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## Grouping of Byes

### Current:

Article 7 (a) The Tournament Director, when making up the charts, may place all byes and sub-bracket players evenly throughout the chart, or may group all byes or sub-bracket players together in District Tournaments, consistent with the pairing of such players. (Approved March 2016)

### Change:

Delete "in District Tournaments".

### Rational:

The grouping of byes reduces the waiting time of those players who have drawn byes by allowing them to play against one another without having to wait full rounds for the non-byes to catch up. While those with byes will eventually have to wait for the non-byes to catch up, it will be less of a problem since:

1. It will be later in the tournament when some of those with byes have already been eliminated.
2. The waiting for those remaining will often be at the end of the first day.
  - a. Example 1 – 32-chart with 4 byes.
    - i. The non-byes play rounds 1, 2 and 3.
    - ii. The four byes play their first two rounds against each other in rounds 2 and 3.
    - iii. Those with byes will now have to wait for the non-byes to catch up, but they are waiting to play semi-finals.
    - iv. Since most tournaments play three rounds per day, everyone is done after round 3 and will play semi's and finals the following day.

The argument that grouping byes at the top of the chart means that a person or team with a bye will face fewer strong team if a false argument. Using the example above, there are 4 byes.

1. Each player/team has a 12.5% chance of drawing a bye.
  - a. The odds of drawing a bye are not affected by the grouping of byes.
2. Each team/player who has draw a bye will play 4 opponents.
  - a. One opponent from their group of 4; one opponent from the adjacent group of 4, one opponent from the adjacent group of 8, and one from the adjacent group of 16.
  - b. That pattern is the same for both distributed and grouped byes.
3. Each team/player without a bye will play 5 opponents.

- a. One from their group of 2; one from the adjacent group of 2; one opponent from the adjacent group of 4, one opponent from the adjacent group of 8, and one from the adjacent group of 16.
- b. Again, that pattern is the same whether the bytes are grouped or distributed.