

34th HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

RULES AND FORMATS

1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

This Championships, organised by **Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress (HKTBC)** and sanctioned by **World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA)** and **Asian Bowling Federation (ABF)**, will be conducted in accordance to the WTBA Playing Rules.

This tournament is a ranking tournament in Asia towards the World Ranking Masters.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Open to all Life / 2008-2009 HKTBC members and overseas Bowling Congresses/ Associations of WTBA members are eligible.

3. VENUE

Hong Kong Bowling City, Hall A,G/F, Emax-HITEC, 1Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, HK.

4. DATE

May 29 – June 7, 2008

5. CLASSIFICATION

Competition is divided into Open, Graded A, Graded B, Youth and Senior Divisions.

a. Open All bowlers, including graded and youth bowlers are eligible to participate.

b. Graded A ONLY the following bowlers, are eligible to participate:
i. Male bowlers whose average is 200 or under and
ii. Female bowlers whose average is 190 or under.

Graded B ONLY the following bowlers are eligible to participate:
i. Male bowlers whose average is 185 or under and
ii. Female bowlers whose average is 175 or under.

Notes for Graded A & Graded B

For the purpose of this grade, local bowlers must produce their highest league average bowled over a minimum of 21 games established within 12 months before this Championships (from May 27, 2007 to May 28, 2008) and must be certified in writing either by their respective National Congresses/Associations or bowling centres or bowling clubs registered with HKTBC. Such original certificates must be submitted to the Tournament Office at the time of registration, otherwise all attempts will be treated as Open Division until such certification is produced. It is the responsibility of the bowlers to see to it that it is their highest league average they have produced. Overseas bowlers must the same produce certification certified by their respective Congress/Associations to prove their eligibility.

The Man and Woman Champion of the Graded A/B Masters of the Hong Kong International Open for the year 2005, 2006 and 2007 are not eligible to bowl in their respective Graded Division (winners of the local Graded Tournaments are excluded).

c. Youth ONLY open to boys and girls born on January 1, 1986 or after.

d. Senior ONLY open to bowlers born on May 28, 1958 or before.

6. EVENTS

Each division is divided into two sections: Men & Women/Boys & Girls (Except Senior Division)

a. Open Division

MEN

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)
- v. Masters (2 Rounds) (16 games)

WOMEN

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)
- v. Masters (2 Rounds) (16 games)

b. Graded A Division

MEN

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)
- v. Masters (14 games)

WOMEN

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)
- v. Masters (12 games)

c. Graded B Division

MEN

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)
- v. Masters (12 games)

WOMEN

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)
- v. Masters (8 games)

d. Youth Division

BOYS

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)

GIRLS

- i. Singles (4 games)
- ii. Doubles (2 games)
- iii. Trios (2 games)
- iv. All Events (8 games)

- V. Youth Masters (10 games) are opened to all boys and girls. Girl bowlers will be given a handicap of 8 points per game for qualifying into the Youth Masters in the Singles Event and in the actual competition of the Masters Event.

e. Senior Division (Mixed)

- i. Masters Qualifying (4 games)
- ii. Senior Masters (8 games) are opened to all men and women. Bowlers will be given a handicap per game for qualifying into the Senior Masters in the Singles Event and in the actual competition of the Masters Event. The following is the detail of the handicap:

MEN

- 50 – 55 years of age: 0 points
- 56 – 60 years of age: 6 points
- 61 years of age and above: 12 points

WOMEN

- 50 – 55 years of age: 8 points
- 56 – 60 years of age: 14 points
- 61 years of age and above: 20 points

**** In the event that there are less than 6 participants, Masters Event will be cancelled.**

Trophies will then be awarded to the top 3 positions in the Masters Qualifying.

f. Challenge Cups (Not Counted Towards All Events)

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|------|---|-----------|
| i. | Inter-Centre President Cup
(Team of Four by invitation) | (3 games) |
| ii. | International Youth Year (IYY) Cup
(Team of Four for youths by invitation born on or after 1986) | (3 games) |
| iii. | Sports & Recreation Challenge Cup
(Team of Four by invitation) | (3 games) |
| iv. | Inter-Hong Challenge Cup
(Team of Four by invitation) | (3 games) |
| v. | Artistes Challenge Cup
(Team of Four by invitation) | (3 games) |

7. ALL EVENTS

Scores obtained by the bowlers in the **first set** of Singles, Doubles and Trios for Men/Women making up a total of 8 games series and for Boys/Girls making up a total of 8 games series will decide.

