

# Memorandum

## Key Decisions – BWF Council Meeting

Monday 21 October 2019

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Dear Members and Continental Confederations

Please find below and attached, the key decisions of the BWF Council at its meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on Friday 11 October 2019:

1. **Events Related Regulations**
  2. **Amendments to Section 3.1 Judicial Procedures** – new clause 2.2
  3. **Development & Sport for All** – Membership Grants Programme
  4. **Gender Equity and Diversity Policy** – New policy for the BWF
  5. **BWF Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024** – approved plan to be circulated in December 2019
  6. **Council Proposals – BWF AGM 2020** – approved some proposals for the 2020 AGM
  7. **Awards Regulations 2020 onwards** – greater engagement of stakeholders
  8. **Other**
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### 1. Events Related Regulations

Please find attached the following:

1. Summary of **Regulation Changes for Members** - 16 October 2019
2. Summary of Regulation Changes - **Coaches Clothing** - 16 October 2019
3. Summary of **Para badminton** Regulation Changes - 16 October 2019

The attachments provide a detailed summary of recent changes to regulations, as approved by BWF Council at its meeting on 11 October 2019.

Please see **Chapter 5 – Technical Regulations** of the **BWF Statutes** ([linked here](#)) for the full copy of the regulations in force following these decisions of Council.

The key changes are highlighted below.

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### Regulations – Immediate Effect

In particular, we would like to highlight the following regulations that take immediate effect:

#### General Competition Regulations

- **Refugee Participation**

- GCR 5.6.7 – BWF may allow players classified as refugees or stateless persons to participate under a neutral BWF nationality flag.
- **Deregistration / Retirement**
  - GCR 5.7 & 5.8 – A player can either “deregister” which allows him/her to compete in non BWF sanctioned events, or a player can “retire” which means he/she no longer competes in any badminton activity. The parameters around returning to competition are also noted.
- **Wildcard Eligibility**
  - GCR 7.11 – Mixed nationality pairs are eligible for wildcards by the host Member Association.
- **Notional Ranking after Three Months**
  - GCR 11.6.1.1 – Players paired together in BWF sanctioned team tournaments are eligible for a notional ranking after three months.
- **One Advertisement in the Band of Uniform Width**
  - GCR 24.2.3 – The band of uniform width can only contain one advertisement.
- **Vaping Related Advertising Prohibited**
  - GCR 24.5.5 – Advertising of vaping related companies and products is prohibited.

### **BWF World Tour Regulations**

- **No More than Two Title Sponsors**
  - Clause 1.2 – No more than two “brands” as title sponsors is allowed (e.g. “DAIHATSU YONEX Japan Open 2019”).
- **Wildcard Eligibility**
  - Clause 6.4.2 – Mixed nationality pairs are eligible for wildcards by the host Member Association.

### **Junior Tournament Regulations**

- **Substitutions**
  - Clause 7.3.4.1 – First priority for substitution goes to the same Member Association.

### **Player Commitment Regulations**

- **Mixed Zone is Mandatory**
  - Clause 1.4 – Players must go through the mixed zone after each match.
- **Flags on the Podium**
  - Clause 1.9 – Flags are only allowed on the podium at Grade 1 Team Tournaments. They are not allowed at Grade 1 Individual Tournaments and not allowed at Grade 2 Tournaments.

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### **Regulations – Effective January 2020**

The following regulation takes effect 1 January 2020. This was originally communicated to Member Associations in November 2018 (see summary attached):

## **General Competition Regulations**

- **Advertising Restrictions for Coach Clothing**
    - GCR 24 – The attached regulations will effect coaches, team managers, and/or other participants who sit in or around the coaches’ chair behind the competition court and who enter onto the court in a coaching capacity, for a match.
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## **Competition Format for the BWF World Junior Team Championships 2020**

As part of BWF’s discussion with the host Member Association for the BWF World Junior Championships 2020, BWF Council has decided to postpone implementation of the previously approved Relay Team Format for the team competition.

As a result, the current Sudirman Cup-style competition format will be used for the BWF World Junior Team Championships 2020.

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## **Para badminton Regulations**

- **Names on Player Shirts**
    - Para Badminton General Competition Regulation 18.4 – The naming protocol for player shirts matches that of what is used for Badminton: The last name (with the initial(s) of the first name, if applicable) as per the First and Last Name fields of the player database.
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## **2. Amendments to Section 3.1 - Judicial Procedures**

The Council approved the following amendment to the Judicial Procedures (to insert a new clause 2.2).

