

# Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association



## Bye-Laws

Supplement for Mixed Fours League

31 October 2011



## Table of Content

<b>BYE-LAWS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>2. BYE-LAWS OF THE LEAGUE COMPETITION (GENERAL) .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1. Composition of Divisions	3
2.2. Re-entry or First Entry into the Competition	3
2.3. Withdrawal of Sides	3
2.4. Position in League	3
2.5. Drawing of Rinks	3
2.6. Matches Played under Artificial Light	4
2.7. Matches Played on Artificial Surfaces	4
2.8. Postponed or Unfinished Matches	4
2.9. Score in Unfinished Matches	4
2.10. Closing of Greens	4
2.11. Sides from One Member in Same Division	5
2.12. Substitutes	5
2.13. Fees for Entry into League Competitions	5
2.14. Players Representing Hong Kong	5
2.15. Eligibility	5
2.16. Player names in the scorecards	5
<b>8. BYE-LAWS OF THE MIXED FOURS LEAGUE COMPETITION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
8.1. Composition of Teams	6
8.2. Composition of Divisions	6
8.3. Programme of Matches	6
8.4. Scoring of Points	6
8.5. Time of Starting Matches	6
8.6. Registered Players	7
8.7. Unregistered and Tied Players	7
8.8. Penalties	7
8.9. Transfer of Players	8
8.10. Champion Skip Tables for side competition of 3 teams Only	8



## Supplements for Mixed Fours

HKLBA Bye-Laws version 15 is the base of the bye-laws for Mixed Fours League 2011. Unless being superseded by below sections, all the bye-laws in version 15 are valid and applicable.

### 2. BYE-LAWS OF THE LEAGUE COMPETITION (GENERAL)

The Bye-laws in this section will apply to all National League Competitions unless otherwise specifically modified within the specific provision of the particular League Competition. The National League Competitions shall be managed and controlled by the National League Panel. The National League Panel Chairman shall be the Vice President of the Association delegated the responsibility following the Annual General Meeting, and at least two other panel members who shall be members of the Council of Management.

#### 2.1. Composition of Divisions

The number of Divisions and number of sides in each Division will be decided prior to the start of the League, with the sanction from Council of Management.

#### 2.2. Re-entry or First Entry into the Competition

N/A

#### 2.3. Withdrawal of Sides

2.3.a A member of the Association may withdraw a side from the competition. There will be no dependence on any sides in other divisions.

2.3.b If a side is withdrawn from the competition during the course of a season, the results of matches played shall be expunged as if the side had not taken part unless the Council of Management shall decide otherwise.

#### 2.4. Position in League

The League position of each side in each division shall be determined at the end of the season by the number of points won by each side. In the event of two or more sides gaining the same number of points, the position of these sides shall be determined by the differences between shots scored for and against. In the event of the shots difference being the same, the manner by which the winning team shall be decided, shall be determined by the National League Panel and referred to the Council of Management for ratification.

#### 2.5. Drawing of Rinks

2.5.a For side matches, the drawing of rinks shall be done before the match starts in accordance with the following procedure. All players' names shall be the same as recorded in accordance with Clause 2.15.b.

- 1) Prior the draw, both Home and Away Side Captains shall enter the names of their players on their score cards in the appropriate positions. They shall shuffle and exchange their score cards without looking at the inside of the cards until step 4.
- 2) Away Side Captain shall lay down the (home-side) score cards with data facing downwards on the table; then mark the number of rink to play on each card.
- 3) Home Side Captain shall lay down and pair-off the (away-side) score cards on top of those marked score cards.
- 4) Both Captains shall then turn over the score cards to reveal the drawn opponents and their rink numbers. The respective Side Captains shall copy the names of their players on to the opponents' cards.

2.5.b Once the draw for rinks has been completed, no player changes between or within teams of the same side shall be permitted.

2.5.c For side match of only 1 team, names of players shall be entered onto their own score cards, then exchange for the entry of the players name on the opponent's card. The home side Captain will enter the rink number for the match. No player changes will be permitted once the card is exchanged.



## **2.6. Matches Played under Artificial Light**

Matches may be played wholly or partially under artificial lights.

## **2.7. Matches Played on Artificial Surfaces**

2.7.a Matches may be played on any artificial bowling green surface as approved by the Council of Management.

