

STBA Lightning Competition By-Laws:

Definitions

Fill-In: A player who is participating in place of a regular player in the Lightning Competition.

Form Rating: A player's standard as determined by qualitative and/or quantitative analysis of their performance by STBA Management.

Participant: A player, pair or team registered to participate in the Lightning Competition.

Provisional Rating: A player's standard, as assigned by placement in teams, the fill-in list, or as otherwise determined by STBA.

Regular Player: A player who registered to participate in the Lightning Competition and meets the eligibility criteria and is not a fill-in player.

Round: The group of matches that each pool will play on any given fixtured week.

STBA Committee: The management Committee of the STBA as elected per the STBA Constitution.

STBA Management: The umbrella term for the STBA Committee, STBA Staff or any individual or group to which the STBA Committee has delegated authority to manage the specific matter in question.

STBA Staff: An individual who is employed by the STBA.

Lightning competitions and results

1. A Lightning roster shall consist of:
 - a. A fixed number of rounds without finals.
 - b. A fixed number of pools.
 - c. A fixed number of participants.
 - d. A fixed number of matches each round, played between the participants within each pool.
2. Participants will be initially placed in gender neutral pools prior to the commencement of the competition based on their form rating or their provisional rating.
 - a. STBA Management reserves the right to adjust the pools when necessary.

Equipment, attire and conduct

3. All shuttles used in matches shall be of a brand approved by the STBA Committee, and we recommend you purchase these from the STBA for a guarantee on speed/product type.
 - a. All participants are to provide an equal proportion of shuttles.
4. Players must be appropriately attired.
5. Players must abide by all STBA Policies.

Round procedure

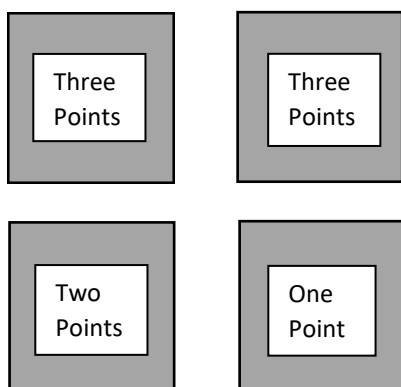
6. All rounds must commence at the indicated start time at sign up, or at any other time stipulated by STBA Management.
 - a. A round may commence earlier than the stipulated time if a majority of players participating agree and if approved by staff where courts are available.
7. A round of play shall not be more than two hours in duration.
 - a. If a match is still underway at the completion of a two-hour round of play, the score at that time shall be deemed to be the final score and entered as such.
 - b. If a match has not yet begun at the completion of a 2-hour round of play, the match will be a draw.
 - c. At the completion of each match any player may take a break not exceeding five minutes in duration at their discretion.
8. Except where otherwise stipulated, the rules of play shall be the Laws of Badminton as adopted by the Badminton World Federation.
9. Rankings for each pool shall be decided on the basis of matches won, drawn and lost, then games won, then points won.
10. In the event of a draw in final rankings at the end of a round between participants, a serve off is to be conducted.
 - a. If a *serve off* is not conducted, the player initially ranked higher will be ranked higher for the current round.
11. All players' names shall be entered on the score sheet (where not already printed).
 - a. The first name and surname of any fill-in player must be entered next to the player they replace.
12. The order of play shall be as listed on the score sheet, unless otherwise agreed by a majority players.
 - a. In the event of a disagreement, the order as listed shall stand.
13. Where a participant forfeits from any of their matches, the score will be 21-0 to their opponent in the sets required for their opponent to win their match.
14. All players shall be equally responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the scores entered into the sheet, including amending player names in the event a fill-in player competes.
15. Completed score sheets shall be left in the score sheet box at the STBA centre foyer or with STBA Staff at the reception on the night of play.
16. At the conclusion of each round of play, the regular player with the highest ranking shall be promoted to the next highest pool.
 - a. Where a fill-in player is competing, they will be ineligible for promotion.
 - b. Where all players in a pool are fill-in players, no player will be promoted and the lowest ranking player from the above pool will not be demoted.
17. At the conclusion of each round of play, the player with the lowest ranking shall be demoted to the next lowest pool.
 - a. Where the lowest ranking player is a fill-in player, they will still be demoted.
18. At the conclusion of a competition all players shall be presented with a final ranking from highest to lowest.

Match & round cancellations

19. STBA Management may be required to cancel matches due to unforeseen circumstances, including (but not limited to) power outages, building degradation, or for reasons of player safety (including condensation on the courts).
- a. In these circumstances, at the discretion of STBA Management, if the match fee had been made prior to the night's play compensation may be organised.
20. At the discretion of STBA Management any scheduled rounds that have been cancelled may be rescheduled.

Serve off

21. One of the remaining players in the box not involved in the serve off shall be the adjudicator of the serve off.
22. A target shall be placed in each of the four corners of the even's doubles serving box.
- a. A target shall be one of the square mats kept under the spectator's stands.
- b. All targets shall be the same size.
- c. The targets shall have the following point values



- d. Players must nominate which target to serve to prior to each serve.
- e. Each player shall have 5 serves.
- f. The player ranked lower at the beginning of the night shall serve first.
- g. The serves shall be taken sequentially by each player.
- h. If the player's serve hits the target, they receive the points for that target.
- i. A target is deemed to have been hit and points shall be awarded should the cork of the shuttle strike any part of the target.
- j. In the event of a drawn score at the completion of five serves, the result shall be determined by a process of 'golden point'. That is, each player shall have one additional serve and the player with the highest point score after this serve shall be deemed to be the winner. This process shall repeat until such time as a winner has been determined.

Umpires

23. All matches are to be umpired where possible, with each participant sharing the task equally, unless otherwise permitted by STBA Management.

Players not present

24. If all players are not present to commence a round within 15 minutes of the appointed start time, then the offending player(s) will forfeit all games for the evening, unless their opponents agree to play their respective matches.
25. If a player forfeits a match due to illness/injury, or of that players games for the night shall also be deemed forfeit.

Eligibility of players

26. All players participating in the roster must be registered members of the STBA.
 - a. This includes all fill-in players.
27. All players must be a minimum of twelve years of age at the time nominations close.
 - a. STBA Management may make exceptions upon request.
28. No fill-in player may play in more than one pool on any given week.

Fill-ins

29. For roster matches, a fill-in may be any player, provided that they meet the eligibility requirements as stipulated in sections 25, 26 & 27. The STBA do recommend for the benefit of the competition that fill-in players should be of a similar standard to the regular player they are replacing.

Breaches

30. Except where otherwise specified, failure to comply with these Lightning Competition By-Laws may result in the offending participant(s) being demoted from their pool, or the implementation of any other consequence deemed appropriate by STBA Management.
31. Any protests concerning breaches of the Pennant By-Laws should be communicated in writing, including electronically, to STBA Management within 48 hours of the breach(es) occurring.
 - a. STBA Management will deliver a response to the breach prior to the commencement of the next round.