All Events is not applicable to Senior Division and scores obtained in All Challenge Cups Division will not be used for Masters Qualify.

8. MASTERS

SCORES obtained in the Single Events in respective divisions will be used for Masters Qualify.

This event is opened to those bowlers who have bowled and completed the Singles, Doubles and Trios events in their respective divisions and have paid up proof of their All-Events entries. Any walk-over in the above said three events, unless approved as authentic by the Tournament Directors or their Assistants, will disqualify the bowler from participating in this event.

Bowlers of Graded and Youth Divisions who have completed the All Events in their respective Division do not have to complete the All Events of the other Divisions should they wish to compete in that particular Division.

Senior Masters Event will be cancelled if there are less than 6 participants, trophies will then be awarded to the top 3 positions in the Masters Qualifying.

a. Men's Open Masters

The 36 Masters Finalists (as listed below) will bowl a total of 16 games (8 games in Block 1 and 8 games in Block 2).

The top 6 bowlers with the highest total pinfalls after 16 games will qualify for the Step-Ladder Finals.

In the Step-Ladder Finals, the 4th, 5th & 6th placed bowlers will bowl one game starting from scratch. The bowler with the highest score will meet the 2nd and 3rd placed bowlers for another one game competition starting from scratch. The bowler with the highest score will then meet the 1st placed bowler in a one plus one game. In the event that the 1st placed bowler wins the 1st game, he will be declared the Champion. If the 1st placed bowler loses the 1st game, there will be one more game (sudden death) to roll off starting from scratch to decide the Champion.

i.	Defending Champion	1
ii.	Hong Kong National Team Representative	4
iii.	Top Local Bowlers in the Singles Event	8
iv.	Top Overseas Bowlers in the Singles Event	12
v.	Top Local/Overseas Bowlers in the Singles Event	11
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		Total 36

b. Women's Open Masters

The 28 Masters Finalists (as listed below) will bowl a total of 16 games (8 games in Block 1 and 8 games in Block 2).

The top 6 bowlers with the highest total pinfalls after 16 games will qualify for the Step-Ladder Finals.

In the Step-Ladder Finals, the 4th, 5th & 6th placed bowlers will bowl one game starting from scratch. The bowler with the highest score will meet the 2nd and 3rd placed bowlers for another one game competition starting from scratch. The bowler with the highest score will then meet the 1st placed bowler in a one plus one game. In the event that the 1st placed bowler wins the 1st game, she will be declared the Champion. If the 1st placed bowler loses the 1st game, there will be one more game (sudden death) to roll off starting from scratch to decide the Champion.

i. Defending Champion	1
ii. Hong Kong National Team Representative	4
iii. Top Local Bowlers in the Singles Event	6
iv. Top Overseas Bowlers in the Singles Event	9
v. Top Local/Overseas Bowlers in the Singles Event	8
Total	28

Note : Overseas bowlers will be required to produce certification from their Bowling Congresses/Associations as proof of their overseas status.

c. Men's Graded A Masters

The top 22 bowlers in the Graded A Singles Event will enter the Graded A Men's Masters Final. A total of 14 games will be bowled.

d. Women's Graded A Masters

The top 18 bowlers in the Graded A Singles Event will enter the Graded A Women's Masters Final. A total of 12 games will be bowled.

e. Men's Graded B Masters

The top 18 bowlers in the Graded B Singles Event will enter the Graded B Men's Masters Final. A total of 12 games will be bowled.

f. Women's Graded B Masters

The top 12 bowlers in the Graded B Singles Event will enter the Graded B Women's Masters Final. A total of 8 games will be bowled.

g. Youth Masters

The 14 Masters Finalists (as listed below) will bowl a total of 10 games.

i. Top Local Bowlers in the Singles Event	5
ii. Top Overseas Bowlers in the Singles Event	5
iii. Top Local/Overseas Bowlers in the Singles Event	4
Total	14

h. Senior Masters

The top 16 bowlers in the Senior Singles Event will enter the Senior Masters Final. A total of 8 games will be bowled.

