

**TOURNAMENT SANCTION POLICY**

In Force:

14/10/2019



1. The Member must apply for and receive the sanction from the BWF for a Tournament and competitive matches as defined in GCR Regulations 2.2 to 2.9. This include that the Continental Confederations must apply for and receive sanction from BWF for their Continental Championships (to be hosted in the pre-allocated date slots). Special dispensation may be given at the discretion of BWF with regards to sanction of exhibition matches. BWF may at its discretion sanction organisations other than Members for Multi-Sport Games, Para-badminton and Seniors Tournaments.
2. The applications for the sanction in the prescribed format must reach the BWF within stipulated time specified below:

Level	Application Routing for sanction and date modification of a Tournament	Last day on which the application for sanction to reach BWF	For Tournaments organized during the Olympic Qualifying period ("OQP")
BWF Sanctioned Team Leagues	Directly to BWF	Nine months prior to the date of commencement of the Team League.	Nine months prior to the commencement of the Tournament but not later than 31st December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Grade 3 and International Junior Tournaments	On recommendation from the Continental Confederation	Nine months prior to the date of commencement of the Tournament	Nine months prior to the commencement of the Tournament but not later than 31 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Grade 2 – Level 6	Directly to BWF	Twelve months prior to the date of commencement of the Tournament	Twelve months prior to the commencement of the Tournament but not later than 31 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Grade 2 – Level 5	Directly to BWF	Twelve months prior to the date of commencement of the Tournament OR prior to the date notified by the BWF for that purpose.	Twelve months prior to the commencement of the Tournament OR prior to the date notified by the BWF for that purpose, but not later than 31 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Grade 2 – Levels 1 to 4	Directly to BWF	Prior to the date notified by the BWF for that purpose.	Prior to the date notified by the BWF for that purpose, but not later than 31 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Grade 1	Directly to BWF	Prior to the date notified by the BWF for that purpose.	Prior to the date notified by the BWF for that purpose, but not later than 31 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.

E.g. In the Olympic Qualifying Period, in case of Grade 3 Tournaments: No Tournaments will be given sanction during the Olympic Qualifying Period after 31 December 2018.

3. On commencement of the Olympic Qualifying Period, no additional Tournament eligible for world ranking points can be sanctioned during the Olympic Qualifying Period. There shall be no change in the status of the sanctioned Tournament except cancellation of a Tournament during the OQP.
4. It is a condition of sanction that ownership of BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights shall be determined by the BWF.
5. BWF are unable to grant sanction to Tournaments which receive sponsorship or revenue from any individual or company whose brand relates to the sale of tobacco or electronic cigarettes (e.g. vaping) products, pornographic material or products that are illegal to sell or distribute in the applicant Member. In case such sponsorship is confirmed after the sanction from BWF then BWF may withdraw sanction at its sole discretion.

6. The BWF has power to refuse sanction of a proposed Tournament or Event. If sanction is refused, the reason shall be notified to the Member Association applying. The BWF shall also have the power to remove sanction, subsequent to the granting of sanction, if in the opinion of BWF continuing to hold the Tournament would constitute a failure of care by BWF and put players' lives potentially at risk, or if the Tournament no longer fulfills the criteria for BWF to have granted the sanction.
7. The use of the title "World" and "BWF" in connection with a badminton Tournament shall be subject to the BWF approval.
8. The use of the title "BWF World Tour" in connection with one or more Tournaments, as well as individual Tournament names, shall be subject to the BWF approval. Such Tournaments shall then be organized in accordance with the regulations for the BWF World Tour as applicable.
9. Unless otherwise approved by BWF, the use of the title "OPEN" is only allowed for the highest-level Tournament offered to participants from one Member. For example, the highest Grade/Level Tournament – Malaysian Open part of the BWF World Tour would be entitled to use the title 'Open' as the highest level sanctioned Tournament in Malaysia. Other Tournaments held in the Member would take a different title such as 'MASTERS'. For example, the second highest Grade/Level Tournament in Malaysia could take the title 'Malaysian Masters part of the BWF World Tour.
10. A calendar shall be published on the BWF Website, and shall contain the names, dates and level of all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.
11. BWF Sanctioned Tournaments under GCR Regulations 2.2 to 2.7 will be displayed on the BWF official Tournament calendar on the BWF website. The name will be displayed with the full Tournament name, but only with a maximum of two title sponsors if applicable (e.g. "DAIHATSU YONEX Japan Open 2019"). While a "presenting" sponsor is allowed in the tournament prospectus and other host Member promotional materials, it would not be published on BWF websites and other mediums and graphics.
12. Where a change of date is requested, the BWF will only exercise this power following full consultation with each Member with already sanctioned Tournaments which are directly concerned and only in accordance with the principles of sanction, so there will be no conflict with other sanctioned Tournaments.
13. Application for sanction for new Tournaments with less than the required notice in clause 2 will not be considered except in special circumstances as decided by BWF.

