

CONGRESSES AND OTHER EVENTS **FEBRUARY 2012**

Name of Event	Code	Club	Points	Mth/Yr
Qld Senior Teams	4SE	4-501	Red	Feb/12
SA Daytime Teams	5DT	5-700	Red	Feb/12
SA Singles	5SG	5-700	Red	Feb/12
NT Board-A-Match	8BM	8-901	Red	Feb/12
NT Individual	8IN	8-901	Red	Dec/11
GNP Final correction	9KP	9-922	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival Life Teams correction	9S3	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival Open Swiss Pairs correction	9SB	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival Blue Ribbon Swiss Pairs	9SE	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival SWPT	9SP	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival Flighted Swiss Pairs	9SS	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival NOT Finals	9ST	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Summer Festival Mixed Teams	9SX	9-913	Gold	Jan/12
Arana Teams	ACT	4-503	Red	Feb/12
GNOT Ballarat Heat	BLG	3-309	Gold	???
GNP Ballarat Heat	BLN	3-309	Gold	???
GNOT Caloundra Heat	CAF	4-592	Gold	Feb/12
GNOT Caboolture Heat	CZG	4-515	Gold	Feb/12
Inverell Pairs	DEP	2-060	Red	Feb/12
Double Bay Pairs	DOS	2-061	Red	Feb/12
Double Bay Teams	DOT	2-061	Red	Feb/12
Great Lakes Teams	GKT	2-081	Red	Feb/12
SABA Swiss Pairs Congress	IIC	5-701	Red	Feb/12
Nedlands Birthday Congress	NEB	6-785	Red	Feb/12
Nedlands October Congress correction	NEO	6-785	Red	Oct/11
GNOT Paynesville Heat	PYG	3-435	Gold	Feb/12
Rockingham Congress	RMC	6-784	Red	Feb/12
GNP QCBC Heat	RQG	4-555	Gold	Feb/12
Social Bridge Port Stephens Holiday	SRP	2-242	Red	Feb/12
Social Bridge Thredbo Holiday	SRT	2-242	Red	Jan/12
GNP Toowong Heat	TGE	4-572	Gold	Feb/12
Toowong Pairs	TGP	4-572	Red	Feb/12
Townsville Australia Day Congress	TNA	4-690	Red	Jan/12
Tricks and Trumps Congress Pairs	TPA	3-473	Red	Feb/12
Trumps Summer Teams	TST	2-259	Red	Feb/12
GNP WABC Heat	WAP	6-795	Gold	???
Warwick Swiss Pairs	WKS	4-696	Red	Feb/12
GNOT Henty Region	ZGY	9-914	Gold	???
GNP North Coast Region	ZJB	2-227	Gold	???
GNP Henty Region	ZJY	9-922	Gold	???

TOTAL: 40 Club Membership Total=34,622 (corresponding total last year: N/A)
 By State: ACT=851; NSW=13968; VIC=5196; QLD=7651; SA=1694; WA=4306; TAS=804; NT=179



NEWSLETTER

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THE NEW SYSTEM

Well, the new system has now been running for a couple of months, and the vast majority of feedback has been positive, and very encouraging. We have now just completed the first end of February update, with no apparent problems encountered. There was a minor glitch during the month, when some registration cards were sent out with your correct masterpoint awards showing but your rank was 'Nil Master', regardless of what your awards were. This bug has now been fixed, and when you receive your 2012 registration cards, your correct rank will be shown on that card. The 2011 'buggy' cards will not be re-issued.

ANNUAL CANCELLATIONS

The Home Membership Cancellations forms were all emailed (or mailed) to you in early February. Unless you are one of the 9 clubs without an email contact, I cannot stress enough, that these forms are for your own internal use (if you wish). The Centre does not want them back! Instead, you should simply log on to the website, and via the **Player Cancellations** option, under the **Clubs Only** section, you should enter your cancellations directly. There is no need to return the form to the Centre, you can do it all online now.

At the end of February, we have had clubs already mark for cancellation 661 of their home club members. These players will remain as marked for cancellation until the March 31st update, when these home club members will be cancelled. REMEMBER, you must have entered your cancellations prior to the March 31st update, if you want any of your home club members cancelled. Otherwise you will be invoiced for members who are no longer a member of your club, and thereby incur unwanted expenses. This cannot be reversed, and your club will have to pay. So make sure you have your cancellations all sorted before the end of March.

FACTS & FIGURES

In our second month of operation with the new system we processed 383 batches (vs. 335 in January). Which consisted of 343 (vs. 300) batches submitted by clubs, and 40 (vs. 35) events submitted by State Masterpoint Secretaries, the Gold Point Coordinator or the Centre itself. We also had 259 (vs. 273) new players registered in the month, 159 (vs. 130) players activated, 208 (vs. 179) players transferred from one club to another and unfortunately 48 (vs. 45) players were deleted.

