

Hi Everyone

At our recent Regional meeting the issue came up of Clubs not issuing masterpoints on all Club sessions, whether competitive or social. It was disappointing to hear that many clubs are still not doing this, particularly on Teams night or Social sessions which are advertised in their bridge programme. Please remember you are members of an affiliated organisation and must abide by their rules and regulations.

I would like your committee to ponder the following.

If you have a 'social' bridge session of 10 tables then the Masterpoint charges paid to NZ Bridge are as follows, $40 \times .30c = \$12$. Of this $.06c$ comes back to the Regional Committee, ie \$2.40.

With this money the Regional Committee re-invests back into bridge in the region. This past year we have held the Director Training weekend, Bridge Teachers day and initiated the Junior/Intermediate Tournament League. We have also held our meetings around the regions to hear how some of our smaller clubs are going and if we can assist them in any way. We would like to continue with these initiatives on a regular basis but it is a costly exercise. No one on the Regional Committee receives a remuneration of any kind.

Besides the fees, Teams and Social events are often the first place that learners get their first 'C' points and it is not fair that they should miss out on these. Masterpoints are the equivalent of a golf handicap and when members play at an affiliated club they are entitled to receive masterpoints. As Committee members you should all be aware of Point 2, page E9 of the NZ Bridge Manual.

Bridge memberships are declining and your committee is working hard to encourage participation in the game. Please do your bit to help us all by issuing Masterpoints for all sessions held at your club.

Kind Regards

Ann-Louise Stokes
On behalf of the Regional Committee