Please see the below for the amendments and see Section 3.1 – Judicial Procedures of the BWF Statutes ([linked here](#)) for the full text of the Judicial Procedures.

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### **2. APPLICABILITY**

*2.1. These Regulations are applicable to all Covered Persons.*

*2.2. A person who ceases to be a Covered Person for any reason shall for all purposes under these Procedures and under the Statutes be deemed to be and to remain a Covered Person in respect of any investigation or allegation into conduct while that person was a Covered Person.*

*2.3. These Regulations are not applicable to doping related cases which are dealt with under the BWF Anti-Doping Regulations.*

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- Council proposal to the 2020 AGM for the Subscription Unit amount for 2021 to be US\$200 per Unit.
- Council proposal to the 2020 AGM to approve the amendments to the constitution to allow the inclusion of Para badminton Athletes Commission Chair as a member of Council.
- Council proposal to the 2020 AGM to approve the amendments to the constitution to limit the term of elected officials to a maximum of 4 terms commencing from the next election in May 2021.

The Council next meets on 18 and 19 February 2020 and may approve further proposals to the BWF AGM 2020.

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### **□ Awards Regulations 2020 onwards – Player of the Year Awards**

To approve the amendments to the Award Regulations for the player awards to come into effect in 2020. The amendments will introduce a process to ensure greater engagement of stakeholders in selecting those for the annual Player of the Year Awards.

The amendments to the Award Regulations are attached as:

- BWF Award Regulations - Amendments Approved by Council - 11102019 - Effective 2020

These amendments will only come into effect in 2020. The BWF office will communicate this again early in the new year.

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### **8. Other Council Decisions**

- To appoint new members to the External Judicial Experts Group to supplement the □ number of members currently on the Group ([link here to see the current members](#)).
  - To extend the term of Alexander McLin as the BWF Referral Officer for another two years □ ([linked here](#)).
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Please come back to me if you have any questions regarding the enclosed.

Kind regards

**Stuart Borrie**

Chief Operating Officer

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## **Approved Changes to Technical Regulations – October 2019** **For Immediate Effect**

(Yellow – Added text; Red – Text to be deleted)

### **BWF Statutes, Section 2.5 – Table of Offences and Penalties**

*Rationale: Clarifies how this time period is tracked.*

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Incidence of Fees</b>	<b>Amount / Penalty</b>
Withdrawal from any BWF sanctioned Tournament for three or more times <b>in six calendar months</b> , within a six-month period starting from the date of the first withdrawal, including incurring withdrawal fees according to GCR (Section 5.1) Clause 14.1.2 – Late Withdrawal.  This is an additional penalty over and above normal withdrawal fees.	For third withdrawal (within the six-month period)  And every subsequent withdrawal (within the six-month period)	US\$ 1,000  US\$ 500

## **BWF Statutes, Section 4.1.1 – Instructions to Technical Officials (ITTO)**

### **3.5 – Schedule**

*Rationale: To create greater consistency of interval time between matches for individual tournaments and team tournaments.*

- 3.5.17.4 Any player is entitled to a minimum of a 60-minute interval between matches (GCR, Regulation 11.3), except in Junior tournaments, Para-Badminton tournaments, **team tournaments**, and qualifying rounds of other tournaments where a player is entitled to a minimum of a 30-minute minimum interval between two matches. The Referee shall, however, try to provide a longer interval between any two matches of a given player, and in particular between a player's matches in the same event.
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*Rationale: To distinguish between individual and team tournaments.*

- 3.6.2.2 Should the Referee decide to disqualify a player, this player is disqualified from all events of the tournament **and in Team Tournaments, from all future matches of the Team Tournament;** and a Disciplinary process may be recommended in the Referee's Report. The player's doubles partner may continue in other events of the tournament (GCR, Regulation 31.5).
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### **5.11 – Delays and Suspensions**

*Rationale: To clarify what is meant by a "new" racket.*

- 5.11.1 The Umpire shall ensure that the players do not deliberately cause any delay in play (Law 16.4). Any unnecessary walk around the court between rallies and testing of **new (freshly strung) replacement** rackets on court, shall be prevented and if necessary, Law 16.7 shall be applied.

