Even though the 2007 CBF Master Points Scheme was a major step forward in achieving its purposes, it was soon very obvious that further clarifications regarding the awarding of Gold master points were required, as well as modifications to the published ranking levels in order to bring them in line with the number of master points available to be won in each year.

The current document, published in December 2013 is an attempt to cover the deficiencies of the 2007 document and to make the operation and application of the whole scheme easier and therefore more practical and valuable.

2. Operation of the CBF Master Points Scheme

The CBF has appointed a Master Points Officer who is responsible for the day-to-day running of the scheme. The master points officer oversees the keeping of the records concerning master points won by all members of the CBF, the presentation of the results of all events carrying master points and the publication of the current ranking lists of all members of the CBF. Furthermore, he is responsible for responding to queries regarding master points and for suggesting changes to the CBF executive committee.

Under the previous version of the scheme, each club was required to appoint a master point secretary to administer the scheme within the club. At the end of each year, each club sent its master point awards record to the CBF master point officer who updated and published all members' records. This procedure was unsatisfactory for a number of reasons, the main ones being:

- Members were unaware of their current rank during the year
- A great deal of effort was required to produce the ranking lists of all members
- Mistakes in the updating process, which was manual, were inevitable

Under the current scheme, it is anticipated that the master points for all events, both local and CBF-organised, will be generated automatically by the scoring software, which will enable the master points database to be updated in live or near-live mode. A first requirement to achieve this is the adoption of the same scoring software by all clubs and the CBF. A second requirement is the adoption of a unique identification number for each member, the so-called CBF identification number, by the scoring software. It is anticipated that both these issues will be closed before the end of 2013, allowing the implementation of the procedure from the beginning of 2014. The CBF still needs to decide on the software and procedure that will receive the results of all events and update the master point records of all members.

The current ranking lists will be available to all members on the CBF's website as soon as the implementation process has been completed.

In order to be entitled to be awarded master points, players must have a valid CBF ID card and have settled their financial obligations to their local clubs. Suspended members are not eligible to earn master points during the period of suspension.

Each club is responsible for keeping the CBF master point officer up to date with their members' details.

Each member should check that their details and master point records are correct. If there are any queries concerning these, they should be addressed to the CBF master point officer via the club secretaries. Corrections to the records will be made only after it has been requested in writing and after a proper investigation is carried out.

3. Master point categories, ranks and awarding rules

3.1 Types of Master Point

There are two categories of master points, **Silver** and **Gold**. Both accumulate to establish a player's Master Point Rank. The CBF is considering ways of establishing current (i.e. recent) form for all its members and this may be achieved through the introduction of a third category which depreciates over time.

- **Silver (local) master points** are awarded in local club events as well as CBF-organised events, complying with the normal rules and regulations of the CBF master point scheme.
- **Gold master points** are awarded by the CBF to the winners of all its main events and are necessary for progress to the most senior ranks. The CBF at present also sponsors one Gold master point event to each club per year.

3.2 Master point ranks

There are fourteen master point ranks, the lowest being a **Club Master** and the highest a **Grand Master**.

The following table lists all ranks and their master point requirements.

CYPRUS BRIDGE FEDERATION			
MASTER POINTS RANKS			
NO.	RANK	SILVER	GOLD
		MASTER POINTS	
1	CLUB MASTER	200	
2	TOWN MASTER	500	
3	DISTRICT MASTER	1,000	
4	MASTER	2,500	
5	ADVANCED MASTER	3,000	
6	*MASTER	3,500	10
7	**MASTER	4,000	20
8	***MASTER	5,000	30
9	TOURNAMENT MASTER	7,500	50
10	REGIONAL MASTER	10,000	75
11	PREMIER REGIONAL MASTER	12,500	100
12	NATIONAL MASTER	15,000	200
13	LIFE MASTER	20,000	300
14	GRAND MASTER	25,000	500

The CBF will issue a Master Points certificate to each member every time he or she attains a new rank.

3.3 Master point awarding rules

The rules of the CBF master points scheme are framed so that in a normal event approximately the top one-third of the competitors is entitled to an award.

