



BADMINTONWA

# GRADING RULES

## PREAMBLE

- *The aim of the Grading Rules is for players to be playing in their correct grade – against players of a similar level – which makes matches far more enjoyable. One-sided matches offer no challenge and/or can be disheartening.*
- *The Grading Rules provide an opportunity for players to demonstrate their improved playing ability by moving up the Grading Levels*
- *Tournament players may come from overseas / interstate where standards may be different. First time participants determine their own grade based on the guidelines provided below. There is no opportunity for pre-assessment of players.*
- *It is recognised that sometimes players need to compete in several tournaments before their 'correct' grade is determined.*
- *Only results from Badminton WA tournaments and tournaments sanctioned by Badminton WA, with 100 participating players or more will be considered for grading purposes.*
- *These are BADMINTON WA grades.*

## RULES

### 1. DISCIPLINES

Players will be graded for each discipline: Men's Singles (MS); Women's Singles (WS); Men's Doubles (MD); Women's Doubles (WD); and Mixed Doubles (XD)

### 2. ADULT GRADES WILL BE:

**A Grade** (open events) = International player, National player, State player, top club player

**A Reserve Grade** = Good club player

**B Grade** = Sound competitive player

**C Grade** = Social, but competitive player

**D Grade** (Recreational) = Adult social player (entry level)

### 3. JUNIOR GRADES MAY VARY AS:

Under-age Groups or Ability Groups, e.g. Division 1, 2, 3.

Determined by Event committee for specific tournaments.

### 4. FIRST TIME ENTRANT

The FIRST time a player enters a Badminton WA event he/she determines his/her own grade. Following the tournament, first time participants may request a downgrade according to the process described in Rule 12 below.

## **5. CORRECT GRADE**

With new players entering tournaments throughout the year there will always be players who are still finding their correct grade.

## **6. GRADING PROCESS**

At the conclusion of every event the Grading Committee considers results. Winners in each grade and each discipline will be assessed for Upgrading. Any change to a grade is advised in writing to the player(s).

## **7. UPGRADING**

Players who have WON a Grade event (in their Grade) are considered for an upgrade.

- a) If their results are outstanding, e.g. they won all their matches easily (21-2; 21-3) they may be upgraded to the next grade immediately. This may particularly apply to first time entrants.
- b) A player shall be upgraded after he/she has won on two occasions in a 24-month period.
- c) If a player wins the event in a higher Grade than he/she is graded, e.g. a B grade player wins an A Res event then he/she is immediately upgraded.
- d) If a player finishes in second position two grades above his / her grade, e.g. a C grade player achieves runner-up in an A Res event then he/she is immediately upgraded to the next grade above their current grade.
- e) If a player finishes in second position on two occasions in a 24-month period in a higher Grade than he/she is graded, e.g. a B grade player is runner-up twice in an A Res event then he/she is upgraded.

## **8. UPGRADE ADVICE**

Players who are upgraded will be advised and their new grading will be shown on the Grading List at least 2 weeks before the closing date of the next event. The players will be required to enter in the new grade at the next event.

## **9. PLAYING ACROSS GRADES**

No player is allowed to play below their official grade in any discipline.

Any player may play in **THEIR** grade or **ABOVE** their 'official' grade. However, no player may enter across three grades in an event. E.g. Player Red is graded C for MS, MD & XD. He may play in A Res for all events if he wants to. He/she may play in A Res for some events and B grade for some events BUT he cannot play in A Res, B and C Grade in the one tournament.

## **10. GRADING FOR DOUBLES**

No player may play BELOW their 'official' grade so in doubles the pair must play in the grade of the highest graded player. E.g. Player Red is C Grade and his partner is B Grade - they must play B Grade or above.

## **11. AUTOMATIC GRADING**

State Team Players will be automatically placed in these Grades for all disciplines on selection in the relevant team.

- Players in the Under 15 State Team shall be graded C Grade
- Players in the Under 17 State Team shall be graded B Grade
- Players in the Under 19 State Team shall be graded A Res Grade
- Players in the Senior State Team shall be graded A Grade or OPEN.

The Grading Committee has the right to allow a lower grade in a special case e.g. age of player.

## **12. DOWNGRADING**

- A Player may request a downgrade.
- This must be in writing and sent to the Grading Committee of Badminton WA ([grading@badmintonwa.org.au](mailto:grading@badmintonwa.org.au) or PO Box 39, Kingsway WA 6065).
- Requests must be done prior to the closing date of any event and no consideration will be given to any requests once the entries have closed.
- Reasons for downgrade requests may include:
  - No longer in a State team
  - Reduced playing ability due to age or injury
  - Consistently poor results
- Downgrading decisions are at the discretion of the Grading Committee.
- The Grading Committee will inform the applicant of the result of the request within 10 days of it being received.

## **13. GRADING DATA EXPIRY**

- The grading data for players inactive on the tournament circuit for 3 years or more is archived and excluded from current grading list.
- Players re-entering the tournament circuit after 3 years or more are considered to be first time participants as per rule #4.

## **14. PARA-BADMINTON**

- Para-badminton players are classified according to BWF classification rules and are not subject to grading. Para-badminton players who choose to participate in mainstream events shall enter in such events in accordance with the Grading Rules.

## **15. APPEALS**

- Only appeals contesting decisions based on incorrect process may be considered. The appeals must be in writing and sent to the Grading Committee of Badminton WA ([grading@badmintonwa.org.au](mailto:grading@badmintonwa.org.au) or PO Box 39, Kingsway WA 6065).

*These grading rules come into force from June 2017.*