## **BWF Statutes, Section 5.1 – General Competition Regulations**

*Rationale: To provide opportunity for refugees (and related statuses) to compete in BWF sanctioned tournaments.*

5.6.7 Where a penalty is imposed on a Member which prevents Players from participating in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, the BWF may allow Players from this Member to participate under a "Neutral BWF Nationality Flag" under such conditions as decided by the BWF. For the purpose of these regulations (e.g. in connection with national separation rules) if two or more Players from the same Member is entered under a "Neutral BWF Nationality Flag", then these Players will be treated as coming from the same Member. Other entries of Players under a "Neutral BWF Nationality Flag", but coming from different Members will be considered as entries from different Members.

The BWF may also allow Players classified as refugees or stateless persons, as defined by the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), to participate under a "Neutral BWF Nationality Flag" under such conditions as decided by the BWF.

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The following are the new versions of Clauses 5.7 and 5.8:

*Rationale: To distinguish between deregistration and retirement, both in definition and consequences.*

### **5.7 Deregistration**

#### **5.7.1 Purpose**

Registered Players for Entry may at any time renounce to such status by submitting a deregistration notice in the form required by the BWF. Deregistration shall be effective once such notice has been received by the BWF.

#### **5.7.2 Automatic Effect**

Registered Players for Entry shall also be automatically deregistered after 104 weeks not participating in BWF sanctioned Tournaments.

#### **5.7.3 Consequences**

Players who deregister shall:

5.7.3.1 Cease to be considered as Registered Players for Entry by any Member.

5.7.3.2 Continue to be bound by BWF Statutes.

#### **5.7.4 Return to Competition**

Players who wish to return to competition after deregistration shall:

5.7.4.1 Give a notice period of three months to the BWF.



5.7.4.2 Be considered for inclusion in the BWF Registered Testing Pool or the Testing Pool; and

5.7.4.3 If such return is earlier than 12 months after deregistration:

5.7.4.3.1 Pay any fines that would have applied as a result of their absence from Tournaments as per the Player Commitment Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6) as if they had been a Registered Player for Entry.

5.7.3.4.2 If they want to be registered to a Member other than where they were last registered, obtain consent of the Member where they were last registered in the format required by BWF (Player Transfer Form).

## 5.8 Retirement

### 5.8.1 Purpose

Players may at any time retire from all involvement in badminton competitions under the framework of the BWF by submitting a retirement notice in the format required by the BWF. Retirement shall be effective once such notice has been received by the BWF.

### 5.8.2 Consequences

Players who retire are no longer bound by the BWF Statutes, except as otherwise stated in the BWF Judicial Procedures in relation to potential breaches that happened while they were Covered Persons.

### 5.8.3 Return to Competition

Players who wish to return to competition after retirement shall:

5.8.3.1 Give notice to the BWF as per article 5.7 of the BWF Anti-Doping Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 2.3); and

5.8.3.2 Comply with the requirements applicable to return to competition after deregistration (Regulation 5.7.4).

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*Rationale: Clarification that mixed nationality pairs, where one player from the host Member is included, if highest ranked, would be eligible for the wild card position.*

7.11 In Grade 2 (except Level 1-4), Grade 3, and International Junior Tournaments, if the host Member does not have an entry in the main draw in an Event they may elect to include a host wildcard entry in that Event. Wildcards will not win World Ranking points or World Junior Ranking points unless they win a match. A walkover does not count as winning a match.

The wildcard, if eligible, will be the highest ranked player/pair entered from the host Association, in each event, if applicable. This can include

the highest ranked pair where one player is from the host Member and the other player is from another Member.

The host Association must confirm with BWF before publication of the first MQ report, which eligible players/pairs entered (if any) will be chosen as wildcards.

If the host Association declines to choose the highest ranked eligible player/pair entered by the host Association, no other wildcards will be granted in that event.

Once designated as a wildcard, the player/pair remains a wildcard throughout the tournament.

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*Rationale: To provide greater incentive for Members to pair different players together (i.e. men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles pairs) in team tournaments. The length of time that points for each pair would count before being eligible again for a notional ranking (points) is reduced.*

11.6 Before implementing Regulation 11.5 in doubles Events in which the BWF or Continental Confederations do the seeding, the World Ranking of each pair shall be modified for seeding purposes when Regulation 11.6.1 or 11.6.2 applies. (For explanation please refer to the Explanation of Adjusted & Notional Ranking (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.3.4)).

11.6.1. If two Players do not have a World Ranking as a pair but the Players have a World Ranking with other partners, a notional ranking is calculated for the pair. An average (the "notional" average) is taken of the best average points scored by each of the two Players with other partners. This notional average is converted into the total notional points for the pair by multiplying by 10 and taking 80%. The notional points are used to determine a notional ranking.

