

Summary

2025 will continue to have four classes of tournaments - Blue, White, and Red tournaments as well as Virtual tournaments. Red tournaments are smaller, shorter, and/or newer tournaments. Our more competitive tournaments with larger turnouts are placed in our white tier where players can earn more points. We select our biggest and most competitive white tournaments in each geographic region of the AMA (Midwest, South, Northeast) as the highest point-scoring blue-tier tournaments. For 2025, we are also calling these tournaments our regional championships and we expect that there will be some level of rotation for these in future years.

[This document](#) explains the basis of our methodology used to create the base color schemes. However, the final determination of the color tiers is not 100% tied to the calculation. The AMA organizing team will continue to use judgment given their knowledge of the tournaments to try to create the most balanced schedule and one where participants have the best ability to compete in all three tiers.

Listed below are the point generators for 2025. Following that are descriptions of how they will work and an [example](#) of scoring for a series of player situations.

- [Points for finishing place in a Blue, White or Red tournament](#)
- [Bonus points for top places in a Blue, White or Red tournament](#)
- [Bonus points for tournaments played](#)
- [Points for finishing position in any of the Virtual tournaments](#)

Tournament Points

The core point scoring will be based on the position you finish and the type of tournament. Top points will be awarded for 1st place, then 1 point subtracted per position below that. Each tier will also have a maximum amount of points available based on a [minimum player count](#). This point distribution is for players in the pro, or highest, division of a tournament. See Amateur Points for more consideration on players registered in lower divisions.

Points are as follows (followed by an illustrative table):

- Blue tournament = 30 points *(If 25 or less players, max is 25)*
- White tournament = 20 points *(If 15 or less players, max is 15)*
- Red tournament = 12 points *(If 7 or less players, max is 7)*

For purposes of 2025 ranking, you will take your top points in each division as your score. So if you play two blue tournaments and earn 10 in one and 20 in another, only the 20 will count toward your final score. See more below for bonus points and an illustrative [example](#).

Place	Blue	Blue (25)	White	White (15)	Red	Red (7)
1	30	25	20	15	12	7
2	29	24	19	14	11	6
3	28	23	18	13	10	5
4	27	22	17	12	9	4
5	26	21	16	11	8	3
6	25	20	15	10	7	2
7	24	19	14	9	6	1
8	23	18	13	8	5	
9	22	17	12	7	4	
10	21	16	11	6	3	
11	20	15	10	5	2	
12	19	14	9	4	1	
13	18	13	8	3	1	

14	17	12	7	2	1	
15	16	11	6	1	1	
16	15	10	5		1	
17	14	9	4		1	
18	13	8	3		1	
19	12	7	2		1	
20	11	6	1		1	
21	10	5	1		1	
22	9	4	1		1	
23	8	3	1		1	
24	7	2	1		1	
25	6	1	1		1	
26	5		1		1	
27	4		1		1	
28	3		1		1	
29	2		1		1	
30+	1		1		1	

Note: If there is a tie all tied places will receive the highest amount of points for that place (e.g. if 3 tied for third, all 3 will receive base points for third place). Playoffs and tie-breakers will only impact [bonus point](#) distribution (and/or money distribution based on tournament rules).

Minimum Player Count

For purposes of determining the number of players in a tournament, all pro players will count as one. Amateur players will be counted on a 2 to 1 ratio (rounded up). For example a red tournament that has 6 pros and 11 amateurs would be considered to have 12 total players for points calculations.

Amateur Players

The AMA wants to encourage many entry points into the world of minigolf and the use of amateur or other “non-pro” divisions in our tournaments is one way to do this. However, in many tournaments, these divisions do not play the same amount of rounds or against the same level of competition as the pro divisions.

Prior to 2025, anyone who played in the amateur division of a tournament was awarded 1 point to recognize their participation and provide them with a place on the AMA season rankings. In looking at the past data, we recognized that sometimes these players have tournament results that are equal to or above some pro players, but selected not to be in the pro division for various reasons. As a result, we are making one adjustment to ranking points for amateurs this year.

As a base, all amateurs will continue to earn 1 ranking point regardless of finish in that division. In addition, for any tournament where amateurs and pros play the same number of rounds, an amateur will be eligible to earn ranking points commensurate with pro players with the same scores. For example, if a pro player finished a white tier tournament with a 143 (3 rounds) and finished in 14th place earning 4 points, and the winner of the amateur division finished with the same score, they would also receive 4 ranking points. This would not have any impact on the pro placement of players. Amateur players would continue to not be eligible for bonus points but would be eligible for bonus points based on tournaments played. Amateur players for the purposes of point scoring are any players who are not in the highest level / pro division. In some cases these divisions will have different names including youth, novice, and local pro.

Tournament Top Place Bonus

Bonus points will be awarded for top positions based on the type of tournament. These bonus points are additive and are not capped. This means you can earn multiple sets of bonus points in a single tournament tier, even if the core scoring is capped at your best score. Each tier will also have a maximum amount of bonus points available based on a minimum player count. See [above](#) for minimum player counts and below for adjusted amounts.

