

 NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION
Report of the Hon. Masterpoints Secretary 2025/26

Some clubs are thriving, though others are struggling and have very small table numbers.

The NIBU managed to run the knockout Cups, Senior and Intermediate Leagues and a handful of Open events, one on-line on Realbridge. The only Intermediate event that attracted sufficient entries was the Ciara Burns Pairs in August, 22 tables in all. The rest of the Intermediate events were cancelled.

Many thanks to Alan Hill, Sandie Millership, Jim McGilly and others for kindly getting results posted and delivered to me so that the Masterpoints could be updated in timely fashion.

The same sentiments apply in equal measure to all the club secretaries and scorers who helped in getting club Masterpoints uploaded onto the system during the year.

There has sadly been a further decline in NIBU club membership, though this is much less pronounced than in recent years.

The following clubs or groups returned Masterpoints :-

Causeway Coast Portadown Derryvolgie Lisburn City Windsor Bann Banbridge St Colmcille's
Kelvin/Malone Newcastle Spa Warrenpoint St Michaels Devenish Bangor
City of Derry Limavady Breffni/Iveagh Portstewart St Joseph's Downshire Armagh Devenish
Diane Greenwood Dromore St Michaels Mourne Teconnaught Carrickfergus Armagh

The Union has shrunk in number less than envisaged, we losing approximately 18 members during the year, membership now totalling 1231. This compares to 1249 last season, and is a gratifying number considering the age profile of the NIBU membership. Matters are complicated by some EBU/CBAI members being registered here as well as in their "home" Union, and by the presence of a number of non-paying juniors on the list, some of whom may no longer be playing.

The Grade breakdown of members after Promotions is:-

Expert 64	Senior 86	Intermediate A 239	Intermediate B 842
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The number of players in each Rank is :-

Premier Grand Master	4	Grand Master	8	Premier Life Master	9
Life Master	18	Premier National Master	10	National Master	9
Senior Provincial Master	5	Junior Provincial Master	18	Tournament Master	18
Master	318	County Master	167	Local Master	192
Club Master	196	Novice	259		

Players of the year

Intermediate B

1st Marylou McDonnell
2nd David Hamilton

Intermediate A

1st Patricia McDowell
2nd Una Cole

Senior

1st Harold Curran
2nd Rex Anderson

Billy Kelso Trophy - not awarded

Congratulations to all of the above



NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION



Promotions & Regradings

Congratulations to all the below, and very many congratulations to Anne Fitzpatrick, our newest Grandmaster plus Wayne Somerville our newest Life Master.

RE-GRADINGS EFFECTIVE FROM 1st SEPTEMBER 2026

INTERMEDIATE B to INTERMEDIATE A

2193 S McDonagh 2201 P Conway Morgan 3474 E Jones 4062 M Longmore 4257 S Mullan
4953 K Irwin 4585 B McAleavey 4758 P McNamee 5267 H McCambridge

INTERMEDIATE A to SENIOR

2491 H Perceval-Price 3766 A Milligan 4844 J Young 5534 G Harper

SENIOR to EXPERT

None

All the above re-gradings are due for ratification by the Management Committee towards the end of August 2026 and any appeals must be made in writing to the Masterpoints Secretary and received before 16th August 2026. An e-mailed appeal is acceptable.

Ian Hamilton

Hon Masterpoints Secretary

ian@ishamilton.co.uk

10th June 2026

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

PROMOTIONS LIST JUNE 2026

1 Grand Master

1876 A Fitzpatrick

1 Life Master

4625 W Somerville

1 Premier National Master

5624 Z Kokot

1 National Master

2806 H Hall

1 6* Senior Provincial Master

4277 JB Clarke

1 5* Senior Provincial Master

3834 P Hamill

1 2* Senior Provincial Master

4457 K Cassidy

1 Senior Provincial Master

2036 D Bradley

1 4* Junior Provincial Master

3831 S Barr

2 3* Junior Provincial Master

3150 J Taylor

3644 M McIlroy

1 1* Tournament Master

2216 S Donaghy

5 Tournament Master

2794 J Hughes

2854 G Robot

3271 F McGreevy

3619 B Armstrong

3635 H Tranmer

3 6* Master

2318 E Devlin

2883 V Young

5265 C Stewart

8 5* Master

2490 W Perceval-Price

2491 H Perceval-Price

3221 A Hughes

3766 A Milligan

4023 J Morrow

4311 W McCormick

4627 J Baker

4638 E Butterwick

10 4* Master

1062 M Hegarty

1855 L Morrison

3222 E McRoe

3327 M Flynn

3452 D Patterson

3480 G Henry

3681 J Baird

3977 C McCool

4419 E Thomas

5119 J McDonnell

13 3* Master

1992 CD Woodside

2029 B Moore

2334 B Lawless

2534 M Lewis

3109 L Agar

3599 H Priestly

3905 U Cole

4260 S McNicholl

4737 G McNamee

4738 M McNamee

4814 K McAllister
4831 R Nicholas
5228 J Forsythe

16 2* Master

1340 F Young
1972 R Caves
2190 P McDowell
2887 H Barr
2898 G Turkington
3219 L Rea
3698 V Russell
3933 P Coull
4117 D Irwin
4247 L Byrne
4320 K Johnston
4330 J McCoy
4414 B Mullan
4439 P Blacker
4903 C Moorhead
5278 L Horner