However, there are minimum requirements that need to be satisfied before master points can be awarded in any event.

No master points will be awarded for an event unless the original entry was at least:

- 2 complete tables in an individual event
- 3 complete tables in a single-winner (e.g. Howell) pairs event
- 4 complete tables in a team event
- 5 complete tables in a two-winner (e.g. Mitchell) pairs event
- 5 complete tables in a four-winner individual event (i.e. N, S, E & W winner)

No master points will be awarded for an event unless all competitors play at least 12 boards.

No event could be considered multi-stage unless all competitors play at least 12 boards at each stage.

The following criteria apply to **individual player awards**:

- A player must play at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of the boards involved in the stage of the event for which an award is made, to be entitled to the award – however see also the section about withdrawals/concessions below
- The awards quoted for teams contests are based upon teams of 4, provided only 4 members actually compete at any time
- If team matches involving more than 4 playing members are arranged, the awards quoted should be based on the number of teams playing rather than number of tables – e.g. 3 teams of 16 (needing 12 tables) uses the normal 3-table scale and not 12-table scale
- Awards for simultaneous pairs etc. should be announced separately by the CBF

Regarding **tied positions**, it should be noted that:

- Ties are never broken for master point purposes. However, see exceptions for tied positions below
- Competitors share equally the points applicable to the place they would occupy were the tie to be broken

Exceptions regarding tied positions:

- In knock-out events, ties are resolved. In this case, the eventual winners receive the full master point award for winning the match had the tiebreak not been required and the eventual losers receive no award, **provided that the tie is broken by playing additional boards**
- On occasion it may be expedient for there to be a 'play-off' in the event of a tie on the overall ranking list. No master points are awarded for the playoff, but overall ranking master points could be at stake if the tie involves the leading teams

Rules regarding withdrawals/concessions in head-on matches:

- No master point award may be given for a match not played
- A master point award shall only be made to the winners if the opponents have withdrawn or conceded at a time when in arrears
- Any 'adjusted' score awarded by the organisers, however, will count fully for the purposes of 'ranking awards' (if any), as opposed to awards based on matches played and won
- To establish whether a player has played a sufficient number of boards to be eligible for award, such a player will be deemed to have played all boards that were not played because of a concession

Rules regarding events played in two or more sections:

- An event played in two or more sections can be treated as constituting a single field providing:
 - o The same boards are played in each section, and
 - o The competition is scored by match points
- For the purpose of master point awards, there is no such thing as a team event, or any non-match-pointed event, played in more than one section and score overall. Master points must be awarded within each section

Rules regarding handicap and stratified events:

- No award may be made in a handicap tournament
- If clubs organise stratified club events where the field plays together but results are presented in a number of divisions whose participants are determined based on master-point rank or some other criterion, then master points will be awarded in each division

Rules regarding carry-forward scores:

- Quali-final events may allow a certain fraction of previous stage score to be carried forward into the next stage
- Awards are still made for each separate stage of the event, including the stage(s) in which a carry-forward score is included in the final result
- For such events, a bonus award based on final ranking lists is always included

For the purpose of awarding master points **half tables are considered complete**, i.e. in a 6½ table Mitchell movement awards are given as for 7 tables.

In **multi-session events**, awards are given for each session as well as for overall ranking. However, Gold master points are only given for overall ranking.

For team events, there will generally be master points awarded for each match won, in addition to a bonus award for overall ranking positions.

3.4 Master point scales

There are different master point scales, depending on the nature of the event. These scales are also used for bonus master point awards for overall ranking, in accordance with the tables listed in 3.5 below.

With present attendances, the club duplicate and team scales given below are considered adequate. However, they may be expanded in the future as membership grows.

