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ABN 68 675 406 443

## The Under 100 Masterpoints Championship (UHMP)

August 2024

Dear Club Secretary,

70% of the registered active players in the state have fewer than 100 MPs; this represents the majority of members for most clubs. The NSWBA introduced the UHMP in 2015 to provide clubs, especially the far-flung country clubs, with an event tailored to this <100 MP membership profile. Since then, the pandemic and associated lockdowns have had a severe impact on clubs, but many are now rebuilding with a new beginner base. Typically, a third of all club's members have fewer than 10 MPs. The UHMP caters for these beginners, as well as more experienced players below the 100 MP cap. A quick overview of the UHMP follows.

The Under 100 Masterpoint Pairs Championship is played in two completely **independent** stages. Your club can participate in either stage, or both; the level of participation is up to you. The first stage consists of normal club sessions played September through November. These club sessions are stratified, *i.e.* all players, including non-participants, play against each other. Even though they play against players with lots of masterpoints, pairs only compete for masterpoints against those in the same MP bracket: 0-10, 10-25, 25-50 or 50-100. There is a \$5 per pair per session entry fee.

The second stage consists of a single session played in the week 25 November – 1 December in which only players with fewer than 100 MPs can play. All clubs play the same hands, and the event is scored across the state and then handicapped. There is a \$8 per pair entry fee.

The following pages describe how the UHMP will work in 2024. Please participate, encourage all your eligible players to enter and revitalise the event. The future success or failure of the UHMP is in your hands.

Warren Lazer  
UHMP Organiser  
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## NSW <100 Masterpoint Pairs Championships

<https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=uhmp>

The Under 100 Masterpoint Pairs Championship is played in two independent stages and in four masterpoint divisions (see table below).

Masterpoint range	% of registered active NSW players
0-9.99 MP	32%
10-24.99 MP	14%
25-49.99 MP	12%
50-99.99 MP	12%

The first stage consists of club sessions played in your home club. This requires little extra effort by a club - just select appropriate matchpoint pairs session(s) from September to November. These club sessions are stratified, *i.e.* all players, including non-participants, play against each other. The top 50% of the players in each masterpoint group will receive some red masterpoints. Where possible, awards are maximised by combining two or more MP groups. If you run supervised play sessions, consider converting one of them into a UHMP session. It's a good opportunity to get the supervised players to go solo and they will get red masterpoints instead of green. Club sessions can be held any time during September up until the last week in November.

The second stage consists of a Local Final. Unlike the club sessions, all Local Finals will play the same boards and the results will be matchpointed across the state. A dedicated website allows club organisers to log in and download the hand records and dealing files. All clubs then email their results to be scored across the state.

After handicapping, the final results and prize list is posted on the web. Prizes and certificates are awarded based on the handicapped results.

Ideally, Local Finals will be scattered around the state, with each attracting players who live less than 90 minutes away. The Bridge NSW will be charging \$4.00 per player - *i.e.* each club holding a Local Final will be invoiced \$8 per pair. Bridge NSW will pay for all the B4s masterpoints issued in Local Finals. Clubs holding Local Finals set their own entry fees; clearly this will differ widely depending whether the Final is part of an all-day event or just a regular club session.

If you wish to conduct a Local Final, apply by completing the online registration form at [www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mpfinal.asp](http://www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mpfinal.asp). It would be sensible to discuss your intention to hold a Local Final with other clubs in the region first. Clubs holding Local Finals will be listed on the UHMP website.

### Registration.

All clubs planning to hold one or more club sessions need to register by completing the online form at [www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mp.asp](http://www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mp.asp) - there's also a link from the UHMP website: [www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=uhmp](https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=uhmp). Participating clubs and all the latest information will also be shown on the UHMP website.



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### Masterpoints.