2.7.b For the purpose of 2.7.a. use may be made of the heavy 382-453 g jack.

## **2.8. Postponed or Unfinished Matches**

2.8.a All postponed or unfinished matches with the exception of those mentioned in 2.8.b. and 2.8.c. must be played within fifteen days of the original day appointed unless the National League Panel directs otherwise.

2.8.b In respect of the final league matches of the season, all postponed or unfinished matches must be played on a day specified by the National League Panel.

2.8.c Unless otherwise directed by the National League Panel, all penultimate postponed or unfinished league matches must be played within seven days of the original day appointed.

2.8.d Prior to the commencement of the season all teams shall nominate a preferred day of the week when postponed games may be played.

2.8.e In case when a match has to be postponed, abandoned or is unfinished, then on the original scheduled day of the match, the home side must offer three alternative dates and/or time to the away side. The alternatives shall include the date as 2.8.d. together with two others all within fifteen days of the original scheduled day of the match or lesser period if required under Bye-law 2.8.c. The home side shall within 24 hours of the date and time of the original scheduled match, advise the National League Panel by the method stated in Bye-law 1.4.f. of details of the offer. The away side shall agree to one of three alternative dates within 24 hours of the offer or within 48 hours of the date and time of the original scheduled match, whichever is the later. In the event that agreement cannot be reached or no offer is made by the home side, the away side shall within 48 hours of the date and time of the original scheduled match, advise the National League Panel of details of dispute together with details of counter offers of dates. The National League Panel will decide on the date, time and venue for the re-scheduled match.

2.8.f In the event that a re-scheduled match is postponed, abandoned or unfinished the procedure in 2.8.e shall be repeated.

2.8.g Proposals to play a re-scheduled match at a neutral venue may be proposed subject to the proposer confirming agreement of availability of the venue from the venue convenor or authority for a public green.

2.8.h In the event that an away side requests to postpone or cancel the approved day of a match and when such postponement caused financial lost to the home side, the National League Panel shall, upon receipt of a complaint, study the prevailing circumstances and to determine whether a financial penalty shall be imposed. Such financial penalty should be a fixed amount determined by the National League Panel to reflect the normal average public green fee and the financial penalty imposed shall be in addition to other ruling of the Panel or penalties applied under the Bye-laws. The financial penalty will be credited to the home side when HKLBA received it from the away side.

## **2.9. Score in Unfinished Matches**

When a match is stopped by mutual agreement, by an appeal to a mutually agreed umpire, by darkness, by inclement weather, or for any other valid reason, it shall be resumed with the scores of all teams standing as they were when the match was stopped.

## **2.10. Closing of Greens**

2.10.a In the event of inclement weather prior to a match commencing, the home side Convenor shall make a decision regarding the availability of the greens not more than two hours and, if possible, not less than one hour before the appointed starting time and shall have a responsible person available during the two hours before the appointed time to answer



queries on this subject. By agreement between the Captains of both sides, the starting time may be delayed to enable the greens to become playable.

- 2.10.b In the event of inclement weather, such as heavy rainfall occurring during a match, every effort must be made to complete the head being played. If this is impossible due to closure of the greens, which decision shall be made by the home side, then the partially played head shall be abandoned and recognised as not having been played.

**2.11. Sides from One Member in Same Division**

When two or more sides from a club play in the same division, the sides will be considered as sides entered in separate divisions

**2.12. Substitutes**

- 2.12.a Interrupted matches must be resumed with no more players than at any time the match was interrupted.
- 2.12.b Interrupted matches which commenced with a complete team of four but resumed with only three players will result in 25% of the score being deducted only from the ends played with three players.
- 2.12.c One substitute only per team will be permitted in resumed games, unless the National League Panel permits otherwise, on the basis of illness, death or the unavoidable absence of a player from Hong Kong, or for other reasons which the National League Panel may accept. No substitute may play in the position of Skip.
- 2.12.d Except in respect of matters submitted in accordance with Bye-law 1.14, the decision of the National League Panel on substitutes is final.
- 2.12.e Any player who played in a match at the original fixture shall not play in any other match for any other side at the same fixture. This rule will not apply for YDT members in accordance with Bye-law 7.6.

