



THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION
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Monday 1 August 2011

Letter to Clubs and Counties

Dear County or Club Chairman,

I am writing to advise you, well in advance, of a fairly significant change to the Masterpoint system that we are planning will come into effect on 1 January 2013.

We have been well aware for some time of a number of problems associated with the current arrangements:

1. We have introduced Universal Membership but have not yet made any changes to our major recognition scheme - Masterpoints
2. Many individual members are unable to, or simply do not want to travel to EBU Competitions and/or stay overnight. This makes it very difficult to accumulate National Masterpoints (Greens) which in turn prevents people progressing through the Masterpoint ranks.
3. There is a large gap between Local and Green Points and Clubs and Counties have trouble attracting people to their open competitions when they cannot award Green points

We intend to try and alleviate these problems through the introduction of a new sort of Masterpoint designated Blue. The characteristics of these points are described in Attachment 1 and I would highlight the following

- Any Club or County event awarding Blue Points must
 - o Be a 2 session event
 - o Be open to any EBU member
 - o Have a licence from the EBU – this licence will be priced at approximately one third the cost of a Green Point licence. This means that if a Blue Point event was being held today, the licence would cost around £2.25 per table per session. There will be no P2P charge at a Blue Point event.
- Clubs can hold 2 such events each year and Counties 4. They can be new events or existing events but in either case they will require a licence.
- EBU Simultaneous Pairs events will award Blue Points rather than Green Points and overall there will be more “green equivalents” awarded

Chairman: Sally Bugden • Vice-Chairman: Andrew Petrie • Treasurer: Michael Hill • General Manager: Barry Capal
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We are hoping that this enhancement will offer Counties and Clubs the opportunity to re-invigorate some of their competitions. We are announcing these plans well in advance to enable Clubs and Counties to discuss and plan their future calendar.

We will of course be publicising the scheme regularly through such channels as Club Focus and the EBU Website but we wanted to ensure that Clubs and Counties were each individually made aware of our plans.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Petrie

Chairman – EBU Tournament Committee

THE EBU BLUE POINT SCHEME

1. A limited number of events will be able to offer Blue Points
 - a. Must be 2-session events, open to any EBU member and must be licensed by Aylesbury. All licensed Blue point events will be shown on a new page of the EBU website.
 - b. Up to 2 annually for a club and 4 for a County (cannot be a County Sim)
 - c. Club event awards will be to District Scale, County event awards to County Scale
 - d. EBU sessions not awarding any Greens
 - e. EBU Simultaneous Pairs (will replace Greens)

2. Blue Point awards will use the current Local/Black Point scales (100 Local=1 Blue) e.g.

Club Event - 20 Table Howell, 2 sessions, 24 Boards in each session, District Scale

Winners would have received 180 Local Points

1.8 Blue Points will be entered on their MP Account

3. All Masterpoint ranks will allow up to 50 Green points to be replaced by Blue Points in the ratio of 1 Green = 3 Blues (they will not count towards Gold Points) e.g.

NATIONAL MASTER

Green	Blue
75	0
65	30
55	60
45	90
35	120
25	150

4. The total number of Masterpoints earned will be shown on the member's area of the website e.g.

Total	Local	Green	Blue	Net	Gold
34,500	23,000	5,500	6,000	0	
Rank: National Master					