This event is a chance for your players to earn red masterpoints in their local club at State Championship level B4s. Half of the pairs in each of the four divisions will receive masterpoints, so players in the 0-10 group need not worry that they are competing against players in the 50-100 division. Awards increase as the number of pairs increases, so it's to everyone's advantage to encourage all eligible players to pair up and enter the UHMP. Remember, Bridge NSW will pay for all the red masterpoints issued.

### Costs.

*Club Qualifying Events:* \$2.50 per player per session (*i.e.* \$5.00 per pair), payable to Bridge NSW. Players with >100 masterpoints and those eligible but not wishing to enter the UHMP do not pay anything (other than normal table money to your club).

*Local Finals:* \$4.00 per player (*i.e.* \$8.00 per pair). Clubs hosting the Local Finals should factor in this Bridge NSW charge when setting the entry fee.

Bridge NSW will invoice all participating clubs in December. **Do not pay anything until you receive an invoice.**

### Dates.

Club sessions can be held anytime from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 24<sup>th</sup> November. Local Finals can be held anytime in the week 25<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### Scoring and handicapping.

Bridge NSW recognises that the relative number of pairs in each MP division may differ greatly from one Local Final to another. Clearly all pairs' prospects are directly affected (either negatively or positively) by the overall strength of the Local Final they contest. Consequently, all pairs will be given a handicap based on the average strength of their Local Final and their own MP holding. Raw and handicapped results of all Local Finals will be posted on the web. All masterpoint awards are based on non-handicapped results. You can see how this works in practice by checking out the results for the [2023 UHMP](#).

### Prizes

Most prizes will be awarded based on the handicapped results and will be awarded in each of the four divisions. Prizes will include cash, certificates and subscriptions to the online Edition of the Australian Bridge magazine.

In summary, this event is designed to offer red masterpoints (at no cost to your club) to your members who have fewer than 100 masterpoints. Eligible players are then encouraged to leave the relative safety of their home club and participate against players from nearby clubs in a Local Final. It is proposed to return most of the money received in entry fees in the form of masterpoints and prizes. Do your members a service and be a club that participates.

Warren Lazer

UHMP Tournament Organiser

[uhmp@nswba.com.au](mailto:uhmp@nswba.com.au)

# STATE <100 MASTERPOINTS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

## SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

### *The Event (Overview)*

These Championships are run in four divisions, based on the masterpoint holding of each player immediately following the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 Masterpoint Centre update. The divisions are:

Masterpoint range	% of registered active NSW players
0-9.99 MP	32%
10-24.99 MP	14%
25-49.99 MP	12%
50-99.99 MP	12%

Information about masterpoint standings at that date is available on the ABF Masterpoint Centre website [www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/default.asp](http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/default.asp). If players in different masterpoint divisions play as a pair, they are assigned into the division of the player with the greater number of masterpoints.

The UHMP Championships will have two independent stages.

- Early rounds (club sessions) will be played in affiliated clubs and scored locally.
- Local Finals are played over a single session in the week Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December at about 15 different centres scattered around NSW.

Clubs are expected to form small groups comprising 2-6 clubs, with one club in the group designated to conduct the Local Final. The intention is that there will be minimal travel times for players and no necessity for overnight accommodation. Results from all the Local Finals are matchpointed across the entire state. A handicap is then applied to each pair's score and the results published by the Tournament Organiser.

### *Eligibility*

Both members of the partnership must have earned fewer than 100 masterpoints immediately following the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2024 ABF Masterpoint Centre update.

Every participating pair will be automatically entered into the appropriate division - that of the player with the greater number of masterpoints.

There is no limit to the number of club sessions a player may enter.

Players do not need to be club members.

There is no requirement to have played in a club session before entering a Local Final.

No substitutes are allowed at any stage of the competition.

### *Club Qualifying Events*

These are to be held between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2024.

Each club may hold a maximum of 6 UHMP club sessions.

Sessions may be held face-to-face or online.