See below for an illustrative [example](#).

Bonus points are as follows:

Place	Blue	Blue (25)	White	White (15)	Red	Red (7)
1	11	8	8	5	4	2
2	9	6	6	3	2	1
3	8	5	5	2	1	.5
4	7	4	4	1		
5	6	2	3			
6	5	2	2			
7	4	1	1			
8	3					
9	2					
10	1					

Note: In the event of a tie, we will use the following rubric to break ties and award the bonus points based on the tiebreaker:

- 1) Follow any tie-breaker the tournament has established (i.e. playoffs)
- 2) If no tie-breaker, we will break the tie by looking for the individual with the lowest individual round throughout the tournament on any of the courses played.
- 3) If that does not break the tie, we'll add the bonus points for the tied places and divide by the number of places tied (e.g. if 2nd and 3rd tie in blue they would each receive 8.5 bonus points)

Bonus Points for Tournaments Played

Starting with your second tournament played you will earn bonus points for participation. The tournament count does NOT apply to virtual tournaments. The following bonus points will be awarded (note the point scheme has been adjusted for 2025):

2 through 5 tournaments: 1 point per number of tournaments played.

5+ tournaments: An additional .5 points per tournament will be awarded starting at the 6th tournament.

For example if a player plays 7 tournaments they will receive 6 total bonus points (5 points for the 5th tournament, then .5 points each for tournament 6 and 7).

Virtual Tournament Finishes

Due to the nature of the virtual tournaments, a slightly different scoring format will be used. As of 2025, we hold virtual events on the Putt18 putting mat and Walkabout Mini Golf since both are strokeplay events that test one's skills and consistency in the same way as traditional mini golf events. The table below illustrates the point distribution. The position here will be based on the AMA members who play the tournament at the time of the tournament, not the overall field for these tournaments. This will not take into account players who register to be AMA players after the end of the tournament.

Place	Virtual
1	4
2	3
3	2
Remaining Top 50%	1
Bottom 50%	0.5

See illustrative [example](#) below for more on virtual tournament scoring.

Illustrative Example

Three players play in tournaments this year with the following results:

Mary Minigolf	Mike Minigolf	May Minigolf
- Blue - 8th - White - 2nd (12 players) - White - 5th - Red - 5th - Red - 1st - Putt18 2 - 2nd - Walkabout - Bottom 50%	- Blue - 3rd - White - 5th - Red - 1st - Putt18 - Top 50%	- Red - 1st - Red - 1st - Red - 3rd - White - 6th - Blue - 15th - Putt18 - 1st

Their final ranking would be as follows. See below the table for a description of the points.

	Blue	White	Red	Virtual	Bonus Place	Bonus Played	Total
Mary	23	16	12	3.5	13	5	72.5
Mike	28	16	12	1	15	3	75
May	16	15	12	4	11	5	63

Mary would receive the following points for the year:

Blue/White/Red

- 23 points for her Blue finish
- 16 points for the higher of her two White tournament finishes (the lower finish of 5th scored more points than the higher finish of 2nd because of the lower player count)
- 12 points for the higher scoring of her Red tournament finishes

Virtual

- 3 points for the Putt18 finish
- 0.5 points for the Walkabout finish

Bonuses

- 5 points for playing 5 core tournaments
- 3 points for her Blue 8th place finish
- 3 points for her White 2nd place finish (reduced due to under minimum players)

- 3 point for her White 5th place finish
- 4 points for her Red 1st place finish

Mary's total would then be 72.5 points for the season

Mike would receive the following points for the year:

Blue/White/Red

- 28 points for his Blue finish
- 16 points for his White finish
- 12 points for his Red finish

Virtual

- 1 point for Putt18

Bonus

- 3 points for playing 3 core tournaments
- 8 points for his Blue 3rd place finish
- 3 points for his White 5th place finish
- 4 points for his Red 1st place finish

Mike's total would then be 75 points for the season.

May would receive the following points for the year:

Blue/White/Red

- 16 points for their Blue finish
- 15 points for their White finish
- 12 points for their highest Red finish

Virtual

- 4 points for their Putt18 win

Bonus

- 5 points for playing 5 core tournaments
- 9 points for combined bonuses from Top 3 in Red
- 2 points for their White 6th place finish

May's total would then be 63 points for the season.

Season Ranking Tiebreakers

AMA rankings will be determined based on the total number of points for AMA members.

Non-members will earn points within the tournaments (with the exception of Virtual tournaments) but will not be included in the season-long rankings.

In the case of a tie for any of the Top 5 spots at the end of the season, the following will be the order tie breakers (progress down each level until a winner is determined):

- 1) Count the number of tournament wins (across Blue/White/Red)
- 2) Remove the tournaments played bonus
- 3) Count the number of tournament podiums (Top 3 - across Blue/White/Red)
- 4) Take the highest single points value from the Blue/White/Red

