

BWF Notice

BWF Postpones 2020 TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals and the BWF Forum & AGM



Friday 20 March 2020

Dear Members and Continental Confederations

The BWF announced today that the **TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals** and the **BWF Members' Forum and AGM 2020**, which were due to be hosted in Aarhus, Denmark **have been postponed till August 2020** due to the unprecedented global COVID-19 situation.

The TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals were scheduled for 16-24 May and during the same period, the BWF Members' Forum and AGM 2020 were scheduled to take place on 21 and 22 May 2020.

The BWF Council in consultation with hosts, Badminton Denmark, could clearly see that the global badminton community is facing extraordinary times with the spread of COVID-19 and that it would be in the best interest of all parties in the global badminton community to postpone the scheduled events as the situation would not allow a successful staging on the originally planned dates.

Please also find attached a separate Media Statement on the postponement of the TOTAL BWF Thomas and Uber Cup Finals.

New Dates for the Members' Forum / AGM

The TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals and Members' Forum & AGM are being moved forward three months from **May to August** and will continue to be hosted in **Aarhus, Denmark**.

The dates for the TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals will be hosted 15 to 23 August 2020, and the same pattern for the week will be maintained for Forum & AGM – 1) Thursday - the Members' Forum, 2) Thursday night - the Delegates Dinner and 3) Friday - the AGM.

The new dates for the Members' Forum, Delegates Dinner, AGM and TOTAL BWF Thomas and Uber Cup Finals are as follows:

- **Saturday 15 – Sunday 23 August 2020 - TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals**
 - **Tuesday 18 August – 1000 CET time - Deadline for Delegates Nomination Form**
 - **Thursday 20 August 2020 – Members' Forum** – starting at 0900
 - **Thursday 20 August 2020 – Delegates Dinner** – starting at 1900
 - **Friday 21 August 2020 – BWF AGM 2020** – starting at 1000
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Key Information

1. **Booking of Hotel and Air tickets** – As already communication in a separate Memorandum on 18 March 2020, all Members have been notified not to make further hotel bookings or book Airline tickets for the originally planned dates in May for the BWF Forum and AGM.
2. **Hotel Bookings Paid For by Members for Forum & AGM** - Any rooms booked and paid for by Members at the Raddisson Blu for the May meeting dates will be refunded by BWF or will be honoured for the August meeting. BWF will in due course provide more information about the exact process, including new booking procedures for Members who have not yet booked rooms.
3. **Hotel Bookings by Members for TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals** – Any rooms already booked will be rearranged for the new August dates. BWF will provide more information about the exact process and new booking procedures in due course.
4. **Airline Bookings** – Members who had already booked airline tickets for the May Forum & AGM meeting should:
 - a. Contact the airline or agency to get a refund on any flight tickets already booked or change the departure / arrival dates to fit in with the new dates.
 - b. If it is not possible to get a refund or reschedule the flight tickets the Member should contact BWF with documentation of any lost costs and explain why the tickets cannot be refunded or rescheduled.

BWF will provide new deadlines for the following as soon as all the information is available.

1. To request a visa letter
 2. To book and pay for hotel accommodation.
 3. To provide your itinerary / request airport pick up.
 4. To request accreditation to watch badminton.
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Please come back to me if you have any questions on the enclosed.

Kind regards

Stuart Borrie

Chief Operating Officer

E: s.borrie@bwfbadminton.org



PRESS RELEASE

Friday 20 March 2020

BWF MEDIA STATEMENT ON COVID-19 AND CANCELLATION OF FURTHER EVENTS

Following last week's announcement that the Badminton World Federation (BWF) was suspending all HSBC BWF World Tour and other BWF-sanctioned tournaments from Monday 16 March until Sunday April 12, a further five tournaments have also been cancelled or postponed.

This includes the suspension of the three Continental Confederation championships scheduled for week 17 on the BWF Tournament Calendar – one of the last chances for athletes to gain qualification for Tokyo 2020 before the April 26 deadline.

Suspended Tournaments

- VICTOR Croatian International 2020 (16-19 April)
- Peru International 2020 (16-19 April)
- 2020 European Championships (21-26 April)
- Badminton Asia Championships 2020 (21-26 April)
- XXIV Pan Am Individual Championships 2020 (23-26 April)

The escalation of the COVID-19 outbreak globally has led the BWF, in close consultation and consensus with its Continental Confederations and Host Member Associations, to confirm the suspension of these tournaments.

The health, safety and wellbeing of all athletes, their entourage, officials and the greater badminton community remains the top priority for all relevant parties.

Heightened travel and quarantine restrictions and the subsequent extreme logistical complications this has caused also contributed to the suspension.

Badminton Europe said they and Ukrainian Badminton Federation were forced to postpone their flagship tournament in Kyiv, Ukraine as a consequence of the COVID-19 virus spreading rapidly across the continent.

Badminton Asia took similar measures to suspend its tournament in Manila, Philippines. The Badminton Asia Championships 2020 had already relocated once, switching from Wuhan, China to Manila due to the COVID-19 outbreak in that city.

Meanwhile, Badminton Pan Am also said it was no longer feasible to stage the XXIV Pan Am Individual Championships 2020 in Peru because of health and safety fears linked to COVID-19. The tournament was originally planned for Guatemala City.

All five tournaments were slated to be played within the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games qualifying period, but will no longer contribute to Olympic qualifying as they will now fall outside the qualification window.

BWF will make a further announcement on any implications related to the Olympic qualification period at a later date.

ENDS

Contact:

Lloyd Green
Communications & Media Manager
l.green@bwfbadminton.org
Mobile: +60 19-384 0556
WhatsApp: +60 19-384 0556
Skype: lloydhgreen13

ABOUT BWF

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) is the international governing body of the sport of badminton, recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). It was originally the International Badminton Federation (IBF) which was founded on 5 July, 1934, before being rechristened the Badminton World Federation in 2006.

The purpose and objectives of BWF include regulating, promoting, developing and popularising the sport of badminton throughout the world and organising, conducting and presenting international events at the highest level.

The BWF's vision is to make badminton a leading global sport accessible to all – giving every child a chance to play for life. Its mission is to lead and inspire all stakeholders; to deliver entertainment through exciting events to drive fan experience; and to create innovative, impactful and sustainable development initiatives.

BWF has its headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with 193 Member Associations worldwide.

Poul-Erik Høyer is the BWF President and Thomas Lund is the BWF Secretary General.

Websites: www.bwfbadminton.com and www.bwfcorporate.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bwfbadminton>