9. ATTEMPTS

No limit of attempts is imposed provided that:

- a. Doubles.....Must change a different partner in each attempt
- b. Trios.....Must change at least one bowler in each attempt

10. FEES

- a. Registration Fee for Open Division is **HK\$280.00** per person and **HK\$200.00** per person for all other Divisions and **HK\$100.00** per person for Senior Division. Registration fee which is inclusive of All Events and Victory Banquet must be paid before commencing the first attempt.
- b. Trios..... HK\$300.00 per team
- c. Doubles..... HK\$200.00 per double
- d. Singles..... HK\$200.00 per person
- e. Youth Trios..... HK\$200.00 per team
- f. Youth Doubles..... HK\$150.00 per double
- g. Youth Singles..... HK\$150.00 per person
- h. Senior Masters Qualifying..... HK\$200.00 per person

Note: The Tournament Director reserves the right to reallocate squad time and the schedule at his discretion when situation so requires. Prior notice will be given when possible. Change of bowlers is accepted provided that an amendment fee of **HK\$100.00** per bowler is paid 10 minutes before the close of the check-in time.

- i. Masters
 - i. Men's Open (16 games)..... HK\$640.00/person
 - ii. Women's Open (16 games)..... HK\$640.00/person
 - iii. Men's Graded A (14 games)..... HK\$560.00/person
 - iv. Women's Graded A (12 games)..... HK\$480.00/person
 - v. Men's Graded B (12 games) HK\$480.00/person
 - vi. Women's Graded B (8 games)..... HK\$320.00/person
 - vii. Youth (10 games)..... HK\$350.00/person
 - viii. Senior (8 games) HK\$280.00/person

Note: Appropriate entry-forms are available for purchase at the reception counter, except all the Masters events of para 10.i which will be paid at the time of check-in.

11. ENTRIES

Registration Fee must be paid before any entry will be accepted. **ENTRY FORM(S)** must be purchased and fully filled before making any entry. Such **FORM(S)** will be available for purchase at Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress office from 1000 - 2000 hour on May 22-23, 2008 (Thursday and Friday).

Entries will be accepted at Hong Kong Bowling City from May 29, 2008 onwards.

Upon request by tournament official or staff, all local bowlers must produce their HKTBC membership cards and all participants must produce their registration cards for examination. Youth and Senior bowlers must produce their identity card. Entry forms submitted by bowlers without registration number will not be accepted.

12. AWARDS

- a. **Open and Graded Divisions**
 - i. Men/Women Open, Graded A and Graded B Masters

Trophies will be awarded to the top three positions and prizes will be awarded up to the positions as specified in the prize list in the various Masters Events. In addition, if the winners of the Men/Women **Open Masters** are overseas bowlers, he/she will be awarded a return air-ticket (Economy Class) from the country he/she represented to Hong Kong to defend his/her title in the next Hong Kong International Open. The game fees for the Masters Event will be waived. In the case of the winner being a local bowler, he/she will receive a two-way air-ticket (Economy Class) to either Manila or Bangkok valid until May 28, 2009. The game fees for the Masters Event will also be waived.

- ii. All Events
Prizes and medals will be presented to the winner of respective section of each Division.

- iii. Singles, Doubles and Trios
Prizes and medals will be presented to the top three positions in every event.

b. Youth Division

- i. Youth Masters
Bowling equipment and medals will be awarded to the top three positions.

- ii. All Events
Medal will be awarded to the winner.

- iii. Singles, Doubles and Trios
Medals will be awarded to the top three positions.

c. Senior Division

- i. Senior Masters
Prizes and trophies will be presented to the top three positions.
In the event that there are less than 6 participant, the Masters Final will be cancelled. Trophies will then be given to the top 3 positions in the Masters Qualifying.

d. Challenge Cups

- i. Inter-Centre President Cup will be presented to the winning team of the event to be kept for one year and trophies will be presented to members of the top three position of the event.
- ii. IYY Cup will be presented to the winning team of the event to be kept for one year and trophies will be presented to members of the top three position of the event.
- iii. Sports & Recreation Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning team of the event to be kept for one year and trophies will be presented to members of the top three position of the event.
- iv. Inter-Hong Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning team of the event to be kept for one year and trophies will be presented to members of the top three position of the event.
- v. Artistes Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning team of the event to be kept for one year and trophies will be presented to members of the top three position of the event.