### *Registration*

Club sessions: Enter via the online form at [www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mp.asp](http://www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mp.asp)

Local Final: Apply to host a Local Final by completing the online form at [www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mpfinal.asp](http://www.nswba.com.au/forms/under100mpfinal.asp).

# STATE <100 MASTERPOINTS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

## *Format of Club Sessions*

All club sessions are to be single sessions using standard matchpoint scoring and Mitchell or Howell movements. Note that masterpoint awards will be reduced if fewer than 24 boards are played.

Club sessions are integrated or stratified; *i.e.* participating pairs in all four masterpoint divisions and non-contending pairs are all mixed in together. Players may attempt to maximise the number of red B4s masterpoints earned by playing in multiple club sessions. The \$5.00 per pair entry fee is payable for each such session contested.

Directors should be qualified at Club level or above.

## *Masterpointing of Club Sessions*

Score and masterpoint each club session as you normally do for a single session club duplicate. UHMP competitors and non-competitors are treated identically at the club level. Clubs will be invoiced by the Masterpoint Centre in the usual way for green masterpoints issued by clubs for their club sessions.

Then download and save the Word UHMP club session *pro forma* document from the UHMP website [www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=uhmp](http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=uhmp). Save the file, fill in the requested information and then send it to [uhmp@nswba.com.au](mailto:uhmp@nswba.com.au) as an email attachment.

Alternatively, copy the relevant part of the document and paste into the body of the email.

A typical club submission (for a Mitchell movement) can be found at the end of these regulations, along with hints on how to complete it accurately and quickly.

**Do not change the format of the *pro forma* file** - the table is formatted so that the information can be copied and used directly by the Tournament Organiser. **Do not convert to pdf.**

**Do not** indicate the MP division of your pairs; just show under CATEGORY whether they are competing (C) or non-competing (NC).

Pair numbers and final finishing positions are not required and the order in which the pairs are shown is not important.

The results of each club session must be in a separate table, but you may include multiple tables within a single file.

The Tournament Organiser is responsible for calculating and issuing the red masterpoints to players who are competing in the UHMP. Each competing pair is assigned to the relevant MP division as part of this process. Names and ABF numbers will be checked and then the results will be returned as pdf printouts.

## *Local Finals*

Any player with fewer than 100 masterpoints is eligible to play in a Local Final.

Full details on conducting Local Finals and submitting the results will be sent to relevant Clubs and Organisers in mid-November.

All Local Finals will play between 24 and 36 boards, playing hands supplied by the UHMP Organiser. All Local Finals must be held as face-to-face sessions; online sessions including those played on RealBridge are not permitted due to hand security concerns.

Club officials should contact officials of neighbouring affiliated clubs and discuss which clubs will host Local Finals and set its venue, date and start time. This information should be sent to the Tournament Organiser during September, so that it can be posted on the UHMP website.

No masterpoints are to be awarded by clubs for Local Finals. The event will be scored across the state and B4s masterpoints awarded based on the state-wide results.

# STATE <100 MASTERPOINTS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

## *Charges*

*Club Qualifying Events:* \$2.50 per player per session (*i.e.* \$5.00 per pair). This entry fee is to be collected by the clubs and then paid to Bridge NSW. Clubs would be expected to charge normal table money as well. An invoice will be sent sometime in December. **Please don't pay anything until you receive the invoice.** Instructions for payment will be included with the invoice.

*Local Finals:* \$4.00 per player per day (*i.e.* \$8.00 per pair). This should be incorporated into the Local Final entry fee. An invoice will be sent in December to each club hosting a Local Final. **Please don't pay anything until you receive the invoice.** Instructions for payment will be included with the invoice.

## *Masterpoints.*

Bridge NSW will pay for all the B4s masterpoints issued. All red masterpoints awarded (*i.e.* for both club sessions and local finals) will be processed by the ABF Masterpoint Centre in the December update.

## *Administration.*

The Tournament Organiser of this event (on behalf of Bridge NSW) is Warren Lazer.