At the end of February we had 337 (vs. 335) registered ABF clubs across Australia. We have now had 283 (84%) of clubs log onto the website, up from 251 (75%) in January.

We also now have 328 of our clubs with an email contact, so only 9 clubs remain using the old paper system.

UNPAID INVOICES

The new online unpaid invoices feature seems to be a popular hit with the clubs, with nearly all clubs now being financial with the Centre. Clubs also seem to be paying their outstanding invoices more promptly as well.

Maybe the Club Masterpoint Secretaries are pestering their Treasurers to settle their accounts, as they see the outstanding amount each time they log on to the system!

Remember you have up to 90 days to pay any invoice before a late fee may be applied.

For those few clubs that have outstanding fees well past the 90 days, you **must** be financial before the March 31st update, otherwise **ALL** your home club members may not be renewed in that update, but **cancelled** instead!

So, if you do not want a lot of unhappy members, you need to become financial with the Centre in the next few weeks.

SEMINAR PRESENTATION

After the successful hosting of two presentations by the developer (Peter Busch) on the new system during the Summer Festival, there was an even bigger and better session held during the Gold Coast Congress.

The room was 'packed to the rafters', and we had to order up more chairs! Some Club Masterpoint Secretaries travelling down from Brisbane just for the presentation. Hope it was worth the trip, and that all attendees went away wiser and happier.

DUPLICATES

In January we ended up with 9 confirmed duplication of existing ABF registered players by various clubs. In February, unfortunately, this increased to 17 confirmed duplicates, and 1 possible (still to be confirmed).

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL
AND ALWAYS CHECK!**

EMERALD GRAND MASTER

Bobby Richman is not so lonely these days!

Congratulations to **Pauline Gumby** who has now joined Bobby Richman as an Emerald Grand Master with more than 10,000 masterpoints.

Pauline is the first woman, and the second ever Australian to achieve this master rank of Emerald Grand Master. In the just completed February update, Pauline was promoted from Gold Grand to Emerald Grand Master with 10,019.21 masterpoints in total.

What an achievement, and well done!!!

FEE INCREASE FOR 2012

Don't forget, there will be a small increase in masterpoint levies as at 1st April 2012. The increase is shown in the following table, with all figures inclusive of GST.

Masterpoint Levies	2011	2012
Grades A3, B3, B4, B5	\$1.76	\$1.85
Grades C, D, E, F	\$1.65	\$1.75
Grades B4c, B4s, B5i	\$1.35	\$1.40
Grades A, A2, B	\$1.16	\$1.20

If you do not want to be charged at the higher rate, you will need to make sure you get all your awards to the Centre in time for the March 31st update.

If you submit your first quarter awards after that date, they will be charged at the higher rates.

CLUB REPORTS

If your club has a registered email address, your normal monthly Congress Report (the old pink report), the Rank Promotions Report (the old blue report) and this Newsletter will all be emailed to you.

These are the only monthly reports you can expect to receive if any of your home club members played in any congresses etc, or achieved a new Master Rank in the last monthly update.

Other reports like your Club Ranking Report, Intra-Club Report, Club Invoices (red and green club points, and player activities) etc, will be emailed to you each quarter. All just like before.

Your quarterly statement will also still be sent on a quarterly basis.

But things like Registration Cards and Promotion Certificates will be posted to you, as they are printed on special paper. For those handful of clubs without an email contact, don't worry, all your reports will still be mailed to you at the postal address we have on file for your club.

SUBMITTING AWARDS

When you are submitting your club B4c or B5i red points to the Centre, just like before for those participating states and territories, you **must** include your Authorisation Number(s) (AN) to cover the total amount of red points you want processed. If there is no AN supplied, or the AN supplied is insufficient to cover the awards submitted, then your batch cannot be processed.

If your batch is submitted late in the month, this may cause your batch to miss the monthly update.

Remember, you can only upload a valid **masterpoint** file. I have seen some clubs are still trying to upload .txt, .htm, .dat, .com, and even some files without any extension at all! Whilst you are now able to name your files whatever you like, you **MUST** use only a valid masterpoint file extension (mp1, mp2, mp3, mp4, mp5, grn, red, gld, rag, gar), and the file must be a valid masterpoint file, with the correct file structure.

MONTHLY UPDATE

VERY IMPORTANT: The next monthly update deadline is **midnight on the 31st March 2012.**

It is your last chance to have your annual cancellations submitted for 2012. There is nothing that can be done if you miss this deadline, so make sure you have your awards, memberships and cancellations all submitted in time for the update.

All your members 2012 registration cards will be mailed to your club in early April.