13. INDIVIDUAL HIGH GAME

In both the Men and Women Section of all divisions, medals will be presented to bowlers who score the highest game in their respective division **excluding Masters Events and all Challenge cup**. Should there be a tie among two or more bowlers for the score, all will be awarded.

In the Senior Division, medals will be presented to bowlers who score the highest game in Masters Qualifying event (**excluding handicap**).

14. TIE SCORE

- a Whenever a tie occurs in any of the first three positions in the Trios, Doubles and Singles Events, players or Trios with equal scores will share the prize between them.
- b In the case of a tie in qualifying for the last position for the Masters Events, a one game roll-off shall be held. The time for the roll-off will be decided by the Tournament Committee.
- c If a tie occurs in the Open Men and Ladies Masters Final (Block 2) for the 1st, 3rd, & 6th position, a one game roll-off shall be held to break the tie. If a tie still exists, repeat a 9th & 10th frame roll-off until the tie is broken.

15. CHECK-IN

Check-in will open one hour and close 30 minutes before the scheduled squad time in every event unless otherwise stated (bowlers must inform the check-in counter if they have consecutive squad booking in order to exempt the check-in procedure for the following squad bookings). For those who fail to check-in personally at the prescribed time, their placings as well as the fees will be forfeited. The vacancy will be allocated to the next pre-booked reserved bowler.

16. PROTESTS

- a. Protests - Foul or Legality of Pinfall
A provisional ball or frame shall be bowled by the competitor. Tournament Committee and the official representatives of the Congress shall then solve the problem.
- b. Protests - Eligibility - General Playing Rules
Protests involving eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to a responsible tournament official not later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred.
- c. Protests - Errors
The time limit for filing protests on scoring shall be one hour from the end of the event.

17. REGISTRATION OF BOWLING BALLS, ILLEGALITY AND DISQUALIFICATION

All bowling balls used in the Championships must be registered by the ball-examiner prior to competition. All participants are advised to check that their bowling balls used in the Tournament are certified as legal for weight and other specifications before they compete in their events. Bowling balls used by the participants may be subject to random check.

If at any time a bowler is found to have used an illegal ball, he/she shall be disqualified from the entire Tournament and stripped of all his/her winnings or positions standing and fees paid will not be refunded. If the Tournament Committee is of the opinion that such usage was deliberate and was intended to cheat, he/she may be further reported to the HKTBC Disciplinary Committee/or ABF Executive Committee for additional penalization. He/she may also be asked to return immediately to the Tournament Director any awards that may have already been given to him/her.

18. VERIFICATION OF SCORES

It is the responsibility of each bowler and/or the team captain to verify the correctness of scores of each game bowled by signing on the official score sheet. Once signed, the score shall stand. Official score sheet without signature will be treated as correct and no protest can be brought against it.

19. BOWLERS' ATTIRE

Men Bowlers in shorts, singlets, sleeveless T-shirt and jeans will not be allowed to bowl. Women Bowlers in singlets, sleeveless T-shirt and jeans also will not be allowed to bowl. Short and skirt will be allowed. Only proper bowling uniforms (Polo Shirt) and bowling shoes will be allowed during competition. In those instances where it is established that a bowler is in breach of this rule, he/she may be suspended by the Tournament Committee from the tournament for the block of games then being played and all fees paid will not be refunded.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to request bowlers participating in the Step-Ladder Finals of the Open Men and Women Masters to wear bowling shirts provided by the Organizer.

20. SMOKING AND DRINKING

The bowlers must not use tobacco products, consume alcohol or alcoholic drink while in competition, i.e. during the entries period of a block of games. In those instances where it is established that a bowler is in breach of this rule, he/she may be suspended by the Tournament Committee from the tournament for the block of games then being played and all fees paid will not be refunded.

21. SPECIAL NOTE

The Tournament Director and the Tournament Committee reserve the right to accept or reject any entry as they see fit. Any matter arising during the Championships which are not covered in the aforesaid information, rules and formats will be dealt with by the Tournament Director and the Tournament Committee and their decision in all cases shall be final. Meanwhile, all fees paid will not be refunded. Notwithstanding the above, an appeal may still be lodged with HKTBC within thirty days of the decision of the Tournament Committee. If dissatisfied, the last and final court of appeal shall be the Asian Bowling Federation, but such appeal should be made through HKTBC in writing and within thirty days of its decision and in accordance with the procedure specified in the WTBA Playing Rules.