

BLUE POINTS

Blue points were introduced on 1 January 2013.

Blue point awards use the current Local Point scales (100 Local = 1 Blue).

All Master Point ranks will allow up to 50 green points to be replaced by blue points in the ratio of 3 Blue = 1 Green

Examples:

The rank of Premier Master requires 5,000 Master Points, including at least 10 green points.

This could be achieved by:

- 4000 local points + 10 greens, or
- 3000 local points + 5 greens + 15 blues, or
- 2000 local points + 30 blues

If you have “extra” blue Points (i.e. you have more than 150 of them) any additional ones still count towards your total as though they were Local points.

National events

All EBU sessions/events not awarding green points

EBU Simultaneous Pairs:

- The awards are split 25% Blue/75% Local to the top third of the field.

Counties

Counties may hold 4 blue-pointed events per annum.

They must be 1-day 2-session events.

They must be open to any EBU member and only to EBU members*

They cannot be simultaneous pairs events, and cannot be restricted entry events (such as mixed Pairs).

Each event requires a license from the EBU at 1/3 of the green point license fee.

The process is as follows:

- County applies for license
- The EBU adds this to the calendar of licensed events on the website
- Counties submit a Universal Membership Subscription (UMS) results file with appropriate “MP award marker”
- Counties will be invoiced at the rate of £X per table per session (X= 1/3 of green point license fee)

** Visitors who are resident outside of England may also be accepted if they are members of their own bridge federation.*

Clubs

Clubs may hold 2 blue-pointed events per annum, which may be either open or closed.

If open, the requirements are the same as for county blue-pointed events.

If closed, they are restricted to the club’s major pairs and teams championships as defined in the Master Point & Licensing Handbook ([MPLH](#)). However, the Handbook has been amended so that a ladder can be deemed to be the major pairs championship.

Both pairs and teams major championships must be held over a minimum of 2 sessions.

Closed sessions will not require a licence but will pay an enhanced UMS fee equating to 1/3 of the green point licence fee.

Pairs championship

This is likely to take one of three forms: a qualifinal (see section 3.7.2 of the [MPLH](#)), a 2 session play through or a ladder. Both sessions of a qualifinal or play through event will be blue-pointed at district scale and both will pay the blue point licence fee. Each round of a ladder will attract only local points at club scale and pay normal UMS rates but the bonus awards will be blue-pointed at district scale.

Awards for the final ladder positions will need to be submitted separately from the normal UMS submissions. Since the awards are based on the average number of tables in the ladder, the licence fee will be calculated on the same basis.

The process is as follows:

- Club holds event
- If a 2 session event, the club submits a UMS results file for each session With appropriate “MP award marker” and will be invoiced at the enhanced rate.
- If a ladder, each session is at standard UMS rate, submitted and invoiced in the usual way. Final blue point awards based on ladder position must be submitted to the EBU via a spreadsheet and the club will be invoiced at the enhanced rate on the average number of tables in the ladder.

Teams Championship

This is also likely to take one of three forms: Swiss, multiple or knockout.

Again, both (all) sessions of a Swiss or multiple teams championship will be blue-pointed at district scale and pay the blue point licence fee. A knockout championship will award blue points at district level for each match won on the normal rising scale. The licence fee will be paid on the number of matches played in the competition multiplied by 2 for teams of 4 and multiplied by 4 for teams of 8, thus equating to the number of tables

The process is as follows:

- Club holds event
- If Swiss or multiple the club submits a UMS results file for each session with appropriate “MP award marker” and will be invoiced at the enhanced rate.
- If a knock-out, blue point awards for the whole competition must be submitted to the EBU via a spreadsheet and the club will be invoiced at the rate of twice the enhanced rate per number of matches in the competition if teams of 4 or 4 times if teams of 8 (X= 1/3 of green point licence fee).

Overseas Holidays

Holiday operators may run one holiday a year in which they offer blue points for all sessions, at the standard District rate. The following criteria must be met:

- The holiday must be abroad
- There will be a licence fee of £25 per player all inclusive (no further session licence fees to be paid).
- All sessions must be run to the standards of an EBU event, e.g. using experienced, qualified Tournament Directors, with pre-dealt boards and hand records, using movements designed for a competitive-type event.