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# **COMPETITION RULES**

## **2024 – 2025**

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## CADETS LEAGUE

(UNDER 14 BOYS)

BORN - 2011

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta – Depiro – Hibernians – Luxol – Mellieha - Starlites

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### ***Regular league competition***

All teams will play each other on a three round system.

- Minimum of players per team; 8
  - 4 sessions of 7 minutes (stopping time) will be played.
  - Ball size; 6.
  - Up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter all players on the bench have to play.
  - If a team has less than 12 players on the bench (min. 8), then the opposing team has the option to use an equal number of players by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
  - Minimum of one FULL quarter to be played by each player. (The above note applies)
  - Maximum of three FULL quarters to be played by each player.
  - A player cannot play the first 3 consecutive quarters.
  - No Substitutions are allowed at any time during the first 3 quarters of the game, with the exceptions of the following:
    1. When there are any injured players, subs to be decided by the opposing coach.
    2. Fouled out players, subs to be decided by the opposing coach.
    3. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, subs are allowed, always abiding by the above mentioned rules.
  - **Zone defence is not allowed.**
1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table a decider will be played.
  2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
  3. The team with the highest number of points at the end of the League will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.
  4. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League with the exception of the ones mentioned above.
  5. A team can field any player whether the player is a foreigner or Maltese. No restrictions on the number of foreigners on court during playing time.

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## CADETS LEAGUE – DIV B

(UNDER 14 BOYS DIV B)

BORN - 2011

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta – Depiro Gold – Hibernians – Luxol – Starlites

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### **Regular league competition**

All teams will play each other on a two round system.

- Minimum of players per team; 8
  - 4 sessions of 7 minutes (stopping time) will be played.
  - Ball size; 6.
  - Up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter all players on the bench have to play.
  - If a team has less than 12 players on the bench (min. 8), then the opposing team has the option to use an equal number of players by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
  - Minimum of one FULL quarter to be played by each player. (The above note applies)
  - Maximum of three FULL quarters to be played by each player.
  - A player cannot play the first 3 consecutive quarters.
  - No Substitutions are allowed at any time during the first 3 quarters of the game, with the exceptions of the following:
    2. When there are any injured players, subs to be decided by the opposing coach.
    2. Fouled out players, subs to be decided by the opposing coach.
    3. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, subs are allowed, always abiding by the above mentioned rules.
  - **Zone defence is not allowed.**
6. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table a decider will be played.
  7. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
  8. The team with the highest number of points at the end of the League will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.
  9. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League with the exception of the ones mentioned above.
  10. A team can field any player whether the player is a foreigner or Maltese. No restrictions on the number of foreigners on court during playing time.

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## CADETTES LEAGUE

(UNDER 14 GIRLS)

BORN - 2011

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta A – Depiro – Hibernians – Luxol A – Starlites A – Athleta B – Luxol B – Starlites B

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### ***Regular league competition***

All teams will play each other on a two round system.

- Minimum of players per team; 8
- 4 sessions of 7 minutes (stopping time) will be played.
- Ball size; 6.
- Up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter all players on the bench have to play.
- Minimum of one FULL quarter to be played by each player.
- If a team has fewer players on the bench (min. 8), then the opposing team has the option to use an equal number of players by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
- Maximum of three FULL quarters to be played by each player. (The above note applies)
- A player cannot play the first 3 consecutive quarters.
- No Substitutions are allowed at any time during the first 3 quarters of the game, with the exceptions of the following:
  1. When there are any injured players, subs to be decided by the opposing coach.
  2. Fouled out players, subs to be decided by the opposing coach.
  3. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, subs are allowed, always abiding by the above mentioned rules.
- Zone defence is not allowed.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table a decider will be played.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The team with the highest number of points at the end of the League (Top 4 Teams) will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.
4. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League with the exception of the ones mentioned above.
5. A team can field any player whether the player is a foreigner or Maltese. No restrictions on the number of foreigners on court during playing time.

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## JUNIOR MEN LEAGUE

(UNDER 16 BOYS)

BORN - 2009

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

DIV A: Athleta – Depiro Blue — Hibernians — Luxol – Mellieha - Starlites

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All teams will play each other on a two round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The top four Teams will play a Final four series.
4. Format for Final Four is 1<sup>st</sup> placed vs 4<sup>th</sup> placed and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed vs 3<sup>rd</sup> placed.
5. Final between winning Teams of both Semi Finals will be played on a best out of three games.
6. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League

All players participating in the Under 16 league shall have, before the start of the league, participated and completed a refereeing course organised by the MBA from time to time.