11.6.1.1 Where two Players are paired together in a BWF sanctioned team Tournament, and play at least one match, that pair would be eligible for a notional ranking after three months, as per the normal regulations for a notional ranking.

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*Rationale: Separating the top two entries from any one Member into separate qualifying sections achieves the same purpose as separating these two entries into separate halves of the draw in the main draw.*

## 12.4 **Qualifying draw**

In Grade 3 it is recommended where as far as possible, entry separation (as in Regulation 11.11) should be used in each qualifying draw. the first and second ranked entries in either the final seeding report and/or the final M&Q report from any one Member shall be drawn by lot into different qualifying sections, and wherever possible, entries from any one Member shall not meet in the first round.

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*Rationale: Greater clarity.*

- 14.1.4 For the purpose of these regulations, retiring from a match in a Tournament, **except the BWF World Seniors Championships**, shall not be considered to be a withdrawal, however, should a Player be entered in more than one Event, by retiring or withdrawing from that one Event, the Player must be withdrawn from all other Events in which the Player is entered. **However, this Regulation 14.1.4 shall not apply to the BWF World Senior Championships.** This Regulation 14.1.4 also applies for Team Tournaments, where retiring or withdrawing in a tie in a Team Tournament means that the Player shall be withdrawn from all subsequent matches in that tie and cannot be substituted.

In Team Tournaments, a Player who retires or withdraws from a match can, however, participate in other matches in any future ties in that Team Tournament. **However, a player disqualified during a match of a tie shall not participate in any subsequent match of the Team Tournament.**

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*Rationale: The latest version of the MQ report is cleaner (withdrawn entries removed), and still maintains the required ranking order for the determination of player clothing colors for players/pairs.*

- 21.6 In individual and team championships if the opposing Players / pairs involved in a match are not wearing significantly different coloured clothing, the Player / pair ranked lower will be required to wear clothing of a significantly different colour. Where both Players / pairs have the same or no ranking the Player or pair listed lower in the **first latest version of the** M&Q report made for the Tournament will be required to change the colour of clothing.

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*Rationale: To clarify that only one advertisement is allowed per band.*

- 24.2.3 **Advertising** **One advertisement** contained in a band of uniform width not exceeding 10 centimetres on the front and **one advertisement** not exceeding five centimetres on the back. Such a band may be at any angle and may be on the front of the shirt, the back of the shirt, or both.

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*Rationale: To be consistent with the International Olympic Committee Medical Commission which treats electronic cigarettes like tobacco.*

## **24.5 – Restrictions on the advertising**

- 24.5.5. Advertising of tobacco **and electronic cigarettes (e.g. vaping)** related companies and products is prohibited.

## **BWF Statutes, Section 5.2.2 – BWF World Tour Regulations**

*Rationale: To control the number of title sponsors, and clarification that "presented by" sponsors, while allowed in host promotion, would not be promoted via BWF mediums.*

### **1.2 - Title**

The BWF World Tour is a series of elite Tournaments with a high standard of organisation and presentation. The Tournaments are collectively known as the "BWF World Tour". The series may be known as the "XYZ BWF World Tour" where XYZ is a designation chosen in consultation with the BWF World Tour sponsor. No more than two "brands" as title sponsors is allowed (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.

The six different levels of the BWF World Tour each have different rights, obligations and benefits for the hosting Member

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*Rationale: Clarification that mixed nationality pairs, where one player from the host Member is included, if highest ranked, would be eligible for the wild card position.*

6.4.2 If the host Member of a Level 2-4 Tournament (Level 5-6 wildcard entries as per GCR) does not have an entry ranked in the 32 highest-ranked entries in any Event for Level 2-3 or 28 highest-ranked entries in any Event for Level 4, they may elect to have a maximum of two wildcard entries in the whole Tournament. If the host Member has only one entry in the 32 (Level 2-3) or 28 (Level 4) highest-ranked entries, they can elect to have one wildcard entry in the whole Tournament. The Host Member can choose which Event(s) the wildcard(s) will play in. These wild cards will play in the main draw. Wildcards will not win World Ranking points unless they win a match (a walkover does not count as winning a match).

The wildcard, if eligible, will be the highest ranked player/pair entered from the host Association, in each event, if applicable. This can include the highest ranked pair where one player is from the host Member and the other player is from another Member.