**2.13. Fees for Entry into League Competitions**

Prior to the commencement of the league season, the Council of Management shall set the fees to be paid by clubs for entry of sides in the National League Competition.

**2.14. Players Representing Hong Kong**

Should any club have a minimum of two members of same side of 2 or 3 teams, or one member from same side of 1 team away from the SAR representing Hong Kong, their club may apply to the National League Panel for approval to re-schedule any matches due to be played during their absence. Approval will be subject to the players having played or given a clear indication of playing in the National League Competitions scheduled during their proposed absence.

**2.15. Eligibility**

- 2.15.a Participation in National League Competitions is confined to bona fide members and staff of clubs affiliated to the Association.
- 2.15.b The names of participants shall be recorded with the National League Panel. The names of players shall be advised to the Chairman of the National League Panel no later than the time for submission of score cards as Bye-law 1.4.b in the first game played in any season.

**2.16. Player names in the scorecards**

The names of players should be clearly recorded in the score cards and they should match with the computer records.



## **8. BYE-LAWS OF THE MIXED FOURS LEAGUE COMPETITION**

### **8.1. Composition of Teams**

- 8.1.a The Mixed Fours League Competitions shall be played between sides entered by members of the Association.
- 8.1.b If more than one side is entered by a club, the sides will be suffixed A, B, C etc., and this nomenclature will define the descending order of rankings of these sides within that club as agreed by the National League Panel.
- 8.1.c Convenors may nominate a member of his/her club as Captain of a side to act in his/her capacity in any league match.
- 8.1.d Each side should consist of three teams. Each team should consist of four players with at least one man and one woman. Each play will play two bowls per end except 8.5.c.
- 8.1.e Clubs which want to exempt from 8.1.d should get the approval from League panel when they submit the entries before the deadline.

### **8.2. Composition of Divisions**

- 8.2.a The competition shall be divided into divisions. The number of sides in each division will normally not exceed twelve.
- 8.2.b The entries will be grouped into divisions by open draw. There are no promotions or relegations between divisions.

### **8.3. Programme of Matches**

- 8.3.a Each side shall play one match against every other side in the same division, the venue to be as decided by the National League Panel.
- 8.3.b Each side shall declare the venue for playing home games to the National League Panel.
- 8.3.c The commencement date of each league shall be decided by the Council of Management on the recommendation of the National League Panel.

### **8.4. Scoring of Points**

- 8.4.a Side competition of 3 teams  
In every match, eight points shall be contested. These shall be divided as follows:
  - 1) Two points to each winning team;
  - 2) One point to each team which ties with another team;
  - 3) Two bonus points to the side winning the highest total of shots scored; or
  - 4) One bonus point to each side if the total shots scored by each side are equal.

### **8.5. Time of Starting Matches**

- 8.5.a The original fixture of all matches, including the venue, the appointed day and the appointed starting time, upon recommendations from the National League Panel, shall be agreed by the Council of Management prior to the commencement of the league season. All matches shall start according to the original fixture unless approved otherwise in accordance with these Bye-laws, or is mutually agreed between the sides concerned. There will be a grace period of thirty (30) minutes on private greens. No grace period is allowed on public greens.
- 8.5.b Under no circumstances may a game be postponed in advance of the original fixture unless written consent has been obtained at least 3 days in advance of the day of the game to be postponed from the National League Panel.
- 8.5.c If at the appointed time plus grace period, less than twelve but at least nine players for a side of 3 teams, are present, the offending side shall field teams of three players, the numbers 1 and 2 bowling three bowls each. If the players cannot use a Set of Bowls as defined in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls then one bowl may not be from the same set. Should a fourth team member subsequently appear, he/she may play in any position except Skip and 25% of the score shall be deducted from only those ends played with three players.
- 8.5.d If for any reason, except those given in 8.5.a. and 8.5.b. above, a side fails to arrive, or arrive with less than nine players for a side of 3 teams, at the venue at the appointed time



plus grace period, and unless the captains agree to extend, the match shall be treated as postponed.