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## **JUNIOR MEN LEAGUE – DIV B**

(UNDER 16 BOYS)

BORN - 2009

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### **PARTICIPATING TEAMS:**

Athleta – Depiro Gold— Hibernians Black — Hibernians Whites — Luxol St. Andrews  
Bolt - Starlites

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All teams will play each other on a two round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The team with the highest number of points at the end of the League will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.
4. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League
5. All players participating in the Under 16 league shall have, before the start of the league, participated and completed a refereeing course organised by the MBA from time to time.

# JUNIOR WOMEN LEAGUE

(UNDER 16 Girls)  
BORN - 2009

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## PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta \_ Depiro Blue – Depiro Gold- Hibernians – Luxol Bolt– Luxol St. Andrews Bolt -  
Starlites Mazars – Starlites White

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All teams will play each other on a ONE round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The top four Teams will play another round between themselves.
4. The bottom four Teams will play another two rounds for league placings.
5. Format for Final Four is 1<sup>st</sup> placed vs 4<sup>th</sup> placed and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed vs 3<sup>rd</sup> placed.
6. Final between winning Teams of both Semi Finals will be played on a best out of three games.
7. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League
8. All players participating in the Under 16 league shall have, before the start of the league, participated and completed a refereeing course organise by the MBA from time to time.

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## YOUNG MEN LEAGUE

(UNDER 19 MEN)

BORN - 2006

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

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Athleta - Depiro Blue – Depiro Gold –Hibernians – Luxol Bolt – Luxol St. Andrews -  
Mellieha - Starlites Blue – Starlites White

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All teams will play each other on a one round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The top four Teams will play another round between themselves.
4. The bottom five Teams will play another round for league placings.
5. Final between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams will be played on a best out of three games.
6. The winner of this Final will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.
7. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League



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## YOUNG WOMEN LEAGUE

(UNDER 19 WOMEN)

BORN – 2006

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta - Depiro – Hibernians - Luxol Bolt – Luxol St. Andrews - Starlites Blue – Starlites White

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All teams will play each other on a one round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The top four Teams will play another round between themselves.
4. The bottom five Teams will play another two rounds for league placings.
5. Final between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams will be played on a best out of three games.
6. The winner of this Final will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.
7. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League

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## LOUIS BORG U23 MEN LEAGUE

(UNDER 23 MEN)  
BORN - 2002

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta - Depiro – Hibernians – Luxol – Starlites Naxxar

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All teams will play each other on a two round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The foreign player/s who are listed on the team list for the under 23 and/or amateur league cannot play in first division.
4. The foreign player/s who are listed on the team list for the first division cannot play in the under 23 and/or amateur league
5. Any Maltese player/s listed on the under 23 and/or amateur and/or first division league team list may play in all divisions, if so eligible.
6. Final Series as follows:
  - a) First placed Team straight to the Final
  - b) 2<sup>nd</sup> placed will play 3<sup>rd</sup> placed in playoff SF (one game)
  - c) Final between 1<sup>st</sup> placed team and winner of SF on a best out of three games
  - d) Winner of Final Games will be declared Champion 2024-25
7. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League

# LOUIS BORG U23 WOMEN LEAGUE

(UNDER 23 WOMEN)

BORN – 2002

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## PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Depiro – Hibernians - Luxol – Starlites Naxxar

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All teams will play each other on a three round system.

1. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
2. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
3. The foreign player/s who are listed on the team list for the under 23 league cannot play in first division.
4. The foreign player/s who are listed on the team list for the first division cannot play in the under 23 league
5. Any Maltese player/s listed on the under 23 team list may play in all divisions, if so eligible.
6. Final series as follows:
  - a) First placed Team straight to the Final
  - b) 2<sup>nd</sup> placed will play 3<sup>rd</sup> placed in playoff SF (one game)
  - e) Final between 1<sup>st</sup> placed team and winner of SF on a best out of three games
  - f) Winner of Final Games will be declared Champion 2024-25

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## JOHN TABONE AMATEUR SHIELD MEN

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Depiro – Qormi - Starlites Naxxar – Kylin – Hibernians – Pieta - Shamrock Stars

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### PHASE 1

Draws between all teams to determine the 2 groups. Group A (3 teams) and Group B (4 teams)

All teams in each group will play each other on a one round system

### PHASE TWO – SEMI FINALS:

SEMI FINAL ONE (1) First placed team in Group A – Phase 1, will play against the second placed team in Group B - Phase 1. Direct elimination.

