

Hong Kong Scrabble Players Association
Tournaments Classification Regulation

2015-2016 2nd Main Committee Meeting Enacted

Section I: General

1. Definition

In this Regulation:

“Association” shall mean the Hong Kong Scrabble Players Association.

“Main Committee” shall mean the Main Committee of the Association.

“Members” shall mean individual members of the Association.

“Regulation” shall mean the Tournaments Classification Regulation of the Association.

“Tournament(s)” shall mean Scrabble tournament(s).

“HKSPA Ratings” shall mean the Ratings system of the Association.

“Hong Kong National Scrabble Championship” shall mean the annual tournament organised by the Association for selecting the Hong Kong Scrabble Champion.

“Hong Kong Masters” shall mean the annual invitational tournament organised by the Association for the top-ranked members.

“Hong Kong Scrabble Challenge” shall mean the annual open tournament organised by the Association for all local and overseas players in July or August.

“Hong Kong Scrabble Player’s Cup” shall mean the annual individual knockout tournament organised by the Association.

“Inter-School Scrabble Championship” shall mean the annual school tournament organised by the Association for all local schools under the name “Inter-School Scrabble Championship”.

“Hong Kong Youth Scrabble Champions Tournament” shall mean the annual youth championship organised by the Association in September or October.

“CSW15” shall mean the Collins Scrabble Words 2015.

2. Aim

The Regulation aims at setting criteria for recognising and rating tournaments.

3. Amendment

The Regulation shall be amended or rescinded at any Main Committee meeting with recommendation from any popularly elected Main Committee member, and a motion carried by a two-thirds majority.

4. Interpretation

The interpretation of the Regulation shall rest with the Main Committee.

Section II: Tournaments Classification

1. Tournaments Classification

There are two types of tournaments recognised by the Association: HKSPA-rated tournaments and HKSPA-recognized tournaments.

2. HKSPA-rated tournaments

2.1 Definition

HKSPA-rated tournaments are tournaments recognised by the Association and included in the calculation of HKSPA Ratings.

2.2 Tournaments automatically classified as HKSPA-rated tournaments

The following tournaments organised by the Association are automatically classified as HKSPA-rated tournaments:

- Hong Kong National Scrabble Championship
- Hong Kong Masters
- Hong Kong Scrabble Challenge
- Hong Kong Scrabble Player's Cup
- Hong Kong Youth Scrabble Champions Tournament
- Inter-School Scrabble Championship

2.3 Criteria for being HKSPA-rated tournaments

Tournaments not listed in 2.2 could be recognised as HKSPA-rated tournaments if:

- The tournament follows the latest WESPA Rules;
- The tournament uses CSW15 as dictionary with no exclusion;
- All games are to be played with 2 competitors with no third party assistance;
- The tournament has a minimum number of 4 players;
- The maximum time allowed is 25 minutes per player per game, unless specially approved by the Tournaments and Ratings Officer;
- The rationales and reasons behind the limitations regarding eligibility are reasonable;
- The tournament is announced at least 10 days in advance, with date, time, venue, and contact information available;
- The tournament is of competitive nature; and
- For tournaments limiting eligible players not by age, at least 30% of the players must have an existing HKSPA rating, whether provisional or not.

The Tournaments and Ratings Officer has the responsibility to determine whether the tournaments met the above criteria and put the details of the recognised tournaments on the event calendar on the Association's website.

2.4 Procedures for recognising HKSPA-rated tournaments

The Tournament and Ratings Officer has an active and non-delegable duty to recognise tournaments fulfilling the criteria in 2.3 organised by the Association.

For tournaments not organised by the Association, the tournament organiser has the responsibility to seek recognition from the Tournaments and Ratings Officer.

2.5 Tournament and Ratings Officer's judgment

The Tournament and Ratings Officer's judgment regarding recognition of HKSPA-rated tournaments are subject to review by the Main Committee.

2.6 Main Committee's discretion

The Main Committee can exercise its discretionary power in recognising tournaments not meeting all of the criteria in 2.3 with recommendation from any popularly elected Main Committee member, and a motion carried by a two-thirds majority.

3. HKSPA-recognised tournaments**3.1 Definition**

HKSPA-recognised tournaments are tournaments not meeting any of the criteria in 2.3 but recognised by the Association as a fair and recommendable tournament.

3.2 Criteria for being HKSPA-recognised tournaments

Tournaments not classified as HKSPA-rated tournaments could be recognised as HKSPA-recognised tournaments if:

- The tournament follows a fair rule;
- The tournament uses CSW15 as dictionary with no exclusion; and
- The tournament is deemed recommendable by the HKSPA Main Committee.

The Tournaments and Ratings Officer has the responsibility to determine whether the tournaments met the above criteria and put the details of the recognised tournaments on the event calendar on the Association's website.

3.3 Procedures for recognising HKSPA-rated tournaments

The Tournaments and Ratings Officer has an active and non-delegable duty to recognise tournaments fulfilling the criteria in 3.2 organised by the Association.

For tournaments not organised by the Association, the tournament organiser has the responsibility to seek recognition from the Tournaments and Ratings Officer.

3.4 Tournament and Ratings Officer's judgment

The Tournament and Ratings Officer's judgment regarding recognition of HKSPA-recognised tournaments are subject to review by the Main Committee.

3.5 Main Committee's discretion

The Main Committee can exercise its discretionary power in recognising tournaments not meeting all of the criteria in 2.3 with recommendation from any popularly elected Main Committee member, and a motion carried by a two-thirds majority.

Section III: Tournaments not recognised by the Association

The Association does not recommend its members to join the tournaments not recognised by the Association. The Association could take active actions in discouraging its members in joining those tournaments.

Section IV: Appeal

Any players affected by any judgments by virtue of the regulation reserves the right of appeal to the Main Committee.