

Understanding the Schedule and How to Win Gold Points at this Regional

(All events pay red or gold points, but gold points can only be won in two-session events.)



Are you a non-Life Master looking to win gold points? Here are all the events in this regional, listed in the order of your best chance.

GOLD PAIRS (750/300/200)

All players must have under 750 masterpoints. There are three strats - you can win gold for first place in your direction in either session, or for finishing in the top quarter of the players.

This week: There are five of these two-session events, at 1 pm and 7 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS

The directors place your team of four players in separate groups (brackets) of similar masterpoint average. You only play matches against other teams in your group. Although you pay for only one session at a time, be sure you are available for all the future sessions because each time you win you will come back for the next session. If you make it through the first two sessions, it is guaranteed you will win gold points. All matches are either head-to-head, so you play the same team all session, or a round robin where you play two other teams and actually have a better (2 out of 3) chance of going on to the next round.

This Week: There are five knockout team events, all four sessions long, one starting every day Monday through Friday. On Saturday there is a two-session compact KO in which you play two teams per session.

BRACKETED FLIGHT B SWISS TEAMS (Under 2000)

This bracketed event is limited to players with under 2000 masterpoints, and then the teams are bracketed into masterpoint groups and you only compete against others with similar masterpoint totals to yours. Good chance for gold points!

This week: One two-session event on Sunday at 10 am and TBA (to be announced).

SIDE GAME SERIES (STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS)

The Side Game Series are always multi-session pairs events. There are two ways to win gold points:

1. A section top in Strat A (but to receive the gold points you must play in at least two sessions.)
2. At the completion of the event your two best individual percentage scores determine your overall position, and may win you extra gold.

This Week: This regional has three separate Side Game Series events, one in the mornings at 9 am, one in the afternoons at 1 pm and one in the evenings at 7 pm. Each event has 5 or 6 sessions and each session is a stratified pair game, with awards given for each individual session, and later for the overalls.

MID-FLIGHT PAIRS (2000/1250)

All players must have under 2000 mps. This new limited two strat event is occasionally offered as a step above the Gold Rush Pairs.

This Week: Wednesday and Thursday at 1 & 7.

FAST PAIRS (Open/2000/750)

Open and stratified. Instead of the usual seven to eight minutes allowed to play each board, boards must be completed in five minutes. Gold points for a section top in all strats plus overalls.

This Week: Traditionally held on Sundays at 10 am and 1 pm for those who want to leave early.

THREE STRAT OPEN PAIRS (Open/3000/1500)

These two-session events are only offered when a Gold Rush Pairs is scheduled. They are open and stratified.

This Week: Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 1 & 7.

A/X/Y SWISS TEAMS (Open/4000/2500)

The A/X/Y event is open and stratified. It is played at the same time as the Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams so most players will have over 2500 masterpoints.

This week: At 10 am and TBA (to be announced) on Sunday.

SINGLE SESSION EVENTS - RED POINTS ONLY

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99er STRATIFIED PAIRS (100/50/20)

All players have under 100 masterpoints. Newer players may find these friendly events the most comfortable for them with the best chance to win.

This week: There are single-session 99er Pairs every afternoon Tuesday through Saturday at 1 pm. Red points only for single-session events.

299er STRATIFIED EVENTS (300/100/50)

All players have under 300 masterpoints. I/N (Intermediate/Newcomer) players may prefer these limited events competing only against their peers.

This week: Single-session 299er Pairs on Monday evening and every morning, afternoon and evening Tuesday through Saturday at 9 am, 1 pm and 7 pm. Red points only for all these events.

STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS (Open/2500/750)

Sometimes called a "loser Swiss" this evening event mainly caters to teams which are eliminated in an afternoon bracketed KO.

This week: There are five single-session open stratified team events at 7 pm on Tuesday through Friday. There is also a Charity Swiss on Monday evening.

Note: For all stratified events, overall in the top stratum is determined by comparing all scores. Then, the scores from the A players are eliminated and a separate B ranking takes place for the remaining pairs or teams. Next, the scores from the B players are eliminated and a third ranking determines the C places.