

West Gippsland Badminton Association



Bylaws, Match Regulations & General Information Updated Monday 9 March 2015 AGM (Previous Version 1997)

Definition of Terms

Where the following terms appear throughout the bylaws, they are deemed to mean:

Association - The West Gippsland Badminton Association Incorporated (WGBA).

Executive Committee - The office bearers of the Association.

Match Committee - The Executive Committee, unless otherwise defined at the Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

~ HOME COURTS ~

Koo Wee Rup Secondary College
Rossiter Rd, Koo Wee Rup

1. Rules of Play

- a. The Laws of Badminton as adopted by Badminton Victoria shall apply to West Gippsland Badminton Association (WGBA).
- b. Any interpretation of the Constitution, Bylaws or Match Regulations by the Executive Committee will be binding.

2. Shuttlecocks

- a. Shuttlecocks used in competition matches and tournaments shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee.
- b. Shuttlecocks shall be supplied by West Gippsland Badminton Association (WGBA).

3. Regulation Dress

Players are required to wear appropriate badminton sports attire and non-marking footwear. Skins are deemed to be underclothing and acceptable.

4. Team Grading

- a. The Executive or Match Committees shall collate a list of teams with the players' names and their proposed gradings and rankings for the forthcoming season.
- b. Team grading and the ranking of players to be determined by the Executive or Match Committees.
- c. The Executive or Match Committees shall determine the number of grades each season.
- d. If applicable, no two grades shall be of equal standard.

5. Registration

5.1 Registering Players

- a. The Executive or Match Committees will accept the registration of players and their fees and arrange the teams.
- b. Any player registered thereafter must be noted on the back of the official Results Sheet.

5.2 Fees

- a. Fees are to be collected by an appointed person.
- b. Player match fees are payable on each match night and Finals matches.
- c. Player fees are to be determined at the AGM.
- d. If more than one grade (or section) is run, then the same for Bylaw 5.2a above will apply.

6. Clearances

Neutral players or players from other clubs may be approached directly by the Association.

7. Team Composition

7.1.1 Gender Specific Format

- a. Each team shall consist of at least three (3) men and three (3) woman, provided no one player plays in more than two (2) doubles games and one (1) mixed game unless otherwise decided by the Executive or Match Committees.
- b. In the event that a team in the lowest grade is unable to convene three (3) men for a match, that team may consist of at least two (2) men and four (4) women where one (1) woman plays as a man for the duration of the match.
- c. For any Finals matches, Bylaw 7a applies.
- d. For Finals matches the Executive or Match Committees shall determine any alterations to a team's original make-up of players.

7.1.2 Non-Gender Specific Format

- a. Each team shall consist of men or women made up of three (3), four (4), five (5) or six (6) players, unless otherwise decided by the Executive or Match Committees.
- b. All players, male or female, shall be graded and ranked according to their ability.
- c. In the event that a team is unable to convene the required players for a match, that team may substitute a player or players of the rank or lower with the approval of the Executive or Match Committees.
- d. For Finals the Executive or Match Committees shall determine any alterations to a team's original make-up of players, including the grading and/or ranking of players.

7.1.3 Competition Format

This is to be determined each season by the Match or Executive Committees.

7.2 Player Injury

- a. In the event of a player becoming incapacitated during the playing of a match, an emergency player shall be permitted to take his or her place in the remaining games.
- b. This provision is not applicable to cramp.
- c. The team forfeiting a game retains all points scored at the time of the default.

8. Fixtures

- a. The Match Committee shall arrange a complete list of fixtures for the season, showing rounds and dates of matches. These should be provided to the players at the beginning of the season or as soon as possible after the season has commenced.
- b. The matches shall be divided into rounds whereby each team plays each other team only once in each round and shall be arranged so each team meets every other team at least twice during the season.

9. Time of Commencement

- a. All matches shall commence by 8pm.
- b. If play has not commenced by 8:15pm the defaulting team may be subject to penalties at the discretion of the Match Committee.
- a. If play has not commenced by 9pm the defaulting team risks forfeiting all games.