SEMI FINAL TWO (2) First placed team in Group B – Phase 1, will play against the second placed team in Group A - Phase 1. Direct elimination.

Winner of semi final one will play against winner of semi final two.

Winner of final game will be declared Winner of MBA Shield for Season 2024 – 2025

1. A team can field any player whether the player is a foreigner or Maltese. No restrictions on the number of foreigners on court during playing time.
  2. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this tournament except for the ones mentioned above
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## AMATEUR MEN KNOCK OUT (KO)

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Depiro – Qormi - Starlites Naxxar – Kylin – Hibernians – Pieta - Shamrock Stars

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### PRELIMINARY GAMES:

Draws will be held between all teams to determine the 6 teams of the Prelim Games and 1 Bye Team

### Semi Finals:

Draws will be held for the 1 bye Teams and the Winners of the three Prelim Games.

### FINAL:

Winner of semi-final one will play against winner of semi-final two.

Winner of final game will be declared KO winner for Season 2024 – 2025.

3. A team can field any player whether the player is a foreigner or Maltese. No restrictions on the number of foreigners on court during playing time.
4. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this tournament except for the ones mentioned above

Winner of final game will be declared Winner of MBA Shield for Season 2024 – 2025

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## AMATEUR MEN NATIONAL LEAGUE

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Depiro – Qormi - Starlites Naxxar – Kylin – Hibernians – Pieta – Shamrock Stars

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1. All teams will play each other on a two round system.
2. If two or more teams finishes with the same number of point's classification will be calculated as per FIBA rules.
3. A team can field any player whether the player is a foreigner or Maltese. No restrictions on the number of foreigners on court during playing time.
4. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League
5. The top four Teams will play a Final four series.
6. Format for Final Four is 1<sup>st</sup> placed vs 4<sup>th</sup> placed and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed vs 3<sup>rd</sup> placed on a best out of three games.
7. Final between winning Teams of both Semi Finals will be played on a best out of Five games.
8. The winner of this Final will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 - 2025.

# DIVISION ONE WOMEN

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## MBA SHIELD

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### **PARTICIPATING TEAMS:**

Athleta - Luxol - Depiro – Hibernians – Starlites - Valletta

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### PHASE 1

Draws between all teams to determine the 2 groups. (Group A and Group B)

All teams in each group will play each other on a one round system

### PHASE TWO – SEMI FINALS:

SEMI FINAL ONE (1) First placed team in Group A – Phase 1, will play against the second placed team in Group B - Phase 1. Direct elimination.

SEMI FINAL TWO (2) First placed team in Group B – Phase 1, will play against the second placed team in Group A - Phase 1. Direct elimination.

Winner of semi final one will play against winner of semi final two.

Winner of final game will be declared Winner of MBA Shield for Season 2024 – 2025  
FINAL:

1. A team can only have a maximum of:
  - a) One (1) foreign player on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
  - b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)
  - c) **For the 2024-25 season only**  
New teams in our 1st Division Women's league are allowed to register a maximum of one 'local' foreign player, which has been living in Malta for the past 12 months. This rule is an addition to the other current rules.
2. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this tournament except for the ones mentioned above

Winner of final game will be declared Winner of MBA Shield for Season 2024 – 2025

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## KNOCK OUT (KO)

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta - Luxol - Depiro – Hibernians – Starlites – Valletta

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### PHASE 1

1. Draws for 2 BYE Teams
2. Draws for Games 1 and 2 between the remaining 4 Teams. Direct elimination.

Game 1: Team C v Team D

Game 2: Team E v Team F

### PHASE TWO – SEMI FINALS:

3. Draws between winners of Game 1 and Game 2 and the Two BYE Teams

SEMI FINAL 1: Winner G1/2 – Bye Team v Winner G1/2 – Bye Team . Direct elimination.

SEMI FINAL 2: Winner G1/2 – Bye Team v Winner G1/2 – Bye Team . Direct elimination.

FINAL:

Winner of semi final one will play against winner of semi final two.

3. A team can only have a maximum of:
  - a) One (1) foreign player on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
  - b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)
  - c) **For the 2024-25 season only**  
New teams in our 1st Division Women's league are allowed to register a maximum of one 'local' foreign player, which has been living in Malta for the past 12 months. This rule is an addition to the other current rules.

1. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this KO



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## SUPER CUP

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### FINAL:

Caffe MOAK Luxol                      vs                      DEPIRO

Winner of game will be declared Super Cup winner for Season 2024 – 2025.