14. No Member shall be able to have more than 4 international Tournaments sanctioned as defined in GCR Regulations 2.3 and 2.4 and according to the following limits of Tournaments during a calendar year:

	Grade 2	Grade 2			Grade 3		
	Level 2 and Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	International Challenge	International Series	Futures Series
	1	1	1		1		
	1	1	1			1	
	1	1	1				1
	1	1		1	1		
	1	1		1		1	
	1	1		1			1
	1		1	1	1		
	1		1	1		1	
	1		1	1			1
		1	1	1	1		
		1	1	1		1	
		1	1	1			1
	1	2			1		
	1	2				1	
	1	2					1
		2	1		1		
		2	1			1	
		2	1				1
		2		1	1		
		2		1		1	
		2		1			1
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			2	1	1		
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			2	1			1
	2	1			1		
	2		1		1		
	2			1	1		
	2	1				1	
	2		1			1	
	2			1			1
	2				1	1	
	2				1		1
	2					1	1
	Any two Grade 2 in different levels (except two Level 4 or 5 allowed)				1	1	
	Any two Grade 2 in different levels (except two Level 4 or 5 allowed)				1		1
	Any two Grade 2 in different levels (except two Level 4 or 5 allowed)					1	1
	Any one Grade 2				1	1	1

However, the BWF reserves the right to accept additional Tournaments under special circumstances.

**15. Responsible for sanction:**

Grade	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Level	N/A	Level 1-6	International Challenge, International Series and Futures Series
Sanction by	BWF	BWF	BWF on Recommendation of respective Continental Confederation

16. The CC shall have their own principles for recommendation for sanction of Grade 3 Tournaments.

17. The CC Championships dates shall be sanctioned by BWF on recommendation of the CC.

**Basic Hierarchical Structure of Tournaments:**



## 18. Prize Money Levels

Tournament	Prize Money
<b>Grade 1</b> – World Men’s & Women’s Team Championships, World Team Championships, World Championships, World Junior Team Championships, World Junior Championships, World Senior Championships	Determined by BWF
<b>Grade 2</b> – BWF World Tour Finals, Level 1	Minimum USD 1,500,000
<b>Grade 2</b> – Level 2	Minimum USD 1,000,000 in 2018 and 2019 Minimum USD 1,100,000 in 2020 and 2021
<b>Grade 2</b> – Level 3	Minimum USD 700,000 in 2018 and 2019 Minimum USD 750,000 in 2020 and 2021
<b>Grade 2</b> – Level 4	Minimum USD 350,000 in 2018 and 2019 Minimum USD 400,000 in 2020 and 2021
<b>Grade 2</b> – Level 5	Minimum USD 150,000 in 2018 and 2019 Minimum USD 170,000 in 2020 Minimum USD 200,000 in 2021
<b>Grade 2</b> – Level 6	Minimum USD 75,000 in 2018 and 2019 Minimum USD 90,000 in 2020 Minimum USD 100,000 in 2021
<b>Grade 3</b> International Challenge	Minimum USD 25,000
<b>Grade 3</b> International Series	Minimum USD 10,000
<b>Grade 3</b> Future Series	Less than USD 10,000

## 19. Principles of Sanctioning

The following principles will be used when sanctioning Tournaments defined in GCR, Regulations 2.2, 2.6 and 2.8:

Tournament	Principle
<b>General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BWF will make best endeavors for Tournaments to be sanctioned on the same dates each year, provided there are no clashes with big multi sports games and except in years (4-year cycle) with restructuring of the whole calendar</li> <li>• Priority is given to higher grade/level Tournaments.</li> <li>• The Tournament must be organised within the geographical territory of the applicant Member applying for sanction.</li> <li>• The continental championships must be conducted in the weeks specifically reserved for that purpose in the BWF Calendar. Under special circumstances BWF may provide dispensation to sanction on alternative dates but these shall not clash with the dates of Grade 1 and 2 Tournaments in any continent. Such dispensation can, however, not be given repeatedly each year and any alternative date must comply with other sanction principles. Each Continental Confederation can host one individual championship, one mixed team championship, and one men’s and women’s team championship per year, however, these championships must be conducted in the weeks specifically reserved for that purpose in the BWF Calendar. More than one Continental Championships can be held in the same week. All three of these Continental Championships are eligible for world ranking points.</li> <li>• Grade 2 and 3 Tournaments must start and finish in the same Calendar Week (Monday to Sunday) and should preferably not be use both Monday and Sunday in the same week (for Continental Championships unless more than one Continental Championships is held in the same week).</li> <li>• In connection with Multi-Sport Games with badminton on the program, the Member in the Multi-Sport Event host country or the Continental Confederation of the Multi-Sport Event host country, are not obligated to seek sanction for such Multi-Sport Games, but must inform BWF of dates when the Member or Continental Confederation becomes aware or are notified by the Multi-sports Event organisation. BWF will, when notified about the date from a Member or Continental Confederation, liaise directly with the Multi-Sport Games organisation to process the sanction. If there are any conflict with any other already sanctioned Tournament, BWF will in dialogue with the Multi-Sport Event organizer seek to make any appropriate adjustments. BWF reserve the right to refuse sanction of a Multi-Sport Games with badminton on</li> </ul>