10. Time of Closure

- a. All matches played at Koo Wee Rup Secondary College must be completed by 11:50pm. The hall should be vacated by 12 midnight.
- b. Where any games are unfinished, points are allocated as match stands.

11. Pairing

11.1 Gender Specific Format

- a. Men:
 - i. First and second men play opposing first and second men.
 - ii. First and third men play opposing first and third men.
 - iii. Second and third men play opposing second and third men.
- b. Ladies to be played in the same manner as the men.
- c. First Mixed plays opposing First Mixed, etc.

11.2 Non-Gender Specific Format

- a. Three (3) Person Team
(1&2 plays 1&2) (1&3 plays 1&3) (2&3 plays 2&3)
- b. Four (4) Person Team
(1&2 plays 1&2) (3&4 plays 3&4) (1&3 plays 1&3) (2&4 plays 2&4)
- c. Five (5) Person Team
(1&2 plays 1&2) (3&5 plays 3&5) (2&4 plays 2&4) (1&3 plays 1&3)(4&5 plays 4&5)
- d. Six (6) Person Team
(1&2 plays 1&2) (3&5 plays 3&5) (4&6 plays 4&6) (1&3 plays 1&3) (2&4 plays 2&4)
(5&6 plays 5&6)
- e. Bonus Games
The No.1 home player pairs with the opposing No.1 home player and plays the No.1 away player who pairs with the No.1 opposing away player - and so on.
- f. Changes to these formats are subject to the decision of the Executive or Match Committee.

12. Exchange of Teams

- a. Matches may commence with any pairing providing this helps the match to start on time.
- a. In the event of a team being short of players, the remaining players must play in the highest possible positions in the team.
- b. The team lists and order of players shall not be altered in any match without the consent of the opposing captain or the person/s in charge of the matches.

13. The Toss

- a. Before commencing a match, the opposing teams shall toss and the team winning the toss shall have the option of:
 - i. Serving first.
 - ii. Not serving first.
 - iii. Choosing ends.
- b. The team losing the toss shall have the choice of any alternative remaining.
- c. This option will then alternate with each game played.

14. Umpires and Referees

- a. All games and/or rubbers shall be controlled by an umpire who shall be assisted by linesmen and service judges if considered necessary by the umpire or requested by either captain.
- b. The participating teams will provide the umpires for all home and away matches.
- c. Unless otherwise agreed to by the team captains, the teams shall provide umpires alternatively, the home team for the first game or rubber and so on.
- d. Each of the teams not in the Finals shall provide two competent umpires to officiate in all Finals matches.
- e. The teams defeated in Finals matches shall also provide two competent umpires to officiate in Finals matches in which they are not playing.
- f. Teams failing to provide umpires for Finals matches may be fined for each umpire not provided at a cost to be determined at the AGM.
- g. For any umpire not in attendance five (5) minutes prior to the notified starting time or leaving before the completion of the match without the permission of the referee, the team may be fined at a cost to be determined at the AGM.
- h. A referee appointed by the Executive Committee shall determine all protests and interpretations of the Laws of Badminton, Bylaws and Match Regulations during any Finals or tournament matches on appeal by any team captain.
- i. Clive Fielder was appointed as Honorary Association Referee to adjudicate on any rule disputes within the association.
- j. All Finals umpires are to register with the association's President or their representative on the Finals nights.

15. Premiership Points

- a. These will be awarded for all matches and Finals as follows:
- b. One premier point for each game won plus two premier points for the team winning the highest number of game points.
- c. Games won by fill-in (or neutral) players are accumulated as premiership points for their foster team provided that the player's neutrality is noted on the back of the official result sheet.
- d. The four teams with the greatest number of premier points at the end of the season will play-off for the Premiership except where Bylaw 15f applies - with the exception of Bylaw 15h. In the Semi-Finals, the first team will play the fourth team and the second team will play the third team - with the exception of Bylaw 15h.
- e. The winners of these two Semi-Finals will compete in the Grand Final - with the exception of bylaw 15h.
- f. In the event of five (5) or less teams in a grade, only the top three (3) teams will compete in the Finals. The Finals will be conducted so that the second team and third team will play an Elimination Final and the winning team will play the first team in the Grand Final with the exception of Bylaw 15h.
- g. Should a drawn match occur in any of the Finals, a play-off game (the first team to reach five (5) points) will be played to decide the winner. The play-off game will be played with the No.1 pair from each team, i.e. 1&2 home players versus 1&2 away players.
- h. The Finals format may be subject to change at the discretion of the Executive or Match Committees.

