

## CHAPTER I – MEMBERSHIP OPERATING GUIDELINES

Chapter 1 (Section A. Membership) moved to Part 1 Governance.

### B. RANKINGS, MASTERPOINTS AND RACES

#### Section 1 – Rankings

- 1.1 Requirement to achieve Life Master for members who were members of ACBL as of December 31, 2009 and maintain continuous membership in the ACBL until they achieve Life Master:

Rank	Min Pts	Min Gold or Platinum	Min Red/Gold/Platinum	Min Silver	Min Black	Max Black
Junior Master	5	0	0	0	0	5
Club Master	20	0	0	0	0	20
Sectional Master	50	0	0	5	0	45
Regional Master	100	0	5	15	0	80
NABC Master	200	5	15	25	0	155
Life Master	300	25	25	50	50	200

- 1.2 Requirements and rankings for members who join or rejoin January 1, 2010 or later (they do not apply to those who were members before January 1, 2010 and maintain their membership continuously):

Rank	Min Pts	Min Gold or Platinum	Min Red/Gold/Platinum	Min Silver	Min Black	Max Black
Junior Master	5	0	0	0	0	5
Club Master	20	0	0	0	5	20
Sectional Master	50	0	0	5	10	45
Regional Master	100	0	5	15	15	80
NABC Master	200	5	15	25	20	155
Advanced NABC Master	300	25	25	50	50	200
Life Master	500	50	50	75	75	325

**Lapsed Member Life Master Requirements.** Any member who originally joined the ACBL prior to January 1, 2010 and whose membership has lapsed may have the Life Master rank requirements existing for members who joined prior to January 1, 2010 applied to them if (a) their membership was reinstated prior to July 1, 2018 or (b) if reinstated on or after July 1, 2018, upon payment of a one-time fee of \$50 to the ACBL.

- 1.3 Additional Life Master designations shall be established and will be available only to players who have achieved the rank of Life Master. The designations and rank advancement requirements shall be as follows:
- 1.3.1 Bronze Life Master: Life Master with memberships prior to January 1, 2010 with 500 masterpoints. Life Master with memberships beginning after January 1, 2010 with 750 masterpoints.
  - 1.3.2 Silver Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 1000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 200 silver, red, gold, or platinum points.
  - 1.3.3 Ruby Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 1500 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 300 silver, red, gold, or platinum points.
  - 1.3.4 Gold Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 2500 masterpoints including (b) no fewer than a combination of 500 silver, red, gold, or platinum points.
  - 1.3.5 Sapphire Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 3500 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 350 gold or platinum points and (c) no fewer than a combination of 700 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
  - 1.3.6 Diamond Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 5000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 500 gold or platinum points and (c) no fewer than a combination of 1000 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
  - 1.3.7 Emerald Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 7500 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 750 gold or platinum points and (c) no fewer than a combination of 1500 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
  - 1.3.8 Platinum Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 10 000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than 100 platinum points, (c) no fewer than a combination of 1000 gold or platinum points, and (d) no fewer than a combination of 2000 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
  - 1.3.9 Grand Life Master\*: A Life Master with (a) over 10 000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than 100 platinum points, (c) no fewer than a combination of 1000 gold or platinum points, and (d) no fewer than a combination of 2000 silver, red, gold or platinum points.

- 1.4 Subsection 1.3 applies to all players who attained Life Master after 1989. These changes will not cause any player to lose the rank which he or she has obtained as of December 31, 2011. In addition, each player who has obtained the rank of Life Master or higher as of December 31, 2011 will not have to fulfill the new 2012 rank advancement requirements to obtain the next higher rank advancement. In addition, any new ranks added by the 2015 rank motion below the next higher rank advancement mentioned in the preceding sentence are exempt from all pigmented point requirements. However, all players will be required to fulfill the new 2012 rank advancement requirements for any further rank advancements beyond the first advancement (past a rank existing as of 2012) achieved after January 1, 2012. Nothing in subsections 1.3 and 1.4 shall be construed to cause a member to lose any ranks previously granted.