11 1* Master

2114 V Grant
3142 J Colgan
3630 R Duffy
3638 A Bradley
4032 I McCormack
4130 R Archer
4292 C Hearty
4764 B Coady Weekes
5267 H McCambridge
5454 P Braden
5534 G Harper

18 Advanced Master

1076 I Orr
1993 SM Woodside
2053 C McAnerney

2193 S McDonagh
2201 P Conway
3258 P Hanna
3455 T Hughes
3464 K Curry
3474 E Jones
4062 M Longmore
4161 B McCartan
4257 S Mullan
4585 B McAleavey
4586 M McCoy
4758 P McNamee
4953 KE Irwin
5448 M Johnston
5680 S Dolan-Sheridan

39 Master

1105 D Jones
2106 P Ross
2281 M Carroll
2330 D McCaughey
2493 G Singh
2525 M Wylie
2560 R O'Neill
2573 P Lowry
2702 L Flynn
2773 P Harvey
2882 K Stitt
2897 K Ramsey
3037 R Davidson
3284 ME Nelson
3435 G Starrs
3437 P McCarney
3755 A McCreesh
4477 A Fitzpatrick
4530 B Millar
4541 S Donaghy

4662 IM Martin
 4683 M Cassidy
 4753 M Markey
 4793 O Boyle
 4805 H White
 4881 M McDonnell
 4882 G Langosz
 4909 D Parkes
 4979 C McKay
 5096 D Breen
 5219 C McAleavey
 5393 M Keenan
 5422 C McIlwaine
 5497 R Graham
 5585 A Martin
 5587 D Hamilton
 5672 B Burrell
 5683 E McGuigan
 5687 D Hamilton

43 County Master

1382 S Williams
 2354 F Wilson
 2478 H Lindsay
 2673 K Bready
 2905 J McCourt
 3060 A Cassidy
 3731 W Curran
 3886 M Murphy
 3947 C Dorgan
 3951 J Pollock
 3957 C Keenan
 4107 M Maguire
 4355 H Mitchell
 4666 L Forsythe
 4708 S Carr
 4743 S Scott

4896 D Blair
 4991 P McCaul
 5007 S Rasmussen
 5068 F Reilly
 5134 G Morrison
 5268 M Proctor
 5332 A Gallagher
 5351 B Reavey
 5439 R Russell
 5449 H Graham
 5472 A Flanagan
 5489 P Nicol
 5514 E Hall
 5516 M McGrath
 5520 K Spencer
 5529 E Laing
 5556 W Weir
 5588 M McMichael
 5681 S Doherty
 5717 S McGrath
 5719 R Mullan
 5721 R Park
 5732 J Agnew
 5733 M Gavrilescu
 5772 T McComiskey
 5789 W Hutchinson
 5881 D Harper

41 Local Master

1139 I Rodgeron
 1873 P Lavery
 1878 M Sloan
 2418 A Graham
 2528 B Connolly
 3061 I Gibson
 3607 D Bruce
 3686 P McLaughlin

3920 A Cullen
 3926 R McClean
 4164 M Langhammer
 4535 M Callan
 4630 V Artt
 4653 A McKeown
 4689 E Rafferty
 4940 D McMahon
 5059 A Courtney
 5480 E Borland
 5486 F Jones
 5547 H Chahel
 5584 A Moore
 5586 D McCavitt
 5612 K Bloomfield
 5655 N Ward
 5656 A Clements
 5676 C O'Brien
 5677 Y Spiers
 5701 H Rea
 5766 A Stevens
 5776 G Gray
 5786 D Nelson
 5794 L McCombe
 5802 W McClelland
 5849 F O'Callaghan
 5856 M Keeley
 5858 B Robinson
 5861 K Loughran
 5901 J McCambridge
 5917 P McGonigle
 5962 R McWilliams
 5978 C Duffy

56 Club Master

1310 D Fitzsimmons
 1329 Z Capper

1335 A Shields
 3032 M Cooke
 3274 C Moir
 3912 C Fitzsimmons
 3918 R Wallace
 4569 P Tolland
 4608 F Martin
 4811 G McKeever
 4877 M Jamison
 5071 I Bamford
 5123 J Barton
 5215 M Lavery
 5321 L Murphy
 5380 A Carr
 5435 D Watson
 5549 K Gunning
 5550 E Carson
 5651 P Waters
 5718 D Mowbray
 5742 P Colgan
 5743 R Copeland
 5785 M Montgomery
 5790 U Page
 5810 B Tierney-McCann
 5854 G Fisher
 5855 J Harron
 5862 L Boyle
 5869 A Smyth
 5873 S Kelly
 5874 M Blackmore
 5892 M Colgan
 5897 R Hibbert
 5898 P Kennedy
 5907 R Kane
 5909 J Kidd
 5927 C Doyle

5942	P	Hughes
5944	J	Iland
5945	C	Kelly
5948	J	Richardson
5955	S	Gallagher
5961	M	Torrens
5987	P	Haughan
5991	B	McCarragher
5993	Z	Lynn
6002	N	MacAleenan
6003	K	McKenny
6011	G	McAleenan
6023	C	Suitor
6033	B	O'Kane
6036	J	Weavers
6046	P	Leeson
6047	D	Leeson
6058	A	Boyle