

FOR DISCUSSION

2014-15 MS AGM

League Format: 1.5 or 2 rounds

Division	No. of teams	No. of league matches	
		1.5 rounds	2 rounds
Premier	12	96	132
D-1	12	96	132
D-2	12	96	132
D-3	12	96	132
D-4	12	96	132
D-5	12	96	132
D-6	9	72	72
Total	81	648	864

Myth of cost savings: umpire fees only!

$$= (132-96)*(300-70)*2 + (132-96)*(200-70)*2 + (132-96)*100$$

$$= \$29,520$$

→ average \$364 per team

- Used **17** Sundays (12 full days, 5 partial days) plus 24 evening matches from mid Sep to mid-Mar to complete **1.5 rounds** of league matches
- Another 5 Sundays for Cup matches from early Apr to early May
- We can arrange max **30** matches per hockey Sunday
- We need another 7 hockey Sundays if we play **2 full rounds** for all divisions
- League matches will be completed by the mid May. Cup matches to be completed by mid to late June.
- Clashing with school exams and hot/unstable weather

Feedback from clubs on league format

9 clubs supported 1.5 rounds

11 went for 2 rounds

6 did not respond

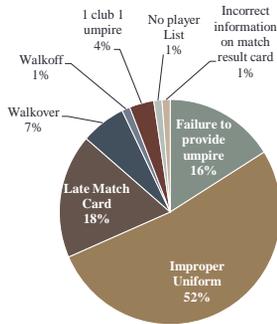
Prefer 1.5 round	Prefer 2 round	Other opinion
✓	✓	
✓	✓	
✓	✓	
✓	✓	
✓	✓	
✓	✓	
		Alternative 1 2-rounds of round robin. Then certain league games double up as "group" games for the cups, which are run in a World Cup/Champions League style format. Once four groups of six are drawn (two divisions of 12 teams), at the end of the season, the group winners play semis and a final. This format reduces the number of cup games at the end of the season. This format also keeps mid-table teams interested in the second half of the season, as often a league game counts as an important Champions League group game.
	✓	Alternative 2 2-rounds of round robin for all except Premier and 1st Division. For Premier and 1st Division, in the 2nd round, bottom 4 teams of Premier play top 4 teams of 1st Division whilst top 8 teams of Premier play each other. Bottom 8 teams in 1st Division play for Div. 1 title.
	✓	
✓		
✓		would like to suggest to lower the registration fees due to the lower amount of games played. It cannot be same registration fees for both formats as the amount of games for 1.5 format is lower
✓		
	✓	
	✓	premier league may retain 1.5 round as the standard of few top teams are too much higher than the rest.
	✓	2 round robin remain the same for higher divisions (say 1st and premier) and maintain 1.5 round for lower divisions but for lower division cup games compensate a bit more games by putting 24 team (2 division each cup) in groups of 4 and make round robin, and then to the best 16 / best 8s
✓		
	✓	if the committee decision will be on the number one option more, please kindly consider since the number games have been decreased and the registration fee should be reduced accordingly.
✓		
✓		

New Rules of Hockey to be implemented...

- Rule 9.7 – **playing of the ball at any height including above the shoulder** will ONLY be permitted in the **Premier Division** competitions of the Men's and Women's leagues. Players in all other levels of hockey shall continue to observe that playing of the ball above shoulder height is still prohibited.
- Rule 7.4 (b) - When the ball is played over the back-line and no goal is scored if played unintentionally by a defender or deflected by a goalkeeper or player with goalkeeping privileges, play is re-started with the ball on the 23 metres line and in line with where it crossed the back-line and the procedures for taking a free hit apply. With the ball being placed on the line, the re-start is effectively within the 23 metres area and the provisions for taking a free hit are applicable i.e. the **former long corner is now DELETED**.
- Rule 13 - **free hits awarded to the attack within 5 metres of the edge of the circle are now taken from where the offence occurred** (i.e. there is now no requirement to take the ball back outside the dotted 5 metres line around the circle). The Rules surrounding the entry of the ball into the circle still apply, as per Rule 13.2.
- Rule 14.1 (b) - A player is **suspended for two (2) minutes if given a green card** (for all divisions in 2015-16 season)

What have been fined in 2014-15 season?

