

POINTS, POINTS, POINTS

Everybody wants to talk about points, yet there is much confusion about the subject. What kinds of points are there? Who can earn them? How are they earned? What does it all mean? Let's take a look at each.

MOVE-UP POINTS

Move-up points are earned by District Amateurs and State Amateurs only. Pros need not apply. Current F.S.A. rules require that for a District Amateur to advance to State Amateur status or a State Amateur to advance to Pro status, they must earn a minimum of 5 points in a three year period to "move up" to the next level. Move-up points are earned by placing in one of the top four places in the Main or top three places in Consolation in a District or State sanctioned tournament. Area tournaments do not earn move-up points. National tournaments award move-up points only if they are also part of the F.S.A. schedule.

Eligible tournaments award 1 move-up point to every player who finishes in the Main event and 0.5 move-up points to those who finish 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in Consolation. No move-up points are awarded for those placing in 4th place in Consolation.

Because some Amateur tournaments have such a small attendance that a person could earn a move-up point without winning a single game, the Central District has limited points to be awarded in small field tournaments. If a doubles event has less than 16 teams (or a singles event has less than 16 players) the move-up points awarded will be: 1 point for 1st in the Main, 0.5 points for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in the Main, and 0.5 points for 1st in Consolation. There are no points for 2nd, 3rd or 4th in Consolation.

Finally, let me address a frequent question regarding move-up points, i.e., "Where did my points go?" Move-up points have an expiration date. Remember back in the first paragraph of this section when I stated 5 points needed to be earned in 3 years? Let's say you earned 1 move-up point in 2010, 0.5 points in 2011 and 2 points in 2012. You would have 4.5 move-up points, but as soon as October 1, 2013 arrived, you would lose that 2010 point and your total would be reduced to 3.5 points. Instead of needing 0.5 points to move up, you now need 1.5 points. That is where your point went!

DISTRICT MASTER AND REINY POINTS

The District Masters is the end-of-season tournament pitting the top eight players in each of six divisions against each other in a round robin competition. At one time, only Pros and State Amateurs were allowed to play. Then a lifetime District Amateur and Central District President by the name of Reiny Schleier instituted a matching tournament for the top eight District Amateurs, men and ladies. From that day to this, master points for District Amateurs in the Central District have been called Reiny points in his honor. Remember, when talking to your friends outside of the Central District, use the term "District Masters points". "Reiny points" will be meaningless to them.

District Master and Reiny points are awarded to all divisions - Pro, State Am and District Am. However, they are awarded only for District tournaments. You will not receive District Master/Reiny points for a State tournament, even if it is held within the Central District.

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These points are distributed as follows:

- 1st Main – 5 points
- 2nd Main – 4 points
- 3rd Main – 3 points
- 4th Main – 2 points
- 1st Consolation – 2 points
- 2nd, 3rd and 4th Consolation – 1 point.

Points are accumulated over an entire season and the top 8 point earners in each of six divisions (Pro Men, Pro Ladies, State Am Men, State Am Ladies, District Am Men, and District Am Ladies) are invited to play in the District's season finale – The District Masters and Reiny Schleier Championships. All individual point totals are zeroed at the conclusion of this event.

LIFETIME PRO POINTS (A.K.A. HALL OF FAME POINTS)

As the name suggests, these points are awarded only to Pro players. They are awarded only for play in District tournaments and they are retained permanently. They are distributed in the same manner as are District Master points (see above). Once a player has accumulated 100 Lifetime Pro Points, they are eligible for induction into the Central District Hall of Fame in the player category.

F.S.A. TOURNAMENT POINTS

The F.S.A. also awards tournament points for Pro players in State sanctioned tournaments only. They function much the same as the Central District's Lifetime Pro Points, but the distribution is somewhat different. Most earn as follows: Main 5-4-3-2, Consolation 2-1-1-0. However, the State sponsored events (those listed in red on the F.S.A. schedules) earn: Main 8-6-5-3, Consolation 2-1-1-0. A player earning 200 of these points is eligible for induction into the F.S.A. Hall of Fame.

CENTRAL DISTRICT AND F.S.A. WEBSITES

All of the information on your points and tournament performance can be found on either the Central District's website (fsa-centraldistrict.org) or the F.S.A. website (fsa-shuffleboard.org). By viewing the data available under "Shuffler and Tournament Data" on the District website, you can see your current move-up points, current District Master/Reiny points, all District tournaments in which you placed, results for any Central District tournament by season, the current season's point standings for all players, and a host of other information. The F.S.A. website provides complete information for State tournaments. Explore them both. They can provide most of the answers to your questions about point standings and tournament results.

(11/11/13)