

Masterpoint Formula

Proposed Revisions

Masterpoint Committee Presentation

Principles

01 Stronger events award more

02 Larger events award more

03 Events are masterpointed independently

04 Similar events award similar points

05 Majority of awards increase or stay the same

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

What We Are NOT Messing With [at least for now]

- No significant software changes needed

- No changes in award pigmentation

- No changes to club games

- No changes to K/O formulas

- No changes to session/section awards or match awards

General Formula

$$\text{1st place} = Z(\text{BRSMPFT})$$

B

Table count

R

Event / tournament rating

S

Length of event in sessions (# of boards factor)

M

Strength of field within the event

P

Non-masterpoint restrictions for participation

F

Event location (face-to-face / online)

T

Event type

Z

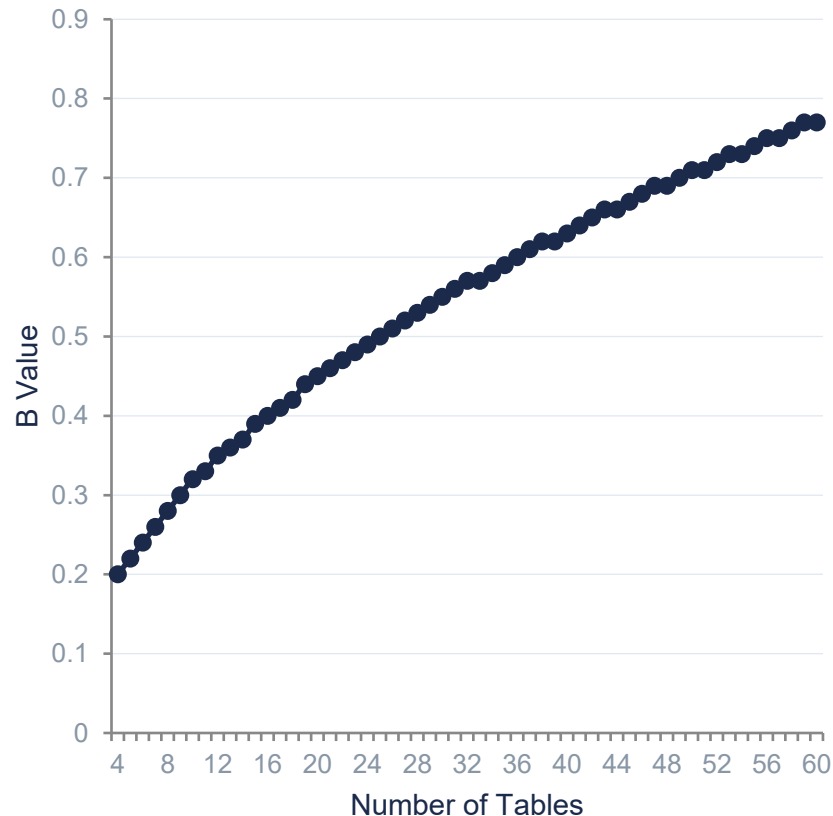
Smoothing function as events get large and awards approach the MP cap

B Factor — Event Size

$$B = 0.1 \times \sqrt{n\text{Tables}}$$

Net effect:

Doubling the event size increases the award by approximately 40%



R Factor — Event Rating

Event Type	R Value
STaCs	7.5
Local Sectionals	7.5
Fund games at Local Sectionals	10.0
Open Sectionals	10.0
Fund games at Open Sectionals	12.5
Regionals	12.5
Regional Events at NABCs	12.5

S Factor — Event Length

The S factor represents the number of sessions and is determined by a linear piecewise function based on the number of boards. Exact formulas are in the tech notes.

# Sessions	S Factor
1	1.0
2	1.75
3	2.0
4	2.5

S Factor — Event Length

The actual S factor is determined based on the number of boards played, and the upper MP limit of the event:

Event	nBoards	S factor
Open	24-28	1.0
Gold Rush	21-28	
299er	18-28	
Open	48-56	1.75
Gold Rush	42-56	
299er	36-56	

- Events shorter than 1 session have an S factor <1.
- Events with an oddball number of boards have an interpolated S value, e.g. for 36 boards, in an open event, $S=1.3$

S Factor — Exact formula

DEFINITIONS:

Let **B** = nBoards played

Q=24 if open event or
MPLimit > 750

Q= 21 if
300 < MPLimit <= 750

Q=18 if
MPLimit <= 300

nBoards (B)	S factor value	Example S values
$B < Q$	B/Q	If B=18: S=0.75 if open, S=0.86 if Gold rush S=1.0 if 299er
$Q \leq B \leq 28$	1.0	“one session”
$28 \leq B \leq 2Q$	$1 + [(B-28)/(2Q-28)] \cdot 0.75$	B=36 → S=1.3 (Open game)
$2Q \leq B \leq 54$	1.75	“two sessions”
$54 \leq B \leq 72$	$1.75 + [(B-54)/72]$	B=64 → S=1.89
$72 \leq B \leq 81$	2.0	“three sessions”
$81 \leq B \leq 96$	$2 + [(B-81)/30]$	
$B \geq 96$	2.5	“four plus sessions”

Strength of Field

For the purposes of this proposal, the "strength of field" is defined as the average masterpoint holding of all players actually in the event, as given by the "SHOW" command in ACBLscore. It does not include any tables in lower events.