Example: A current Silver Life Master on December 31, 2011 would retain the current requirements for Gold Life Master, would not have any pigmented requirements for Ruby Life Master, but would need to fulfill the new requirements for Sapphire and Diamond Life Master.

- 1.5 Players who attained Life Master status prior to 1990 are only required to earn masterpoints of any color and/or online points to achieve the ranks beyond Life Master.
- 1.6 \*Grand Life Master Qualification:
- 1.6.1 Win a North American Bridge Championship with no upper masterpoint restriction (other than the Super Senior Pairs, the Wagar Women's KO won after 2013, and the Machlin Women's Swiss Teams won after 2013) or an Open Team Trials (includes CNTC) or its equivalent or a Women's Team Trials (included CWTC) or its equivalent or any of the following WBF events: Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Rosenblum Cup, McConnell Cub, Open Pairs, Women's Pairs, Olympiad, Women's Team Olympiad, WBF Mixed Pairs, WBF Senior Pairs, WBF World Swiss Teams, WBF World Mixed Teams, or WBF Senior Teams.
- 1.6.2 A player who has been Expelled or Suspended for a total of 120 days or more for CDR Ethical Violations, as described in Appendix B of the ACBL CDR, will be considered ineligible to be awarded the rank of Grand Life Master, even if the other requirements are satisfied. The total days can be the result of one or multiple ethics infractions.

- 1.6.3 If such a player has redeemed himself sufficiently, through substantial contributions to the bridge community and the demonstration of exemplary behavior, that player may apply for reconsideration by the Appeals and Charges Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors. This application cannot occur earlier than five years after completion of sentence. Additional provisions for award qualification shall be at the discretion of the ACBL Board of Directors.

See Appendix 1-B1 *Masterpoint Ranks* and Appendix 1-B2 *Life Master Rank and Regulations*. See also Appendix 1-C *Lapsed Member Life Master Requirements*.

## 1.7 Golden Age Master

- 1.7.1 Any member who has 300 or more masterpoints at age 70 or any member with at least 100 masterpoints at age 80 may, upon application, receive a certificate from the ACBL designating him/her as a Golden Age Master.

## **Section 2 – Masterpoints**

- 2.1 All bona fide rating points shall be recorded without regard to the date of issue.

### 2.2 Black Points

- 2.2.1 Masterpoints won at club games, Unit Championships, unrestricted events and not similarly restricted events held at restricted Regionals and Sectionals.

### 2.3 Silver Points

- 2.3.1 Masterpoints won at Sectional tournaments, STaCs, and Progressive Sectionals.

### 2.4 Red Points

- 2.4.1 Masterpoints won at Regionals, Grand National Team and North American Pairs events, Regional and NABC+ events with an upper limit of less than 750 masterpoints.

### 2.5 Gold Points

- 2.5.1 Masterpoints won at NABC+ events with an upper masterpoint limit of 750 or higher, overall and section top awards for all two or more session Regional-rated events with an upper limit of not less than 750 masterpoints.

## 2.6 Platinum Points

2.6.1. Masterpoints earned in National-rated events held at NABCs which have no upper masterpoint limit shall be platinum points.

2.6.2 National-rated events with an upper masterpoint limit of 10,000 will receive 10% platinum points for overall awards only.

## 2.3 Online Points

2.3.1 All masterpoints earned in online play will have no pigmentation.

## **Section 3 – Masterpoint Races**

### 3.1 Player Masterpoint Races

The following races will be determined by pigmented masterpoints won in ACBL-sanctioned events sponsored by the ACBL or its Districts, Units and clubs and any ACBL Regional tournament or National Championship (Trials) event sanctioned to, and conducted by, a World Bridge Federation (WBF) Zone 2 National Bridge Organization (“NBO”). For the purposes of all ACBL masterpoint races, masterpoints won in an event are credited to the total for the year in which that event began, regardless of the tournament sanction number. The masterpoints won in the overalls of a side game series are credited to the total for the year in which that series began. This applies to events that end no later than January 10. Otherwise, masterpoints are awarded in the year which the event concludes.

