



2015 Tournament Format Card Legality Guide

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We have created a quick reference graphic displaying the Set Bugs and which formats cards that have those Bugs will be legal to play. Remember to check with your Local Tournament Organizer to find out what format events they are hosting.

L5R2015TournamentFormats

Below is the legality wording from the February, 15th, 2015 Floor Rules update.

4.B Card Legality

As a general rule all L5R expansions are legal for constructed play within a month following their official public release date. The exception to this rule is any limited format. Cards are eligible for limited play as soon as they are physically released from AEG.

Some formats have specific legality guidelines listed below. Additionally some formats contain rules that can modify legality (i.e. banned and restricted cards). As new expansion release, cards receive bans & errata or story arcs rotate the lists below will be updated and formal announcements will be made.

In order to determine the specific formats in which any given card can be used, L5R makes use of Legality Bugs. These bugs are located in the bottom left and right corners of all cards. Cards are only considered legal for use if they have one or more of the Legality Bugs marked as legal for that format. Below is a chart that specifically lists all Ivory & Twenty Festival formats as well as their corresponding Legality Bugs.

On occasion cards may be released to the public but do not follow standard legality guidelines. These cards become legal through their own distinct set of guidelines. The most common examples include cards released as part of the following:

- Demonstrational Deck
- Learn to Play
- Holiday Pack

Many times these sources will include cards from expansions that have yet to be released. Because of this, cards from these sources do not become legal until they have been released with a Legend of the 5 Rings expansion legal for that format. This holds true regardless of the Legality Bugs individual cards possess. For example The Currency of War learn to play set includes many cards from the upcoming Twenty Festivals expansion. These cards include and are not limited to the Crane Stronghold, Small Library and Temple Fortress. All three of these examples have the Blue Legality Bug but are not yet legal for play in an Ivory Edition Format because they were not part of any Ivory Edition expansion.

All Strict, Arc and Extended decks follow 40/40 minimum deck construction. For the 2015 Spring Kotei Season, events will follow one of 2 format structures determined by Twenty Festivals. All events that occur prior to March 27th, 2015 will use the Ivory Strict, Ivory Arc and Ivory Extended event formats. Those events that occur after March 27th, 2015 will use Twenty Festivals Strict, Twenty Festivals Arc and Twenty Festivals Extended.

The date March 27th is the legal date for Twenty Festivals despite the set being delayed in shipping. In order to not delay the legality of Twenty Festival events within the kotei season, any event that falls in the post March 27th, 2015 time frame has the ability to allow proxies of cards from the Twenty Festivals expansion only. Use of these proxies will remain legal until Twenty Festivals is physically available in stores.

Ultimately the AEG Major Events Manager is the final arbitrator of any questions concerning legality. The TO for each event is responsible for verifying and then posting any variance, this should be done at least 30 days before the event as circumstances allow.

Legality Bugs & Expansions

The following sections detail the four Legality Bugs that make up the formats for the 2015 Kotei Season. Each section contains a list of expansions that contain cards with the bug and a list of the promos that have the bug.

When viewing specific cards within a given expansion and determining legality, one major thing to be aware of is. Not all cards within a given expansion contain the corresponding Legality Bug. Some examples of this include the Ivory Edition Strongholds and Sensei. They have only the Purple Legality Bug instead of the Purple and Blue Bugs. The remainder of Ivory Edition has both bugs. Another example are the cards Spawn of Vitra and The Thunder Resounds from the Gates of Chaos expansion. These two cards have only the Green instead of the Green and Purple.

Searches for cards within the Oracle of the Void database can take into account final legality and specific expansions at the same time. When determining cards to use in a deck this is a very good resource to verify if the cards within a deck are legal. The Oracle is found at: <http://imperialassembly.com/oracle/>

4.C Green Legality Bug

For easy reference the following sets contain cards with the Green Legality Bug:

- Forgotten Legacy
- Before the Dawn
- Second City
- Emperor Edition
- Embers of War
- The Shadow's Embrace
- Seeds of Decay
- Honor & Treachery
- Torn Asunder
- Coils of Madness
- Gates of Chaos
- Aftermath

This Legality Bug encompasses a larger time frame than the other bugs. This results in over 300 legal promos. Instead of listing them all here they can be found by searching Emerald Edition Legality & Promo Rarity in the Oracle.