All correspondence and queries should be sent to [uhmp@nswba.com.au](mailto:uhmp@nswba.com.au) or ring Warren on (02) 9744 1555 after 10.00 am.

## ***Possible Complications this Year - Read this section***

As you are probably aware, events previously run by the NSWBA (including the UHMP) are now run by Bridge NSW. As part of the restructure, the current NSWBA website will cease to operate and will be replaced by a new Bridge NSW website. The proposed date for this is mid-November, clearly very poor timing from a UHMP-perspective. It is not clear to me if the UHMP dealing files and hand records will be able to be downloaded from the new site, or indeed when the new site will start operating. I'm sure we can overcome whatever problems beset the event. Any significant changes in procedure or web addresses will be communicated to club organisers by email, so make sure you read any that I send.

I will be overseas from 25 September to 5 November, playing in the NZ Congress and then the World Bridge Games (Australian Mixed Team) in Buenos Aires. During these dates, I will respond to emails as best I can, but I will probably not process any club sessions until my return.

**DO NOT RING between 25 September and 5 November – email only between those dates.**

# STATE <100 MASTERPOINTS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

## Example of submission of club session results

Club Name:  Club number:

Number of boards played in session:  Date played:

**Give the names and ABF numbers of ALL players.**

**Category indicates whether or not the pair has entered the UHMP (C = competing, NC = non competing).**

**Competing pairs have paid the \$4 entry fee and are eligible to win red MPs.**

PLAYER 1	ABF NO 1	PLAYER 2	ABF NO 2	CATEGORY*	SCORE %
BROWN, Fred	35762	BROWN, Joan	539426	NC	62.28
BLACK, Olive	579216	BLACK, Berri	3695	C	58.58
WHITE, Jeff	32164	WHITE, Janice	654987	C	56.56
GREEN, Peter	497628	GREEN, Petra	21326	C	55.72
SILVER, Vicki	238654	SILVER, Vivienne	194685	NC	54.04
SCARLET, Amelia	25168	SCARLET, Adam	3265	C	47.64
PLUM, Harvey	16749	PLUM, Henrietta	22344	C	46.46
GREY, Quentin	68597	GREY, Zelda	216584	C	45.79
GOLD, Nathaniel	331467	GOLD, Naomi	98257	NC	39.05
MUSTARD, Terence	236456	MUSTARD, Theresa	798571	C	33.83
SMITH, Jenny	467852	SMITH, Joseph	86924	C	62.22
BUTCHER, Kelvin	316497	BUTCHER, Kerry	25845	NC	55
BAKER, Lionel	164697	BAKER, Linda	556492	C	55
FISHER, Mark	346972	FISHER, Maria	2685	C	54.07
FARMER, Ralph	216233	FARMER, Rowena	468759	C	53.51
TAILOR, Jemima	833769	TAILOR, Jack	216445	C	49.62
ARCHER, Barry	231132	ARCHER, Beatrice	963852	NC	49.44
COOK, Daniel	123654	COOK, Daphne	77996	C	47.96
COOPER, Edward	16822	COOPER, Enid	164775	C	37.4
FLETCHER, Geraldine	31628	FLETCHER, Gary	176958	C	35.74

\* Choose from C (competing) or NC (non-competing)

If using CompScore2, this information can be extracted easily from the web export csv file: if using an Altosoft web site, this csv file will have the session name preceded by a "-1" as its file name and will be found in either c:\Compscore2\Web or c:\Compscore2\Web\Archive. If not using an Altosoft web site, you can temporarily change to Altosoft using Setup | Web Preferences, open the session, make the web export file from the Reports and Web tab, then change your web export method back to what it was. Open the csv file using Excel. The info needed begins in cells E4, K4, F4, L4, and H4 (approx). Copy and paste each relevant column into the pro forma Word document. You may need to highlight exactly the same number of cells in the pro forma document to get it to paste the information correctly.