	<p>the program, whereby Members and players registered with the BWF cannot participate in such Multi-Sport Games. A Multi-Sport Games organizer can seek sanction directly with the BWF.</p>
<b>Grade 1 and 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideally, minimum one-week gap before and after a Grade 1 or a run of three Grade 2, Level 1-4 Tournaments.</li> <li>• Grade 2, Level 1-5 cannot be sanctioned on the same dates as a Grade 1 Tournament.</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 2-4 Tournaments should aim at having a minimum 2 weeks gap before or after any run of such Tournaments.</li> <li>• Level 2-4 Tournaments should ideally pair each other, but there will be occasions where there will be a run of 3 Level 2-4 Tournaments.</li> <li>• Level 5 Tournaments should ideally be sanctioned on dates just before or after Level 2-4 Tournaments in the same continent.</li> <li>• Level 1-5 Tournaments cannot be sanctioned on the same dates.</li> <li>• Level 6 Tournaments cannot be sanctioned on the same dates as Grade 2, Level 5 Tournaments if in the same continent, but can be sanctioned on the same dates as Level 1-4 Tournaments.</li> <li>• Level 2-6 Tournaments should preferably not be sanctioned as a stand-alone Tournament.</li> <li>• Level 6 Tournaments can be sanctioned on the same dates if Tournaments are in different continents.</li> <li>• Level 6 Tournaments can in special circumstances be sanctioned on the same dates as Level 1-3 Tournaments even if in the same Continent.</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 2 and 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 2, Level 6 Tournaments cannot be sanctioned on the same dates in the same continent as Grade 3, International Challenge Tournaments.</li> <li>• Other than above a Tournament in Grade 2 and a Tournament in Grade 3 can be sanctioned on the same dates.</li> <li>• Should try to avoid Tournaments standing alone in continental block.</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be sanctioned on dates with CC Championships pre-allocated dates and Grade 1 Team Championships (except World Junior Team Championships).</li> <li>• Grade 3 Tournaments can be sanctioned on the same dates as Grade 2 Tournaments.</li> </ul>
<b>Invitational and exhibition Tournaments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be sanctioned on the same dates, or dates just prior to or after any Grade 1 or 2 Tournament unless the exhibition Tournament can be seen as complimentary to another sanctioned Tournament as a promotional activity and at the same time does not negatively interfere with other sanctioned Tournaments at Grade 1 or 2. This judgment will be made at the sole discretion of the BWF. At the discretion of BWF special dispensation may be granted.</li> </ul>

## 20. Principles for Sanction of “BWF Sanctioned International Leagues” (“International Team Leagues” and “National Leagues with International participants”, GCR Regulation 2.9)

- 1) BWF sanction of BWF Sanctioned International Leagues is mandatory to ensure proper coordination of the International Tournament Calendar.
- 2) BWF will not provide protection of dates for any “National Leagues with International participation”.
- 3) International Team Leagues cannot be hosted in a way that will provide conflicting overlapping dates with Grade 1 and 2 Tournaments (except Grade 2, Level 6) Tournaments unless explicitly approved by BWF.
- 4) Sanction of any “BWF Sanctioned International League” is conditioned on the league organizer to accept the “BWF Sanctioned League Coordination Conditions” to avoid overlapping dates with defined Tournament dates and to avoid that Mandatory Player

Participation rules are compromised. BWF Sanctioned Leagues Coordination Conditions include, but not limited to:

- a) The league organizer must ensure that players having Mandatory Participation Commitments in any BWF Sanction Tournament cannot participate in a league match during the same week as the BWF Sanctioned Tournament where the player is committed to participate.
  - b) The league organizer must follow any reasonable instruction from the BWF related to the planning of league matches to avoid any material negative effect on BWF Sanctioned Tournaments in Grade 1 and 2.
- 5) International Team Leagues can only be organized by BWF or Continental Confederations
  - 6) International Team Leagues involving participation of any Member ranked 1-20 on the World Team Ranking can only be organized by BWF.