The circumstances surrounding the reasons for the postponement must be given in writing by both sides to the National League Panel Chairman within 72 hours of the date of the postponed game. The National League Panel will then rule on the postponed game by:

- 8.5.d.1. Either, instructing the game to be replayed within 8 days of the date that the sides have been notified by the National League Panel; or
  - 8.5.d.2. Giving a walkover to one side. This will only be given in exceptional circumstances. If a walkover is given, then the non offending side of a side match of 3 teams shall receive 8 points and an additional aggregate score of plus 10 shots; the offending side shall be deducted an aggregate score of 10 shots; and
  - 8.5.d.3. In the event that the game is played within the 8 days as instructed, by also instructing that the offending party should be deducted 4 points for the side of 3 teams, and
  - 8.5.d.4. Deciding whether the offending party should be deducted additional points.
- 8.5.e In the event of the offending party failing to comply with the requirement of Bye-law 8.5.d.1. the side shall be reprimanded by the National League Panel and deemed to have withdrawn from the competition in accordance with Bye-law 2.3. Withdrawal must be confirmed by the Council of Management.

#### 8.6. Registered Players

- 8.6.a. The convenors shall register for each side, in writing, with the National League Panel the names of six of its players, before the second league match. These players must have played at least one game in the relevant side prior to registration.
- 8.6.b. A registered player shall not play for another side in any divisions.
- 8.6.c. A registered player is only allowed to play in the side that he/she is registered.

#### 8.7. Unregistered and Tied Players

- 8.7.a. A player shall be regarded as tied to the side in which he/she has played a total of three or more complete games for that side
- 8.7.b. Any player who has become tied to a side in accordance with Bye-law 8.7.a. shall not play for other side in any divisions.

#### 8.8. Penalties

- 8.8.a. Where a registered player under Bye-law 8.6.b. or a tied player under Bye-law 8.7.b. plays for other side in any division, the side for which he/she plays shall have 2 points deducted from its match score. The opposing side shall have 2 points added if it lost to the team in which the defaulting player was the opponent and one point added if the team drew.
- 8.8.b. In any fixture where a player is in default under Bye-law 2.12.e. plays for another side in a match which has the same original fixture, the side for which he plays the second match shall have 2 points deducted from its match score. The opposing side shall have 2 points added if the team lost in which the defaulting player was the opponent, and one point if the team drew.
- 8.8.c. Where necessary any penalty points shall be deducted from the total league points accumulated at that date, but no side shall gain more than 8 points from any side match of 3 teams.
- 8.8.d. Where the name of player is not advised to the Chairman of the National League Panel as required by Bye-law 2.15.b. a penalty of 1 point in a side of 3 teams, for each player not recorded shall be deducted from the match score of the offending side.
- 8.8.e. Where a home side fails to make an offer for a re-scheduled game as 2.8.e. then that side shall be deducted one point. The National League Panel may waive such penalty where the home club demonstrates to the satisfaction of the National League Panel that any delay is due to the unavoidable inability to reserve or confirm availability of the home green.



- 8.8.f Where an away side fails to action an offer for a re-scheduled game as 2.8.e. the away side shall be deducted one point. In the event that an away side notifies the National League Panel of a failure to agree to an offer and includes a compliant revised proposal then the National League Panel may waive such a penalty.
- 8.8.g N/A
- 8.8.h If any name discrepancy is identified in breach of clause 2.16, a warning will be issued to the club for the first offence. For repeated offences, 0.5 points will be deducted for each obvious discrepancy without any further warning.
- 8.8.i If any team is identified in breach of clause 8.1.d, the side shall have 2 points deducted from its match score for each defaulting team. The opposing side shall have 2 points added if the team lost in which the defaulting team was the opponent and one point added if the team drew.

#### **8.9. Transfer of Players**

A player, who has played a complete game or more in any sides entered by one club, is not allowed to play in a side entered by another club unless the approval of the National League Panel is first obtained. Applications for such transfers must be made in writing, explaining the reasons for the transfer, to the National League Panel and three clear days notice must be given when such applications are made.

#### **8.10. Champion Skip Tables for side competition of 3 teams Only**

- 8.10.a In association with the running of the National League, Champion Skip tables will be maintained by the National League Panel for each Division and issued at regular intervals during the season.
- 8.10.b For each match played, a Skip will be awarded:
  - 1) Two points for a win; and
  - 2) One point for a draw.
- 8.10.c The Skip acquiring the largest number of points in each Division in a season will be awarded the title of Champion Team along with the three players with whom he/she has played the largest number of matches in that season.