

How to Read Duplicate Scoring Results at the GBC (Excluding Team Games)

At the Guelph Bridge Club Matchpoint scoring is used for all games except the Team League.

MATCHPOINTS: (See ****PAIRS**** below)

“At the end of each session, each pair is awarded one ‘matchpoint’ for each pair who scored worse than them on a board and a half ‘matchpoint’ for each pair who scored equally.” (ACBL)

In the example below, on Board #1:

- NS #1 had the highest score (+110) and were awarded 4 matchpoints,
- NS #2 had the 2nd highest score (+50) and were awarded 3 matchpoints,
- NS #4 had the 3rd highest score (-50) and were awarded 2 matchpoints,
- NS #5 had the 4th highest score (-100) and were awarded 1 matchpoint, and
- NS #3 had the lowest score (-110) and were awarded 0 matchpoints.

On Board #2:

- Because Pairs #1 and #3 tied for 3rd highest score, both were awarded 1.5 matchpoints. (The computer software prints the ‘-’ symbol to indicate 0.5).

SCORE: (Column 3)

The sum of the matchpoints, over all of the boards played by each pair (Column 1), is their Score for the match.

PERCENTAGE: (Column 2)

The Percentage (Pct) is obtained by dividing the pair’s Score by the theoretical maximum score (which is the score a pair would be awarded if they had the highest score on each board and no other pair even tied them on one board).

In our example, with 25 boards played by 5 pairs, the highest matchpoint score theoretically possible is $25 \times 4 = 100$. Thus, the percentage for Pair #2 is $52.76 / 100 = 52.76\%$.

Note: The highest possible matchpoint score depends on the number of boards played per round and the number of pairs. For example, with 7 boards per round the highest score on a board is 6. If 27 boards are played, the theoretical maximum is $6 \times 27 = 162$. Each pair’s score would be divided by 162 to calculate their percentage.

EXAMPLE: SAMPLE RESULTS from ACBLscore (the scoring software)

Scores after 25 boards Average: 50.0 Section A North-South

Column

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Pair	Pct	Score	Rank	O/A	HNDCP	Total	Rank	O/A	
2	52.76	52.76	2		17.79	70.55	1	4	Tim France - Barbara Wynneck
4	54.39	54.39	1	3	15.88	70.27	2		Elizabeth McKinnon - Nancy Coates
1	50.76	50.76			12.37	63.13			Bob Ellis - Jishun Chang
5	45.14	45.14			17.97	63.11			Sharron Valeriote - Kate Francuz
3	47.01	47.01			13.80	60.81			Aline Plevka - Jean White

PAIRS

BOARD	1	2	3	4	5	
1>	4	3	0	2	1	(matchpoints awarded)
	110	50	-110	-50	-100	(score on the traveler)
2>	1-	0	1-	3	4	(matchpoints awarded)
	-400	-430	-400	-110	100	(score on the traveler)

(the rest of the 25 boards omitted)

- Column 4 shows the rank order of finish for the un-handicapped Scores.
- When we handicap a game (more on handicapping below), the ACBLscore software adds each pair's Handicap (Column 6) to their un-handicapped Score (Column 3) to calculate their 'Total' score (Column 7).
- Column 7 shows the results printed in rank order according to Total (handicapped).
- Column 8 shows the rank order of finish for the handicapped Scores.
- Columns 4 and 8 show the rank order of finish, only for the top 2 to 5 ranks, depending on the number of pairs.
- Column 10 shows the pair names in rank order of finish (handicapped).
- Columns 5 and 9 show the overall (O/A) ranks, i.e. over both NS and EW (un-handicapped).
- ACBLscore presents the results in this format and we are unable to change it.

Thus in the example:

- Pair #4 had the highest un-handicapped percentage and Score (Columns 2, 3 and 4), but were 2nd on the handicapped rank list (Columns 7, 8 and 10).
- Pair #2's handicapped Total placed them at the top in Columns 7, 8 and 10.

Where do those handicap points come from? HANDICAPPING

Handicapping is employed in most sports and competitions where there are wide differences in the abilities and experience of the competitors. Handicapping evens the playing field, especially when good players always team together against beginners and less experienced players.

ACBLscore sets a 65% score as the standard of comparison. By averaging a pair's percentage scores over a number of sessions, the computer calculates their handicap as the difference between their average percentage and 65%. At GBC we average the percentage over the last six games played at a particular event. For example, if a pair has an average of 50% over their last six plays, then their Handicap (Column 6) will be 15 matchpoints, which is added to their Score (Column 3) to arrive at their Total handicapped matchpoint score for the game (Column 7).

In the example above, based on their average percentage scores over the last six Wednesday games played, Pair #2 was awarded a handicap of 17.79 match points, while Pair #4 had a lower handicap of 15.88. Pair #5 also had a larger handicap than Pair #3 which gave them the 4th place handicapped.

Since we average the percentages over the last six games played, your handicap decreases when you do better and achieve higher un-handicapped Scores.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

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