

MEN'S RANKING LIST SUMMARY OF THE SYSTEM

Here is a summary of the ranking system used for the 1.1.2003 men's ranking list.

The system is the same as the one developed by Kimmo Arenius that has been in use for the last few years. The ranking list has 100 players. A player must have a current license from the SPTL to qualify for the ranking list. The system is based on ranking points earned in the previous two seasons. Ranking points can be earned in two ways: 1). beating a ranked player in a league match or in MK, MK-A, or Nuorisio event in a tournament (referred to as "individual match ranking points"), 2). according to a player's placement/final standing in a tournament event (referred to as "placement ranking points").

The number of individual match ranking points earned depends on the ranking of the losing player. The points can range from 1 point up to 20 points. For example, beating a player ranked #35 earns the winner 5 points; beating a player ranked #83 earns the winner 1 point.

The number of placement ranking points earned depends on the ranking point value of a tournament event and the player's placement (for example, #1, #3, #5) in the event. The ranking point value of an event is the sum of the individual match ranking point values of all ranked players in the event. In other words, it is the number of individual match ranking points a player would earn if he beat all of the ranked players in a tournament event. The higher the event's ranking point value and the higher a player's placement, the higher the placement ranking points earned. For example, if the ranking point value of an event is 29 (typical for a non-GP tournament MK-A event), a player placing #3 in the event would receive 3 placement ranking points. If the ranking point value of an event is 200 (typical for a GP MK event), a player placing #3 would receive 38 placement ranking points and a player placing #5 would receive 19 placement ranking points.

It is important to note that placement ranking points are different from the "classification points" earned in a tournament event. Classification points are used to determine whether a player moves from A-class to valio class or B-class to A-class, etc. They are not used in the ranking system. The number of classification points is based on a different system and generally will be different than the number of placement ranking points that a player earns in a tournament event.

There are special rules that apply to certain events:

- 1). League (sarja) matches.
Individual match ranking points count double.
- 2). Finnish team championships.
Individual match ranking points earned in the team competition count triple.
- 3). Finnish championships.
Individual match ranking points in MK count double. Placement ranking points in MK count triple.
- 4). Finlandia Open.
Placement ranking points count double.
- 5). TOP 12
Placement ranking points are earned according to a different system than in other events. Also, a player can receive ranking points from only one TOP 12 event in a ranking period. (A ranking period is the previous 2 seasons.) If a player plays in more than one TOP 12 event in a ranking period, he receives ranking points for that event in which he received the most ranking points.

It is possible that more than one player can have the same number of ranking points for the ranking period. In the case of a tie, the tied players are placed in the order of the number of events in which they earned ranking points in the ranking period. (Sarja is considered one event; a tournament is considered one event.) If there is still a tie, then the tied players are placed in the order of their ranking points in the most recent season. If there is still a tie after that, then the tied players are placed in the order of their position in the previous ranking list.

A more detailed description of the ranking system, in Finnish, can be found at <http://www.tloy.com/pingis/perusteet.html> under the heading "Ranking - perusteet."