4.D Blue Legality Bug

For easy reference the following sets contain cards with the Blue Legality Bug:

- Ivory Edition
- The Coming Storm
- A Line in the Sand
- The New Order
- Twenty Festivals
- Thunderous Acclaim (releases Spring/Summer 2015)

For easy reference the following promos have the Blue Legality Bug:

- Bisento-do
- Deadly Bisento
- Shabura

4.E Purple Legality Bug

For easy reference the following sets contain cards with the Purple Legality Bug:

- Coils of Madness
- Gates of Chaos
- Aftermath
- Ivory Edition
- The Coming Storm
- A Line in the Sand
- The New Order

For easy reference the following promos have the Purple Legality Bug:

- A Game of Dice
- A Glimpse of Fate
- A Great Victory
- Akodo Daiken
- Armed Rice Farmer
- Bamboo Harvesters, Experienced
- Bayushi Aibako
- Bisento-do
- Border Keep, Experienced
- Colonial Harbor
- Creating Order
- Daigotsu Hirose
- Deadly Bisento
- Elemental Adroitness
- Enigmatic Pendant
- Entrenched Position
- Fallen
- Family Dojo
- Family Maneuvers
- Family Sensei
- Family Sword
- Frost Dragon Festival
- Gaijin Sorcerer
- General's Hatamoto
- Hida Iguchi
- Hidden Weapons
- Horse
- Imminent Victory
- Imperial Sword
- Inari's Festival
- Isawa Hikarou
- It Was a Cat
- Kakita Izumiko
- Kataoka
- Keigo Sensei
- Lantern of Revelation
- Legionnaire's Appointment
- Losing the Way
- Merchant Guard
- Mirumoto Tsuda
- Oracle of the Void, Experienced
- P'an Ku Cultist
- Rice Farmer
- Sacred Temples
- Shabura
- Simple Spears
- Sleep
- Summon Fuschido
- The Amethyst Court
- The Emerald Dojo
- The Fever Breaks
- The Ivory Dojo
- The Jade Temple
- The Obsidian Dueling Grounds
- The Onyx Dueling Circle
- The Ruby Dojo
- The Topaz Dojo
- The Turquoise Court
- Traveling Market
- Trembling Earth
- Tsurushi Nishima
- Unseen Assassins
- Utaku Sang-Ju
- Ivory
- Yozo's Inspiration

4.F Black Legality Bug

For easy reference the following sets contain cards with the Black Legality Bug:

- Twenty Festivals
- Thunderous Acclaim (releases Spring/Summer 2015)

For easy reference the following promos have the Black Legality Bug:

- None to date

Ivory & Twenty Festival Strict, Arc & Extended formats share the following banned & errata.

Banned Cards:

- Advanced Warning
- Cavalry Escort
- Exotic Farmlands
- Well-defended Farm

Errata:

- Official Sanction: Gains "Card effects will not straighten this Item".
- Oboro: Invest now reads " Invest [3]: If you have not used the Invest trait of an Oboro this turn, shuffle all your other copies of Oboro in play and in your discard pile into your Dynasty Deck. Gain a Conspiracy token for each Oboro shuffled."
- Akagi Sensei: No longer gives +1 province strength & ability only targets scouts.
- The Exquisite Palace of the Crane: +1 gold bonus only lasts for the phase.
- Tsujiiken Sensei: Trait now reads " Your Stronghold has no abilities or traits. Your Samurai enter play for 1 more Gold. Your Political abilities in and out of play have Economic. Your Iron Mines in and out of play have Market."
- Priestly Feud: Text now reads " **Open:** If you control one or no Rings, your target unbowed Personality challenges another player's target Personality. Spells and Kihos have +1PV during the duel. The loser must declare an attack this turn *(if legal)* and must assign his Personality from the duel, opposing an army if possible."
- Fires of Turmoil: Text now reads " Battle: Discard the top card of a Fate deck. Target a card without attachments in a unit. If the discarded card's Focus Value is odd, bow the target (0 is even). Otherwise, straighten it. Move its unit home if the target has a Madness token."