The host Association must confirm with BWF before publication of the first MQ report, which eligible players/pairs entered (if any) will be chosen as wildcards.

If the host Association declines to choose the highest ranked eligible player/pair entered by the host Association, no other wildcards will be granted in that event.

Once designated as a wildcard, the player/pair remains a wildcard throughout the tournament.

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**Rationale: Based on analysis of average match lengths from all Grade 2 Tournaments from January 2018 through July 2019.**

## 6.7 - Tournament schedule

6.7.1 The schedule, including number of courts for each BWF World Tour Tournament must comply with the following:

### Level 4 & 5

Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Arena practice	<b>MS</b>	Q16 / L32	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>WS</b>	Q8 / L32	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>MD</b>	Q8 / L32	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>WD</b>	Q8 / L32	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>XD</b>	Q8 / L32	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>No. of matches</b>	28Q / TBD for Main	80 (if all L32 run on this day – some could shift to Tuesday)	40	20	10	5
	<b>No. of courts</b>	4 or more	4 or more	4 or 3	2 or 3	1 or 2	1
	<b>Mins per match</b>	35Q / 40M	40	40	45	45 50	60
<b>Total mins</b>	980Q / TBD for Main	3200	1600	900	450	300	

Variation to the above schedule can be made on application to and agreement of BWF.

### Level 6

Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Arena practice	<b>MS</b>	Q32 / L64	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>WS</b>	Q16	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>MD</b>	Q16	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>WD</b>	Q16	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>XD</b>	Q16	L32	L16	L8	L4	L2
	<b>No. of matches</b>	72Q / 16M	80	40	20	10	5
	<b>No. of courts</b>	4 or more	4 or more	4 or 3	2 or 3	1 or 2	1
	<b>Mins per match</b>	35Q / 40M	40	40	45	45 50	60
	<b>Total mins</b>	3160	3200	1600	900	450	300

Variation to the above schedule can be made on application to and agreement of BWF.

### **BWF Statutes, Section 5.2.3 – Junior Tournament Regulations**

*Rationale: Separating the top two entries from any one Member into separate qualifying sections achieves the same purpose as separating these two entries into separate halves of the draw in the main draw.*

#### **4.4 - Qualifying draw**

It is recommended where as far as possible, entry separation (as in Regulation 3.10) should be used in each qualifying draw, the first and second ranked entries in either the final seeding report and/or the final M&Q report from any one Member shall be drawn by lot into different qualifying sections, and wherever possible, entries from any one Member shall not meet in the first round.

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*Rationale: Prioritization of player substitutions from the same Member before players from other Members.*

- 7.3. The Referee shall be permitted to substitute Players in the draw due to injury or other unavoidable hindrance only if play in that draw has not begun and under the following provisions:
  - 7.3.1. Substitution is only allowed in the doubles Events;
  - 7.3.2. Only one Player in each Pair in the draw can be substituted;
  - 7.3.3. Substitution is only allowed if there is no qualification draw where promotions according to clause 5 takes priority over substitution;
  - 7.3.4. The Player substituting for another Player must be entered in the Tournament (no late entries are allowed);
    - 7.3.4.1 The first priority for substitution is a Player from the same Member, and would be chosen by ranking order of those interested to play. If there are Players with the same ranking or no ranking, there will be a drawing of lots to decide the substituting Player from the same Member.
  - 7.3.5. The substitute pair's combined World Junior Ranking points (at the time of the seeding) shall be no higher than any pair from a higher seeding group. The seeding groups are (in order) 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 5 to 8, and 9 to 16;
  - 7.3.6. If two Players from two different pairs in the same Event are put together, the placement of the new pair shall be at the position of the pair seeded in the highest seeding group. If none of the pairs are seeded, or seeded in the same seeding group, the position shall be drawn by lot between positions of the two original pairs.

### **BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.1 – Tournament Sanction Policy**

*Rationale: To be consistent with the International Olympic Committee Medical Commission which treats electronic cigarettes like tobacco.*

- 5.0 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 cigarette (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.

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*Rationale: To control the number of title sponsors, and clarification that "presented by" sponsors, while allowed in host promotion, would not be promoted via BWF mediums.*

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 one two title sponsorship 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.

