

Masterpoint and Events Structure Motions

Discussion for items:

142-113	Stratiflighted Events
142-114	Unrestricted Events
142-115	Depth of Awards
142-116	M Factor
142-117	T Factor
142-118	R Factor
142-119	KO Awards

The above-listed motions are each a part of an overarching rework of the Masterpoint Book structure. When the Masterpoint and Events Structure working group originally convened in September of 2013 several key issues were identified and this set of motions is designed as a comprehensive and cohesive solution to those issues.

- The Committee felt that players between 751 – 2,000 masterpoints have become disenfranchised in the current Flight A/X over a Gold Rush structure. They are no longer eligible to participate in Gold Rush events, and many of them do not yet feel that they are competitive in the top A/X Flight of events. **Motion 142-113 Stratiflighted Events** creates two different event structures. The first event structure creates a third stratum in the flight above the Gold Rush allowing points to be awarded not just in the “A” or “X”, but also in a third lower stratum below what is currently “X” and above the Gold Rush. The second event structure creates a three flight event with each flight having two stratums. The top flight would be very similar to the “A/X” as it currently exists but this motion creates the option for a new middle flight designated specifically for this group of players that have graduated from the Gold Rush. This structure works better at larger Regionals and the three NABCs.
- The Committee felt strongly that in an age of very large Gold Rush Pairs events, with a comparatively small Flight A/X, counting all of the subordinate tables toward the masterpoint award for A and artificially protecting the 105% “X” award no longer accurately reflected the difficulty of winning these events. More and more often this inequity in size is resulting in both an outsized “A” and “X” award. **Motion 142-114 Unrestricted Events** changes the way in which tables are calculated for these top flight events and eliminates all issues associated with counting subordinate tables. This now prevents the masterpoint windfall in a small “A” field with a large Gold Rush.
- **Motion 142-115 Depth of Awards** increases the number of overall places awarded. The current formula prevents overall awards for amounts fewer than approximately two masterpoints. This motion would increase the number of overall places paid out for pair games with more than 10 tables and Swiss/BAM teams with more than 19 tables. This motion is specifically aimed for Gold Rush Pairs events where too few overall places are paid compared to the size of the field.

- **Motions 142-116 M Factor; 142-117 T Factor and 142-118 R Factor** address the areas of the masterpoint formula which the Committee found in need of updating. In recognition of average masterpoint totals increasing, the M-Factor which lessens awards based on the masterpoint limitations in an event would now reach its maximum value at 8,000 masterpoints instead of 6,136. The increase of the T-factor for pair events would more closely reflect the degree of difficulty in winning an event with twice the number of entrants compared to a team game of the same size. The changes to the R-Factor are primarily designed to differentiate between events held at Sectional Tournaments as compared to “sectionally-rated” events held at clubs. This creates a premium on events held at an actual Sectional Tournament where the competition rates to be more difficult and is under the supervision of ACBL Tournament Directors.
- The final motion in this suite of motions (**Motion 142-119 KO Awards**) adjusts some of the inequalities in knock-out awards between four-session and three-session KOs. It also improves the accuracy of the “KO Reduction Factor” for large KO brackets. The Committee felt strongly that the inequality between three- and four-session KOs was the driving force behind the decline of KO events at Sectionals and small Regional tournaments.