Men's League 14/15 – Fines by Type



Fines Categories	# of offence	% of total
Failure to provide umpire	27	16%
Improper Uniform	88	52%
Late Match Card	30	18%
Walkover	11	7%
Walkoff	2	1%
1 club 1 umpire	6	4%
No player List	2	1%
Incorrect information on match result card	0	0%
Total	168	99%

Total fines: \$45,400

Highest fines (by club): \$12,600

Highest fines (by team): \$7,900

Only 1 club has not been fined: NBC

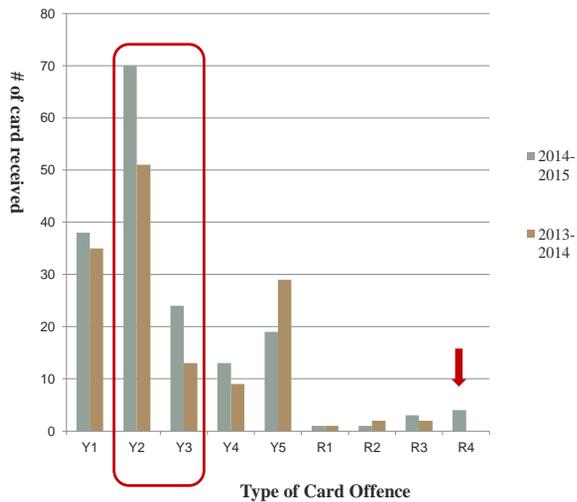
Review of Disciplinary Records (I)

164 yellow cards and 9 red cards were issued in 14-15 vs 137 yellow cards and 5 red cards in 13-14

18 more in Y2 (dangerous play) and 11 more in Y3 (verbal abuse). 4 more R4 (physical assault)

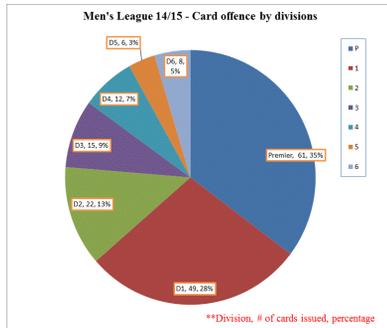
It's time to stop these!

Trend in Card Offences (by type)



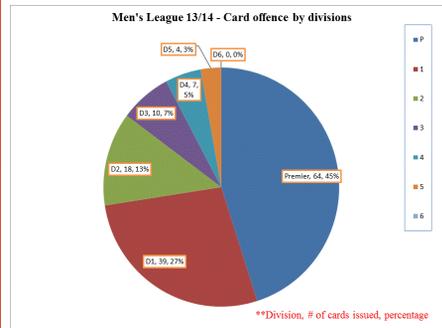
Review of Disciplinary Records (II)

63% of cards were issued by appointed umpires in 14-15 vs 72% in 13-14



Are Premier and D1 matches tougher than lower division matches **OR**

Are Club umpires reluctant to give cards?



Proposed changes in MS bye-laws (1)

- At the end of the season, the 2 lowest ranked teams of each division (except for the D-6) will play round-the-robin play off with the 2 highest ranked teams of the next lower division to determine the **promotion and relegation**.
- Foreign players without HK ID card nor valid passports but holding **Recognizances** will be registered as "local" players.

Proposed changes in MS bye-laws (2)

- To stop **abusive behaviours (verbal or foul abuse, threatened or physical assault) against umpires by players**, and dangerous play, the MS will:
 - Carve these offences against umpires as a new category with more severe penalties;
 - Consider introducing a **player penalty point system**, similar to that of driving licence in HK, on top of the existing card-related suspension system. Under the point system:
 - A player would be **suspended immediately** for, say, three months, once he has accumulated certain number of points within a certain period of time;
 - A player who has been suspended say three times in two seasons (an example), his registration will be **immediately revoked**; he will also not be allowed to register for the coming season; and
 - **Points will be accumulated not only on red/yellow card incidents**, but also on cases that deemed appropriate by the MS based on umpire reports, submissions by captain/player and video evidence. Players who do not accept the decision of the MS may appeal to the Council; and
- Consider making further changes to **hold team captains and clubs responsible for overall disciplinary performance of their teams/clubs** (e.g. team captain and club would be penalized if the number of cards received by their players reaches a certain number).