A team can only have a maximum of:

- a) One (1) foreign player on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
- b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)
- c) **For the 2024-25 season only**  
New teams in our 1st Division Women's league are allowed to register a maximum of one 'local' foreign player, which has been living in Malta for the past 12 months. This rule is an addition to the other current rules.

1. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this Super Cup

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## NATIONAL LEAGUE

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta - Luxol - Depiro – Hibernians – Starlites - Valletta

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1. All teams will play each other on a three round system.
2. If two or more teams finish with the same number of points at the top of the table, placing will be according to Fiba rules.
3. 2 points for a win and 1 point for a loss. No points will be awarded to those Teams handing over a walk-over
4. Top four teams will qualify for play-offs series.
5. Semi Finals will be played on a best out three games. 1<sup>st</sup> placed vs 4<sup>th</sup> placed and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed vs 3<sup>rd</sup> placed.
6. Final between winning Teams of both Semi Finals will be played on a best out of five games.
7. The winner of this Final will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.

A team can only have a maximum of:

- a) One (1) foreign player on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
- b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)
- c) **For the 2024-25 season only**

New teams in our 1st Division Women's league are allowed to register a maximum of one 'local' foreign player, which has been living in Malta for the past 12 months. This rule is an addition to the other current rules.

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## DIVISION ONE MEN

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### MBA SHIELD

#### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta – Hibernians - Depiro - Luxol – Starlites – Valletta Fighters - Mosta

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#### PHASE ONE

Draws between all teams to determine the 2 groups. Group A (3 Teams) and Group B (4 Teams)

1. All teams will play each other on a one round system.
2. If two or more teams finishes with the same number of point's classification will be calculated as per FIBA rules.
3. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this tournament .

#### PHASE TWO – SEMI FINALS:

SEMI FINAL ONE (1) First placed team in Group A – Phase 1, will play against the second placed team in Group B - Phase 1. Direct elimination.

SEMI FINAL TWO (2) First placed team in Group B – Phase 1, will play against the second placed team in Group A - Phase 1. Direct elimination.

Winner of semi final one will play against winner of semi final two.

Winner of final game will be declared Winner of MBA Shield for Season 2024 – 2025  
FINAL:

4. A team can only have a maximum of:
  - a) Two (2) foreign players on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
  - b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)

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## KNOCK OUT (KO)

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta – Hibernians - Depiro - Luxol – Starlites – Valletta Fighters – Mosta

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### PRELIMINARY GAMES:

Draws will be held between all teams to determine the 6 teams of the Prelim Games and 1 Bye Team

### Semi Finals:

Draws will be held for the 1 bye Teams and the Winners of the three Prelim Games.

### FINAL:

Winner of semi-final one will play against winner of semi-final two.

Winner of final game will be declared KO winner for Season 2024 – 2025.

1. A team can only have a maximum of:
  - a) One (2) foreign players on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
  - b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)

All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this KO

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## SUPER CUP

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### FINAL:

Starlites        vs        Depiro

Winner of game will be declared Super Cup winner for Season 2024 – 2025.

1. A team can only have a maximum of:
  - a) One (2) foreign players on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
  - b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)

All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League

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## NATIONAL LEAGUE

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### PARTICIPATING TEAMS:

Athleta – Hibernians - Depiro - Luxol – Starlites – Valletta Fighters – Mosta

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1. All teams will play each other on a two round system.
2. If two or more teams finishes with the same number of point's classification will be calculated as per FIBA rules.
3. A team can only have a maximum of:
  - a) One (2) foreign players on the playing court (out of the 5 players on the field) during playing time.
  - b) No limit of 'local foreign' players on the playing court during playing time. (as was decided AGM 2023)
4. All MBA and FIBA rules apply for this League
5. Top four teams will qualify for play-offs series.
6. Semi Finals will be played on a best out three games. 1<sup>st</sup> placed vs 4<sup>th</sup> placed and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed vs 3<sup>rd</sup> placed.
7. Final between winning Teams of both Semi Finals will be played on a best out of five games.
8. The winner of this Final will be declared CHAMPION for Season 2024 – 2025.

## GENERAL RULE TO ALL GAMES

Whenever the venue Ta Qali Main Pavilion becomes impracticable or extremely slippery and the game officials declare that the court is impractical to play, where it is possible, the following procedures have to be taken;

- Pre due fixture: game will be transferred to the New Training Courts
- During Warm up: game will be transferred to the New Training Courts
- Game in progress: game will be transferred to the New Training Courts