## **BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.3.4 – Explanation of Adjusted and Notional Ranking**

*Rationale: To provide greater incentive for Members to pair different players together (i.e. men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles pairs) in team tournaments. The length of time that points for each pair would count before being eligible again for a notional ranking (points) is reduced.*

### **1.0 - Notional ranking for seeding and M&Q**

#### 1.1. Explanation:

- 1.1.1. When a pair is newly-formed (e.g. because of injury or a change in partnership), the new pair may be composed of two strong Players who would in all likelihood achieve a high World Ranking once they have played together for some time.
- 1.1.2. The notional ranking is a method to estimate the strength of this pair which is used to determine order for the main and qualifying lists, and to seed them when appropriate.
- 1.1.3. The pre-requisite for having notional ranking is that at least one Player in the pair must have played with different partners during the 52 weeks period prior to the seeding date.
- 1.1.4. Where two Players are paired together in a BWF sanctioned team Tournament, and play at least one match, that pair would be eligible for a notional ranking after three months, as per the normal regulations for a notional ranking.



## **BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.4 – Specifications for International Standard Facilities**

*Rationale: To formalize the new court mat run-off standards, as per the direction of BWF Council to revise these dimensions as of 1 January 2020.*

2.1.2. It is a requirement that all matches are played on approved Badminton Court Mats (minimum approval level 1B according to the BWF Equipment Approval Scheme).

(New)

2.1.2.1 All Grade 1 and 2 Tournaments (recommended for Grade 3 and Junior International Tournaments) must use approved BWF Court Mats with a run-off measurement of 1 meter for the back of the court, and run-off measurement of 0.5 meters for the sidelines.

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*Rationale: Greater clarity.*

### **11.1 – Medical Personnel**

11.1.2. **Grade 2, Levels 5-6 and all Grade 3 Tournaments:** A doctor, physiotherapist **and**/or first aid personnel must be available at all times during the Tournaments.

## **BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6 – Player Commitment Regulations**

*Rationale: Clarification/specific reference that players are required to go through the mixed zone.*

### **1.4 – Media Obligations**

(New)

1.4 It is a condition of entry into BWF Sanctioned Tournaments that each Player is required, immediately after each match, to go to the Mixed Zone (where applicable), to participate in media interviews.

Note: Original 1.4 (and subclauses) become 1.5; original 1.5 becomes 1.6, etc.

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*Rationale: To maintain consistency to the requirements in the HSBC Sponsor Agreement for Player Commitment for Player Appearances.*

### **1.6 – Sponsor / Commercial Obligations**

1.6 It is a condition of entry into BWF Sanctioned Tournaments that each Player, if requested by BWF or other Tournament officials, is required to participate in:

1.6.1 hospitality visits, autograph sessions or other similar sponsor related activities (up to two per Tournament and to last **no longer than 20 minutes** between 30 – 60 minutes per activity).

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*Rationale: To clarify when and how flags can be brought onto the podium for prize presentations.*

### **1.9 – Sponsor / Commercial Obligations**

1.9 Players participating in the finals of a Tournament must attend the final ceremonies directly after the match or must follow the instructions given by the organisers regarding the ceremony protocol, including but not limited to wearing the correct style of clothing (e.g. tracksuit or uniform) and the correct way of entering/exiting the ceremony area.

No other equipment, including rackets, are allowed to be brought onto the podium.

Flags are allowed to be brought onto the podium at Grade 1 Team Tournaments. When doing so, it can only be one flag and cannot obstruct or interfere with the receipt and/or display of any medals, trophies, or other prizes provided.

Flags are not allowed to be brought onto the podium at Grade 1 Individual Tournaments and Grade 2 Tournaments.

Bronze medallists and/or losing semifinalists must attend the relevant ceremonies if such Players are notified in advance in the Tournament prospectus that the ceremonies will include bronze medallists and/or losing semi-finalists.



**BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.9 – Eligibility and Processing of Entries for World Championships**

*Rationale: "Qualified" more accurately describes who is eligible for a wild card.*

**3.2.10 – Wildcards**

In each Event where the host Member does not have a Player or pair **eligible** **qualified** via the World Ranking list, they shall be entitled to nominate a wild card entry. The host Member shall inform BWF its intention of nominating wild card entries as stated in the time lines in Section 5.3.2 of the BWF Statutes.