Club Duplicate Howell scale – Silver master points

No. of tables	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
3	8	5												
4	11	8	5											
5	13	9	5	3										
6	16	11	6	3										
7	19	13	8	5	3									
8	22	15	10	5	3	2								
9	24	17	11	6	4	2								
10	26	19	13	8	5	3	2							
11	28	21	14	8	5	3	3	2						
12	30	23	15	9	5	3	3	2						
13	32	25	17	11	6	4	4	3	2					
14	34	26	19	14	11	8	6	5	3	3	2			
15	36	27	20	15	11	9	6	5	4	3	2	2		
16	38	29	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	2		
17	40	30	23	17	13	9	7	5	4	3	2	2		
18	42	32	24	18	13	10	7	6	4	3	2	2		
19	44	33	25	19	14	10	8	6	4	3	2	2		
20	46	35	26	19	15	11	8	6	5	3	3	2		
21	48	36	27	20	15	11	9	6	5	4	3	2	2	
22	50	38	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	2	
23	52	39	29	22	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	2	
24	54	41	30	23	17	13	10	7	5	4	3	2	2	
25	56	42	32	24	18	13	10	7	6	4	3	2	2	
26	58	44	33	24	18	14	10	8	6	4	3	2	2	
27	60	45	34	25	19	14	11	8	6	5	3	3	2	
28	62	47	35	26	20	15	11	8	6	5	3	3	2	
29	64	48	36	27	20	15	11	9	6	5	4	3	2	2
30	66	50	37	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	2
No. of tables	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th

Club Duplicate Mitchell scale – Silver master points

These are awarded to the winners of both directions

No. of tables	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
5	10	5					
6	12	6					
7	14	7	4				
8	16	8	4				
9	18	9	5				
10	20	10	5	3			
11	22	11	6	3			
12	24	12	6	3			
13	26	13	7	3			
14	28	14	7	4	2		
15	30	15	8	4	2		
16	32	16	8	4	2		
17	34	17	9	4	2		
18	36	18	9	5	2		
19	38	19	10	5	2		
20	40	20	10	5	3		
21	42	21	11	5	3		
22	44	22	11	6	3		
23	46	23	12	6	3		
24	48	24	12	6	3	2	
25	50	25	13	6	3	2	
26	52	26	13	7	3	2	
27	54	27	14	7	3	2	
28	56	28	14	7	4	2	
29	58	29	15	7	4	2	
30	60	30	15	8	4	2	
31	62	31	16	8	4	2	
32	64	32	16	8	4	2	
33	66	33	17	8	4	2	
34	68	34	17	9	4	2	
35	70	35	18	9	4	2	
36	72	36	18	9	5	2	
37	74	37	19	9	5	2	
38	76	38	19	10	5	2	
39	78	39	20	10	5	2	
40	80	40	20	10	5	3	
No. of tables	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th

Club teams scale – Silver master points

The master points shown in this scale are **per player**, assuming **teams of four** event

No. of teams	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
4	12	8									
5	15	10									
6	18	12									
7	21	14	10								
8	24	16	11								
9	27	18	12								
10	30	20	14	10							
11	33	22	15	10							
12	36	24	16	11							
13	39	26	18	12	8						
14	42	28	19	13	9						
15	45	30	20	14	10						
16	48	32	22	15	10	7					
17	51	34	23	16	11	8					
18	54	36	24	16	11	8					
19	57	38	26	18	12	8	6				
20	60	40	27	18	12	8	6				
21	63	42	28	19	13	9	6				
22	66	44	30	20	14	10	7	5			
23	69	46	31	21	14	10	7	5			
24	72	48	32	22	15	10	7	5			
25	75	50	33	23	15	10	8	5			
26	78	52	35	24	16	11	8	6	4		
27	81	54	37	25	17	11	8	6	4		
28	84	56	38	26	18	12	8	6	4	4	
29	87	58	39	26	18	12	8	6	4	4	
30	90	60	40	27	18	12	8	6	4	4	
31	93	62	41	28	19	13	9	6	4	4	
32	96	64	43	29	20	14	10	7	5	4	4
No. of teams	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th