While this might seem to result in lower awards for events that used to get credit for other tables, we compensate for this by increasing the award for stronger events. The net effect is a mild increase in awards.

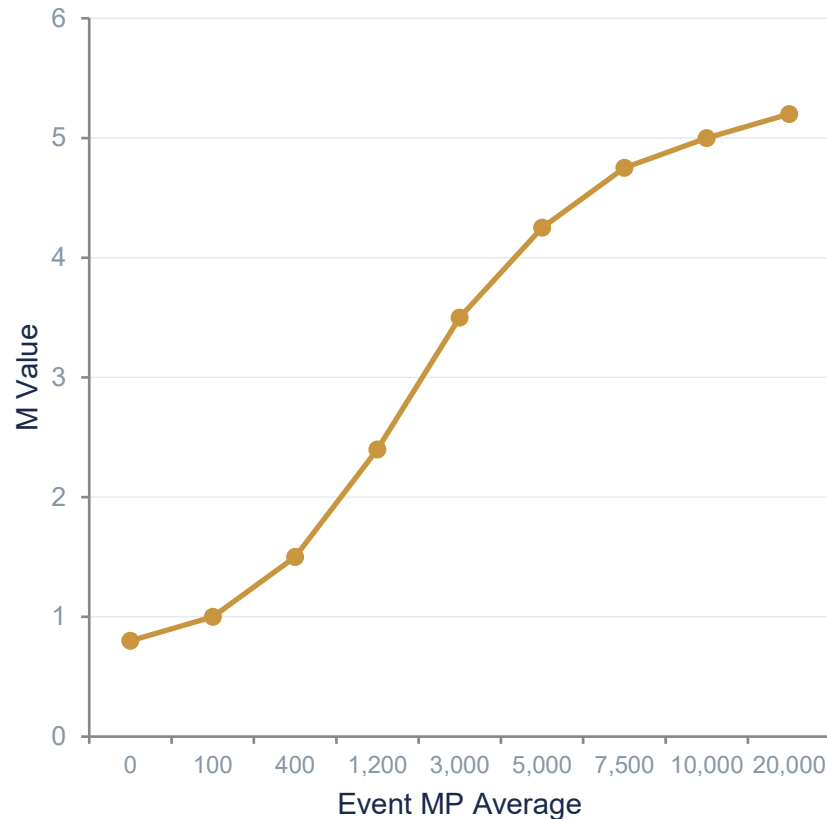
If an event is stratified, these formulae are applied to each stratum, counting the number of tables eligible for that stratum, and their MP average.

M Factor — Strength of Field

The M factor represents the effect of strength of field on the MP award. M is a linear piecewise function with the following endpoints:

Event MP Average	M Value
0	0.8
100	1.0
400	1.5
1,200	2.4
3,000	3.5
5,000	4.25
7,500	4.75
10,000	5.0
20,000	5.2

If the MP average falls between the above values, M is a linear interpolation.



P and F Factors

P Factor

Represents event restrictions.

P = 0.8 if restricted in any way other than masterpoints (invitational, gender, age, partnership type, etc.)

P = 0.8 if on a cruise ship or "bridge camp" that does not accept walk-ins

P = 1.0 if the event is unrestricted

F Factor

Represents a decrease in awards for online tournaments.

F = 0.8 if the event is fully or partially online.

F = 1.0 otherwise

T Factor — Event Type

T represents the type of game. Most T factors will be 1 or close to 1.

Event Type	T Value
BAM events	1.0
Swiss teams / pairs / round robin / bracketed teams	1.0
Individuals	1.0
Other games	1.0

Award Caps and the Z Function

Events have a masterpoint "cap" for very large games.

Example: a 2-session regional is capped at 50 mpts

- **The Z function acts as an effective award "cap" for all events**
- Awards not near the cap: effect is minimal
- As the award approaches the cap, the value asymptotically approaches the cap
- Bigger events will always pay more, but the effect is diminished as the cap is approached
- The cap is never exceeded

Formulas for cap and Z factor are in the tech notes.