## **Approved Changes to Regulations – Coach Clothing** **For effect on 1 January 2020**

(Yellow – Added text; Red – Text to be deleted)

### **BWF Statutes, Section 5.1 – General Competition Regulations**

#### ***24 – Advertising on Players' and Coaches' Clothing***

- 24.3.1 Each sock may carry two advertisements (including manufacturers' logos/emblems) of 20 square centimetres or less. The total number of advertisements allowed on each leg/foot is just two should a Player or Coach wear a compression/support sock as well as a regular sock.
- 24.3.4 Clothing worn under Player or Coach shirts, shorts, skirts or dresses, shall be known as 'underclothing' and not categorised as 'articles of clothing', and if visible must not display advertising.
- 24.4.1 Members may use an area not exceeding fifty square centimetres on their Players' or Coaches' shorts or lower part of dresses or skirts.
- 24.4.4 If Players or Coaches wear Member advertising on their shorts or skirts, or lower part of dresses at a Tournament this must be the advertising permitted by the BWF. All Players or Coaches from the same Member in a Tournament do not have to wear advertising on their shorts, skirts, or lower part of dresses.

#### ***24.6 – Advertising on Coaches' Clothing*** ***(new section)***

- 24.6.1 For the sake of these Regulations, Coaches refers to all Coaches, Team Managers, and/or other Participants who sit in or around the Coaches' chair behind the competition court in a coaching capacity for a match.
- 24.6.2 Advertising on Coaches' clothing is governed by Clauses 24.1 – 24.5, with the following clarifications:
- Regulations for shirts govern Coach shirts and/or jacket.
  - Regulations for shorts govern Coach pants



**Approved Changes to Para badminton  
Technical Regulations - October 2019  
For Immediate Effect**

(Yellow - Added text; Red - Text to be deleted)

**BWF Statutes, Section 5.5 – Para badminton General Competition Regulations**

**18.4 – Player Names**

Player names Any name of a Player appearing on the back of the shirt must be in accordance with Summary of PBGCR Regulations 15 - 19 (BWF Statutes, Section 5.5.8). On Player clothing the Player's name, if used, shall be identical with the name registered as the Last Name (or an abbreviation thereof) in the BWF Para badminton Player database, and if desired, the initial(s) of the name(s) registered as the First Name in the BWF Para badminton Player database. Last Name is defined as the family name, surname or similar name under the respective naming protocol of the Member country.

**BWF Statutes, Section 5.5.5 – Para badminton Classification Regulations**

**6.1.3.3 - Fixed Review Date (FRD)**

If an International Classification Panel assigns a Player with a Sport Class with a Sport Class Status "R" it may also, if it considers it appropriate to do so based upon the particular circumstances of that Player, set a date that shall be referred to as the "Fixed Review Date".

Prior to the Fixed Date, the Player:

- shall not be required to attend Player Evaluation;
- shall retain the Sport Class assigned to that Player, with Sport Class Status Review, and be
- permitted to compete accordingly;
- may make an Application to Change Sport Class ("Medical Review") as provided for in these Regulations.

A Fixed Review Date may only be set by an International Classification Panel.

Following the Fixed Review Date, the Status changes to R and the Player will undergo Player Review at their next International Tournament where an independent classifier panel is available.

The Head of Classification may amend the "Fixed Review Date" with a minimum of 3 months' notice to the Member.

Following the end of the Fixed Review Date, if a player has not presented for Player Evaluation, their Sport Class Status will automatically revert to R.

**R Players must complete Player Evaluation prior to competing at an international or major Competition sanctioned by BWF.**

**7. MALE PLAYER / FEMALE PLAYER / PAIR OF THE YEAR AWARD –  
BADMINTON / PARA BADMINTON**

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7.1 Six awards are provided annually – the Male Player of the Year and the Female Player of the Year, Pair of the Year - and Male Para badminton Player of the Year and Female Para badminton Player of the Year and Para badminton Pair of the Year.

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7.2 The awards are to honour badminton and Para badminton talent, world performance and personality and profile of individual players in the sport across a calendar year.

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7.3 The assessment period to select player of the award shall be 1 November of one year to 31 October of the following year.

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**7.4 Key selection criteria:**

- o Exceptional and consistent performance across a calendar year
- o Exceptional performance
  - Badminton – exceptional performance at the Olympic Games, BWF World Championships, BWF World Team Championships (for the Sudirman Cup / Thomas Cup / Uber Cup) and HSBC BWF World Tour events and the Super 1000 and 750 levels.
  - Para badminton - exceptional performance at the Paralympic Games, BWF World Championships, Continental Championships and BWF international Para badminton tournaments.
- o A good role model and ambassador for the sport which goes beyond on-court performance.
- o Media presence, popularity and personality.
- o Ranked among the top five in the world in the period of assessment.

