Tournaments

- The dictionary meaning of tournament is a large contest of many rounds among various teams.
- A tournament is a completion held among various teams in a particular activity according to a fixed schedule where a winner is decided.
- **Types of Tournament**
  There are four types of main tournament which are listed below—
  1. Knock-out tournament
  2. League or Round Robin tournament.
  3. Combination tournament.
  4. Challenge tournament.

(1) Knock-out Tournament or Elimination Tournaments

- In this type of tournament, the team which is defeated once, gets eliminated immediately and will not be given another chance to play.
- Only the victorious or winner team play with each other untill one team emerges as a winner.
- It is quickest way of determining the winner.
- Knock-out tournament is of two types—
  1. Single knock-out tournament.
  2. Double knock-out tournament.
- In single knock-out tournament any team once defeated is eliminated.
- In double knock-out tournament a team is eliminated only after it has suffered two defeats.
- The disadvantage of such tournaments is that good teams may clash in first round and does not reach finals.

(2) League or Round Robin Tournament

- In League or Round Robin Tournament, every team plays with every other participating team irrespective of the victory or defeat.
- League tournament is of two types—
  1. Single League
  2. Double League
- In single league tournament each team plays with every other team only once.
- In such tournament, number of matches to be played are $\frac{N(N-1)}{2}$ where 'N' stands for

'number' of teams participating in that particular tournament.

- **For example**—Suppose that 8 teams are participating in a single league tournament. Total number of matches to be played in tournament will be—

$$\frac{N(N-1)}{2} \ i.e., \ \frac{8(8-1)}{2} = \frac{8 \times 7}{2}$$

$$= \frac{56}{2} = 28$$

- In **double league** tournament, each team is supposed to play two matches with every other participating team.
- Total number of matches to be played will by $N(N-1)$.
- **For example**—If 8 teams are participating in a tournament, total number of matches to be played will be $8(8-1) = 8 \times 7 = 56$

(3) Combination Tournament

- This type of tournament is usually conducted whenever matches shall be played among the teams belonging to for away places and the number of teams is larger or when larger number of teams compete for a particular game.
- Then the teams may be divided into few groups.
- The teams belonging to the concerned group play among themselves either on knock-out or league basis and decide the winner of the group.
- Thereafter, the group winner play among themselves again either on knock-out or league basis and decide the champion.
- Similarly, a big city or a District or a State or a Country may be divided into few zones.
- The teams of each zone compete among themselves and decide a winner and then the final winner compete among themselves to decide the champion.
- This type of tournament is highly recommended for conducting the Inter-school/College Tournaments in a District/University to save time and money.

(4) Challenge Tournament

- Challenge tournaments are organised for individual games.

- In such tournaments, where one player (single) or two players (Double) participate from one side, champion is decided by challenge tournament.
- Such sports, include tennis, badminton, wrestling, boxing, table tennis etc.

What is Bye ?

- Bye is a sort of privilege to a team.
- A team who is given bye does not play in the first round.
- 'Bye' becomes a necessity when number of participating teams is not in power of two.
- 'Bye' brings the number of teams to power of 2 in succeeding rounds and it is easier to draw fixtures.
- Number of byes is decided as follows—

  For examples—If total number of teams participating in a tournament is 15, number of byes can be calculated as follows—

  Total number of teams = 15

  Next highest power of two = 16

  Hence, number of byes = 16 – 15

  $$= 1$$

  Thus, 16 total number of teams is 15, number of byes will be 1.

- If number of team is 11, the member of byes will be next highest power of two-total number

  $$= 16 - 11$$
  $$= 5$$

Fixture for Eleven Teams

Total number of teams = 11

Number of teams in the first group

$$= \frac{11 + 1}{2} = 6$$

Number of team in second group

$$= \frac{11 - 1}{2} = 5$$

Total number of byes = 16 – 11 = 5

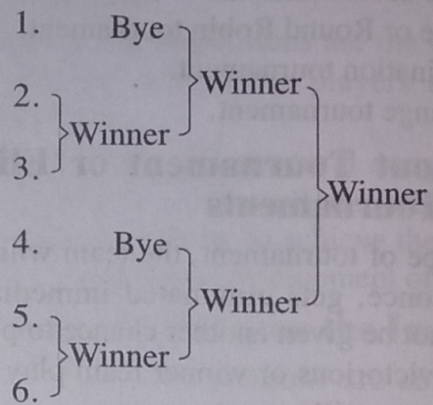Number of byes of first group

$$= \frac{5 - 1}{2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

Number of byes of second group

$$= \frac{5 + 1}{2}$$
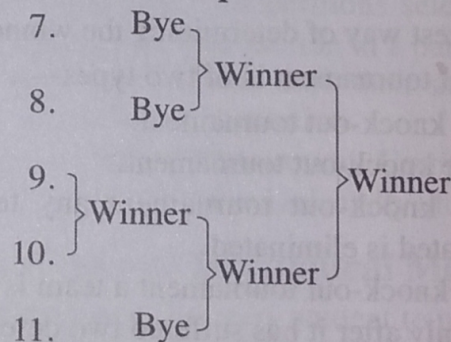
$$= \frac{6}{2} = 3$$

Distribution of Byes

- On a paper, name of various teams of two groups will be written and byes allotted through drawing of lot.

  Fixture for both groups will be as follows—

First Group

1. Bye
2.
3.
4. Bye
5.
6.

Second Group

7. Bye
8. Bye
9.
10.
11. Bye

Meaning of Seeding System

- Seeding means sorting out of the stronger teams and fitting them in the fixture so that they do not clash in earlier rounds.
- It has been seen that many times, stronger teams play in the early rounds and comparatively weak teams reach the finals.
- Seeding system is being used to remove this fault.
- Seeding teams are equally divided in both the groups.
- Generally, byes are given to such teams.
- Seeding system is useful only if the standard of all the teams is thoroughly known to the organisers.