Examples

2025 Regional 2-Session Open Pair Events — with Midflight and Gold Rush

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Gatlinburg	18	8,663	36.0	39.8
Huntsville	8	7,453	26.7	28.5
Boca Raton	14	5,707	32.1	33.9
Chantilly	15	7,195	30.2	36.5

The top flight of three has always given a large award. The new awards will be similar.

2025 Regional Open Pair Events — With Gold Rush Only

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
San Diego	28	8,331	32.3	44.2
Champaign	13	5,990	21.4	33.2
Greenville	14	7,872	22.8	36.2
Allen	16	4,471	24.1	33.5

When there are only two flights, the open flight has traditionally not paid as well as 3-flight events with the same players. The new formulae fix this problem.

2025 Regional Stand-Alone 2-Session Open Pair Events

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Greenville	17	5,789	11.8	36.5
Edmond	8	3,953	7.4	23.6
Barrie	23	2,730	14.0	33.2
Anchorage	11.5	1,896	9.2	20.8
Independence	21	3,253	13.6	34.0
Long Beach	7.5	9,172	7.9	28.6

Stand-alone events have traditionally underpaid compared to stratiflighted events. A strong single-flight event will see a large increase, especially stronger events.

2025 Sectional Open 1-Session Pair Events

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Mansfield	15	4,149	7.6	15.1
Michigan City	9	2,280	6.2	9.2
Highlands	12	3,212	6.4	12.4
Raleigh	21	3,702	8.2	17.0
Charlotte	18.5	5,847	9.2	18.7
Wilmington	15.5	2,200	9.6	14.8

Sectional awards are increased to encourage club players to support sectionals, removing the argument that they "get more points at their club."

2025 Local Sectionals and STaCs

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Cincinnati	11	3,003	6.0	8.7
Fresno	9	1,952	4.3	6.4
Athens	11.5	1,444	5.0	6.5
Buffalo	13.5	3,046	5.5	9.7
Helena	13.5	1,441	5.5	7.0
Buffalo	9	2,259	4.3	6.8

Local sectionals also get a boost to distinguish them as tournaments.

2025 Regional Midflight Events

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Gatlinburg	25	1,401	24.6	27.0
Rehoboth	13	1,129	18.7	18.2
Monterey	23	1,388	23.6	25.9
Rancho Mirage	19	1,278	22.6	23.1
Coral Springs	17.5	1,648	22.7	24.1
Huntsville	11.5	1,180	18.3	17.6

Using the current formulas, Midflight events have an artificially inflated award. The new formula brings these events in line -- Midflight awards are mostly unchanged.

2025 Regional Gold Rush Events

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Gatlinburg	27	258	8.5	14.3
Toronto	14.5	285	5.5	10.9
Huntsville	24	215	7.3	12.8
Hilton Head	23	302	7.6	14.0
Seaside	18.5	340	6.2	13.2
Nashville	5.5	325	3.7	7.1

Gold rush awards are often pretty small, making it too difficult for lower level players to feel adequately rewarded. These awards have been raised across the board.

2025 Regional 299er Events

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Omaha	6	180	1.6	2.8
Williamsburg	4	149	1.4	2.2
Camp Hill	7.5	176	1.9	3.1
Summerland	3	90	1.3	1.7
Memphis	6.5	167	1.8	2.8
Macon	4	127	1.4	2.1

The new formulas work well for 299er events as well.

2025 Regional Swiss Team Events

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Gatlinburg	17	8,584	19.9	39.0
Middleton	16	5,123	16.1	34.9
Red Deer	25	3,439	20.2	36.8
Lansing	19	3,813	10.2	34.1
Omaha	12	5,013	12.9	31.0
Bentonville	22	1,913	11.2	28.3

Stratified Swiss team awards have always been puny compared to equivalent Pair games. The new rules make all Swiss teams, round robins, and bracketed events use the same rules -- a DRAMATIC change.

2025 Regional Bracketed Team Events — Top Brackets

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Denver	9	11,426	25.6	31.6
Southfield	5	7,028	20.6	22.5
Edmond	6	3,872	13.8	20.4
Fort Myers	10	20,112	32.5	33.9

The new rules make all Swiss teams, round robins, and bracketed events pay the same awards as the equivalent pair games.

2025 Regional Bracketed Team Events — Lower Brackets

The new formula is affected by the number of tables and the MP average within the event only. There is no concept of concurrent tables in the new formula at tournaments.

Event	nTables	MP Average	2025 Award	Proposed Award
Houston Brk Teams-2	9	1,881	12.6	18.4
Houston Brk Teams-3	7	1,762	10.0	15.8
Houston Brk Teams-4	9	1,161	9.4	15.4
Houston Brk Teams-5	7	608	6.4	10.0

Lower brackets of Bracketed teams will see larger awards, because they fall into Midflight and Gold Rush masterpoint ranges.