Club Individual scale – Silver master points

No. of players	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th
8	12	8	6												
9	14	10	7												
10	15	10	7	5											
11	16	11	7	5											
12	18	12	8	6											
13	20	14	10	7	5										
14	22	15	10	7	5										
15	23	16	11	7	5										
16	24	16	11	8	6	4									
17	26	18	12	8	6	4									
18	27	18	12	8	6	4									
19	29	20	14	10	7	5	4								
20	30	20	14	10	7	5	4								
21	32	22	15	10	7	5	4								
22	33	22	15	10	7	5	4	4							
23	35	24	16	11	8	6	4	4							
24	36	24	16	11	8	6	4	4							
25	38	26	18	12	8	6	4	4	4						
26	39	26	18	12	8	6	4	4	4						
27	41	28	19	13	9	6	4	4	4						
28	42	28	19	13	9	6	4	4	4	4					
29	44	30	20	14	10	7	5	4	4	4					
30	45	30	20	14	10	7	5	4	4	4					
31	47	32	22	15	10	7	5	4	4	4	4				
32	48	32	22	15	10	7	5	4	4	4	4				
33	50	34	25	17	12	9	7	5	4	4	4				
34	51	34	26	18	13	10	8	6	5	5	4	4			
35	53	36	27	19	14	11	9	7	6	6	4	4			
36	54	36	27	20	15	12	10	8	7	6	5	4			
37	56	38	28	22	17	14	11	9	8	7	5	5	4		
38	57	38	29	23	18	15	12	10	9	8	6	5	4		
39	59	40	30	24	19	16	13	11	10	9	7	6	4		
40	60	40	30	25	20	17	14	12	11	9	7	6	4	4	
41	62	42	31	26	21	18	15	13	11	9	7	6	4	4	
42	63	42	32	27	21	18	15	13	11	9	7	6	4	4	
43	65	44	33	28	22	19	15	13	11	9	7	6	5	4	4
No. of players	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th

3.5 Gold master point and bonus silver master point awards

The Cyprus Bridge Federation sponsors its major events with Gold master points, according to the table below. All teams events are assumed to be teams of four events.

EVENT	GOLD MASTER POINT AWARDS (PER PLAYER)							
	EVENT	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH
OPEN PAIRS	28	8	4	2				
SWISS PAIRS	18	6	2	1				
OPEN TEAMS - ROUND-ROBIN	56	8	4	2				
OPEN TEAMS - KNOCK-OUT	56	8	4	2				
OPEN TEAMS - SWISS	56	8	4	2				
OPEN TEAMS - BAM	56	8	4	2				
FESTIVAL PAIRS	92	20	10	6	4	3	2	1
FESTIVAL TEAMS	112	16	8	4				
MIXED PAIRS	18	6	2	1				
INTERCLUB LEAGUE	28	4	2	1				
LIMASSOL CLUB GOLD POINT EVENT	14	4	2	1				
NICOSIA CLUB GOLD POINT EVENT	14	4	2	1				
ZENON CLUB GOLD POINT EVENT	14	4	2	1				
AY. ANDREAS CLUB GOLD POINT EVENT	14	4	2	1				
LEFKARA CLUB GOLD POINT EVENT	14	4	2	1				

In addition, the CBF awards bonus silver master points for all its major events in accordance with the table below.

BONUS SILVER MASTER POINTS EVENTS & AWARDS					
NO.	EVENT	BONUS SILVER MASTER POINT AWARDS (PER PLAYER)			
		USE CLUB SCALE MULTIPLIED BY FACTOR SHOWN BELOW			
		OVERALL RANK	SESSION RANK	SECTION RANK	PER MATCH WON (MPs)
1	OPEN PAIRS - FINAL	3.0	1.0		
2	OPEN PAIRS - QUALIFIER	1.0	1.0	1.0	
3	SWISS PAIRS	3.0	1.0		
4	OPEN TEAMS - ROUND-ROBIN	3.0	1.0	1.0	4
5	OPEN TEAMS - KNOCK-OUT	3.0			4
6	OPEN TEAMS - SWISS	3.0	1.0		4
7	OPEN TEAMS - BAM	3.0	1.0		4
8	FESTIVAL PAIRS	3.0	1.0	1.0	
9	FESTIVAL TEAMS	3.0			4
10	MIXED PAIRS	2.0	1.0	1.0	
11	INTERCLUB LEAGUE	2.0			4
12	CLUB GOLD POINT EVENT	2.0	1.0		