



Dear Buddy

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Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Awards

As you play in ACBL sanctioned games, your masterpoints are captured and can be viewed in MyACBL on the ACBL website. Masterpoints are “pigments,” meaning they have colors (black, silver, gold, platinum and unpigmented, depending on the level of competition).

Each year, there are competitions related to masterpoints. Two of those you may hear about at your local level, and see the standings for on the Unit, District 21, and ACBL sites.

Mini-McKenney

In 1974, the ACBL Board of Directors voted to recognize the masterpoint achievements of all players and the Mini-McKenney races were established. The winners at each level of achievement are recognized by the ACBL each year in the April issue of the Bridge Bulletin and at the district level. For District 21, you can see the 2021 winners in the February 2022 issue of the Diamond in the Ruff newsletter or by clicking [HERE](#).

Eligibility is determined by each player’s masterpoint holding at the beginning of the calendar year. The home unit of each winner may purchase a Mini-McKenney Medallion to present to the player in addition to sharing in their unit news. Standings are updated monthly on the D21 and the ACBL websites about the 6th of each month. For District 21, you can see the 2021 winners in the February 2022 issue of the Diamond in the Ruff newsletter or by clicking [HERE](#).

Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs

The majority of ACBL members play in local club games most of the time. To recognize achievement at the club level, the Ace of Clubs competition was created in 1984. These club champions are recognized at the Unit and District levels and ACBL-wide. All points won in club games are counted in this competition, with the exception of those won in STAC (Sectional Tournaments at Clubs) games.

This award was renamed in 2011 in honor of Grand Life Master Helen Shanbrom. Shanbrom was one of the most active players in the ACBL for decades and has won the top category of the Ace of Clubs more times than any other member in ACBL history.