#### 3.1.1 Barry Crane Top 500

3.1.1.1 As a memorial to Barry Crane, the top 500 shall be called the Barry Crane Top 500.

3.1.1.2 Points won at Senior Regionals shall be included in the tabulation of total points earned for the Barry Crane Top 500 list.

3.1.1.3 The ACBL website, which lists the all-time masterpoint holders, shall include the names of the deceased players interspersed within the numbered list. A parenthesis will be used to denote the deceased, and there will be a note that the deceased list includes all members whose masterpoints are able to be determined.

### 3.1.2 Mini-McKenney and Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs

- 3.1.2.1 Certificates will be awarded, and medallions may be purchased by Units, on an annual basis for winners in the various masterpoint rank categories and categories of Life Master (Bronze, Silver, Gold Life Master, etc.) for the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs and the Mini-McKenney races.
- 3.1.2.2 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney eligibility at all levels (overall placements and Unit placements) will be determined by the player's total masterpoint holding at the start of the year, not the designated rank.
- 3.1.2.3 All sanctioned games held at clubs, with the sole exception of STaCs, are to be counted in the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Races at Unit, District and ACBL-wide levels.
- 3.1.2.4 To be eligible for an award in a Unit Mini-McKenney and a Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs race, a player must be a member of that Unit for more than six months during the year and need not be a member on the last day of the year. This does not apply to those who have been ACBL members fewer than six months.

### 3.1.3 Youth

- 3.1.3.1 The ACBL will track masterpoints of all Youth members through the age of 19. To be eligible for a given year's contest, the member must not have reached his 20th birthday as of December 31 of the preceding year.

### 3.1.4 Juniors

- 3.1.4.1 The ACBL will track masterpoints of all Junior members through the age of 25. To be eligible for a given year's contest, the member must not have reached his 26th birthday as of December 31 of the preceding year.

### 3.1.5 Seniors

- 3.1.5.1 The annual Senior masterpoint race will be determined by points won in Regional-rated or higher Senior events, excluding events that are played on the Internet, for which any portion of the masterpoint award is red, gold and/or platinum.

### 3.1.6 Championship Player of the Year

3.1.6.1 The winner of the most masterpoints earned at NABCs while playing in unlimited National-rated events, including the NAP Flight A and in the GNT Championship Flight.

### 3.1.7 Sectional Player of the Year

3.1.7.1 The winner of the most points won while playing at Sectional tournaments.

### 3.1.8 Player of the Year

3.1.8.1 The winner of the most platinum masterpoints earned during the preceding calendar year.

### 3.1.9 Player of the Decade

3.1.9.1 The winner of the most platinum masterpoints earned during the preceding 10 calendar years, beginning with the last year of the immediately preceding decade ending in a “0” and ending 10 years later with the calendar year ending with a “9”, such as 2000- 2009.

### 3.1.10 Annual Top 25

The leaders of these categories shall be published periodically in the Bridge Bulletin in rotation with the publication of the leaders of other masterpoint races. On all printed lifetime masterpoint lists, online masterpoints will be included next to the total. Online masterpoints only count in the online race.

3.1.10.1 Beginning the year with 500 - 1000 points.

3.1.10.2 Beginning the year with 1000 - 2500 points.

3.1.10.3 Beginning the year with 2500 - 5000points.

3.1.10.4 Beginning the year with 5000 - 7500 points.

3.1.10.5 Beginning the year with 7500 - 10,000 points.

3.1.10.6 Beginning the year with 10,000+ points.

## 3.2 Online Player of the Year

3.2.1 The winner of the most points won while playing in online club games.