16. Match Results

- a. A delegated member of both competing teams shall forward an official result sheet signed by the opposing captains so as to reach the Match Secretary on the night of the match.
- b. All results should be collected by the Match Secretary or the appointed person on match night.
- c. The official result sheet must be completed in full.

17. Grading

- a. A player having played four (4) matches with one team cannot play with another team in the same grade unless permission is granted by the Match Committee.
- b. Once a player moves to a higher grade, he or she may play one third of the matches allocated for that grade but is ineligible to drop back to a lower grade when the player exceeds this limit. This ruling may be waived by the Executive or Match Committees under certain circumstances.
- c. If applicable, a player registered in a lower grade may play in a higher grade and his or her regular grade within the same week.
- d. A player may play in two matches in the same grade in the same week subject to the discretion of the Executive or Match Committees.

18. Forfeiture

- a. In the case of forfeiture, the team not in default may forward a team no later than three days after the scheduled date of the match.
- b. Players in that team may use that match to help qualify in the Finals.

19. Postponements

- a. It will be allowable for the competing teams to mutually arrange to play any match before or after the fixed date.
- b. The home team is to notify the visiting team which night is available for the match at least five (5) days beforehand if the original date cannot be adhered to.
- c. In the event of the match not being played by the date fixed (except in the case of a postponement as already provided) the team in default will forfeit the match and a walkover will be awarded to their opponents.
- d. The Executive Committee will decide which team is in default in each case on the facts submitted.

20. Qualifications for Finals

- a. No player shall play in any Finals matches unless that player has represented his or her club in a total of at least four (4) matches prior to the last two (2) home and away matches during the home and away rounds in the team concerned or in teams of lower grades.
- b. The matches need not be played in the same grade.
- c. The Match Committee may grant special exemption from the provisions of this regulation in exceptional circumstances.

21. Offensive Behaviour

- a. The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend, for any period it may determine, the registration of a player found guilty of offensive behavior during a match or tournament conducted by the Association.
- b. One game point may be deducted from a game score for using any bad language or offensive behaviour.
 - i. A warning must be made by the umpire for the first offense.
 - ii. Any bad language must be audible to the umpire for a penalty to occur.

22. Protests

All protests must be lodged in writing with the Association's Secretary within three days after the match concerned.

23. Penalties

In the event of any club infringing any of these bylaws the Executive Committee shall have the power to impose any penalty it deems fit, except in cases where a penalty is specifically stated.

24. Alterations to Bylaws and Match Regulations

These bylaws and match regulations shall only be altered by the concurrence of a three-fourths majority at an Annual General Meeting of the Association or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

25. Tournaments

The following are the recommended guidelines for the Tournament Committee:

- a. Tournaments dates are to be decreed by the Executive Committee and should be advertised at least four weeks in advance of proposed dates.
- b. All doubles teams in the Association's tournaments have the right to defend their titles and after two years are then split up.
- c. If less than four entries are submitted for any tournament event then that event may be abandoned.
- d. Fees or singles entry and per player entry in doubles and mixed is to be determined at the AGM.
- e. All tournament entrants are required to be a registered player of the Association and should have played at least three matches in the current Winter Season or have satisfied bylaw **20a** in the previous Winter Season.
- f. Tournament formats are to be decided by the Executive Committee.
- g. The format and/or make-up of the games are to be decided upon by the Executive Committee.
- h. The loser of each game is to umpire the next game. Penalties may be imposed by the Executive Committee.
- i. Tournaments are recommended to be played during the season on normal match nights for each Grade.

26. Trophies

- a. Trophies are to be awarded to all Premiership Winners.
- b. Badges or Medallions are to be awarded to Premiership Runners-up.
- c. Individual trophies to be awarded for each Tournament event Winners.
- d. Runners-up trophies for each tournament event will only be presented if a sufficient number of entries enter the event. Determination is at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

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