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一個賽事有四個「冠軍」？

一般比賽會以冠亞季殿來獎勵優勝隊伍，但在七人欖球世界中卻出現四個「冠軍」！

原因是七人欖球的比賽於分組賽出線後，均會以盃賽、碟賽、碗賽及盾賽，從而決出各隊的最後排名。盃賽指第一至四名次球隊，碟賽指第五至八名次球隊，如此類推至盾賽的第十三至第十六名球隊，而上述四項賽事均會誕生一隊冠軍。

為了解設立盃、碟、碗、盾的原因，筆者專程走訪了前香港欖球總會對外事務總監趙國光先生。他表示有關安排要追溯至 70 年代，「當時開始設立盃、碟及碗三個獎項，直至 90 年代再增加了盾賽。目的除了增加比賽的趣味性外，獎項數目的增加更鼓勵球隊的參與。參加者在感受到獲獎的樂趣後，定必提高他們日後的參與程度，以爭取更高的名次為目標。」

香港學界體育聯會每年皆會舉辦的全港中學校際七人欖球比賽，邀請港九及新界地域中學的前四名優勝隊伍參加。雖然只有八支隊伍參賽，但各參賽隊伍完成小組賽後，最後同樣需要於盃、碟、碗、盾四項賽事，角逐四個「冠軍」！



2018-19 年度全港中學校際七人欖球比賽碟賽冠軍
(女子甲乙組 - 預賽)
(Photo: HKSSF)



盃賽冠軍為整項賽事的最高榮譽。
(Photo: HKSSF)



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Four 'Champion' in One Tournament?

In general competitions, winning teams are awarded Champion, 2nd, 3rd & 4th place, while this is not the case in Rugby Sevens. There are always four champions in their tournaments!

After the round robin matches from each pool, the tournament will be split into Cup, Plate, Bowl and Shield competitions. The winner of Cup Final will be awarded to the first place and the overall winner of the tournament, winning teams of the Plate, Bowl and Shield go to the fifth place, ninth place and thirteenth place respectively. Therefore, four champions will be awarded in a sevens tournament.

In order to find out the reasons behind, we have interviewed Mr. K. K. Chiu, the former Head of External Affairs of Hong Kong Rugby Union. 'There were only Cup, Plate and Bowl finals in the 1970s until they added the Shield in the 1990s', said Mr. Chiu. They believed by adding another award into the playing system, it could encourage more teams to participate in Rugby, and for more award opportunities, could provide motivations to teams to strive for excellence.

The Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation organizes the All Hong Kong Inter-School Rugby Sevens Competition every year. Top four teams from both HK Island & Kowloon and New Territories regional competitions would be qualified to participate in the competition. Although there are only 8 teams in the tournament, they play round robin pool matches and then fight for the four champion titles in the Cup, Plate, Bowl and Shield finals!



Plate Champion of All HK Inter-School Rugby Sevens Competition 2018-19 (Girls AB Grade - Preliminary Round)
(Photo: HKSSF)



Cup Champion is the highest honor of the entire tournament.
(Photo: HKSSF)