

Hong Kong Scrabble Players Association  
**Hong Kong Player Statuses Regulation**

*2021-2022 Executive Committee Meeting (4 May 2022) Amended*  
*2016-2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Main Committee Meeting Amended*  
*2015-2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Main Committee Meeting Enacted*

## **Section I: General**

### **1. Definition**

In this Regulation:

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

“Executive Committee” shall mean the Executive Committee of the Association (once known as “Main Committee”).

“Members” shall mean individual members of the Association.

“Regulation” shall mean the Hong Kong Player Statuses Regulation of the Association.

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

### **2. Aim**

The Regulation aims at regulating the statuses as Hong Kong players in WESPA-rated events, and other overseas and international tournaments.

### **3. Amendment**

The Regulation shall be amended or rescinded at any Executive Committee meeting with recommendation from any popularly elected Executive Committee member, and a motion carried by a simple majority.

### **4. Interpretation**

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

## **Section II: Statuses**

### **1. Types of statuses**

There are two statuses as Hong Kong players: representation and affiliation.

### **2. Representation**

All Hong Kong Permanent Residents can choose Hong Kong as their representation in WESPA-rated events, and other overseas and international tournaments. Players with Hong Kong representation status can:

- Through a qualifying process, represent Hong Kong in the WESPA Championship and any WESPA-rated tournaments in which there is a quota for Hong Kong players
- Represent Hong Kong in international and overseas tournaments
- Be shown as a Hong Kong player in the WESPA database
- Participate in the Hong Kong Scrabble Championship

### **3. Affiliation**

Hong Kong Residents who are not yet Permanent Residents can choose Hong Kong as their affiliation in WESPA-rated events, and other overseas and international tournaments. Players with Hong Kong affiliation status can:

- Be identified as from Hong Kong in international and overseas tournaments
- Be shown as a Hong Kong player in the WESPA database
- After competing in any overseas WESPA-rated tournaments under Hong Kong affiliation, obtain Hong Kong representation status
- After becoming a Hong Kong Permanent Resident, obtain Hong Kong representation status

The Executive Committee may, from time to time, recognise any Hong Kong Residents as having Hong Kong affiliation statuses.

For the avoidance of doubt, players are no longer required to sign a declaration in order to obtain Hong Kong affiliation status. Any players who have been *de facto* regarded as having Hong Kong affiliation status (or Hong Kong representation status, obtained based on such prior affiliation status) even though the former requirement to sign a declaration have not been met shall be deemed to have the Hong Kong affiliation status or representation status (as appropriate) notwithstanding the absence of a declaration, unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise.

## **Section III: Loss of statuses**

### **1. Loss of representation status**

A player would lose his or her representation status if he or she, with the approval from any other national association recognized by WESPA, chose to represent that country in WESPA-rated tournaments.

### **2. Loss of affiliation status**

A player would lose his or her affiliation status if he or she:

- with the approval from any other national association recognized by WESPA, chose to represent that country in WESPA-rated tournaments; or
- obtained Hong Kong representation status.

### **3. (Repealed)**

## **Section IV: Executive Committee's discretion**

The Executive Committee can exercise its discretionary power in judgments relating to Section II and III of the regulation under exceptional circumstances, with recommendation from any popularly elected Main Committee member, and a motion carried by a simple majority.

## **Section V: Appeal**

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

### **Schedule: Revision history**

The Regulation was amended in the Executive Committee meeting on 4 May 2022 to:

- Reflect that the name of “Main Committee” was changed to “Executive Committee”;
- Abolish the requirement for players to sign a declaration in order to obtain Hong Kong affiliation statuses and to clarify that certain players who have not signed a declaration prior to the abolishment shall be deemed to have validly obtained the statuses they possess; and
- Abolish the rule that lost status can only be obtained again after a five-year waiting period.