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**7.5 Selection Process for Male / Female / Para badminton Player of the Year Awards**

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7.4.1 Selection of the candidates for each of the Player of the Year Awards shall be determined by the following method:

7.4.1.1 A list of up to 10 candidates (players / pairs) for each award category shall be developed by the BWF office in September each year based on the criteria for the awards.

7.4.1.2 The list of players / pairs for each award category shall be published online by the BWF in October each year together with images and profiles of each of the nominees on the shortlist.

7.4.1.3 In October/November, voting for players / pairs for each of the

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As amended – 10 October 2019

award categories shall be undertaken to determine a shortlist of three (3) for each award category, shall take place.

7.4.1.4 The following groups (together with the weighting applied for each vote cast) shall vote for three (3) candidates from the published list to determine the shortlist of three (3) players / pairs for each award category.

a) **Council members** (weighting X 2) – except for the President, Deputy President, Chair of the Awards Commission, Chairs of the (Badminton / Para badminton) Athletes' Commissions as they are part of the Selection Panel described in Clause 7.4.3)

b) **Players** (weighting X 3) – all singles players in the top 15 world ranking and the doubles players in the top 10 world ranking who are competing at the Super 750, Fuzhou China Open in early November.

c) **Media** (weighting X 2) – two (2) media representatives from each of the top 15 countries represented on the BWF World Team Rankings as at 1 October (a total of 30 media representatives). The media representatives shall be proposed to the Awards Commission who shall approve the list of 30 media representatives.

d) **Referees** (weighting X 1) – BWF Certificated Referees and BWF Semi-Professional Referees.

7.4.1.5 – The voting system to determine the top three (3) in the shortlist shall be as follows:

a) Each individual / representative in each of the above groups shall vote for up to three (3) players / pairs on the list published online for each of the award categories.

b) The player / pair getting the highest votes in each of the groups (a – d) and categories of awards above shall get three (3) points, the second highest getting two (2) points and the third highest getting one (1) point.

c) The points for each of the three (3) highest players / pairs in each of the four (4) groups (a – d) will be multiplied with the weighting for each group.

d) From this calculation, a shortlist of three (3) players / pairs shall be determined for the final selection phase.

7.4.2 The final selection phase shall take place in November after the shortlist for each award category from the voting phase is available.

7.4.3 The Selection Panel to determine the winners of each award category shall be:

a) **Council members** - President, Deputy President, Chair of the Awards Commission.

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b) **Players** - Chairs of the (Badminton / Para badminton) Athletes' Commissions.

c) **Media** – three (3) media representatives / badminton journalists from international media agencies. The three media representatives shall be proposed by the BWF Communications Department and ratified by the Awards Commission.

d) **Sponsor Representatives** – a representative from two BWF commercial partners.

7.4.4 – The system the Selection Panel shall use to determine the top three (3) from the shortlist shall be as follows:

a) The Selection Panel will participate in a video/conference to discuss the shortlist of three (3) candidates for each award category.

b) The panel will receive the full "ranking list" from the first round of voting.

c) Following the video/conference call each panel member is invited to rank the players/pairs in each of the award categories – first, second and third.

d) From the votes / ranking by each Selection Panel member, the winners shall be determined.

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## **8. EDDY CHOONG MOST PROMISING PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

8.1 The Eddy Choong Most Promising Player of the Year Award is presented annually and recognizes one individual, an emerging top world talent in the sport. The award reflects promising and improving performances across a calendar year.

### **8.2 Key selection criteria:**

- o Consistent and improving performances across a calendar year.
- o A good role model.
- o A popular badminton player amongst his/her peers.

### **8.3 Nominations for the Eddy Choong Most Promising Player of the Year Award**

8.3.1 Selection may be partly based on a vote in which the badminton supporters can participate.

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As amended – 10 October 2019



## **9. MOST IMPROVED PLAYER AWARD**

9.1 The Most Improved Player Award recognises significant changes in performances of a top international player who is not in contention for either Male / Female Player of the Year Award or Most Promising Player of the Year Award.

The award recognises a talented player who has demonstrated significant and extraordinary improvement in performances and results within a calendar year.

### **9.2 Key selection criteria:**

- o Significant and extraordinary improvement in performances across part of a calendar year.
- o A good role model.
- o A popular badminton player amongst his/her peers.

### **9.3 Nominations for the Most Improved Player Award**

9.3.1 Nominations of the award are made by the Council.

As amended – ~~10 October 2019~~

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