

COCTALES

BWF

THE NEWSLETTER OF BWF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

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TEAM SPIRIT IS ESSENTIAL

FROM THE CHAIR BY
**GILLES
CAVERT**

By Gilles Cavern Chair – BWF TOC

Among the many essential ingredients for high performance is team spirit, and the opportunity to continually improve team spirit, teamwork, and comradery within the BWF Technical Officials Family.

Two other key ingredients – standardisation and increasing performance – are both permanent goals of the BWF Technical Official Commission (TOC) and, to that end, we are continuously implementing different tools each year. From that perspective, 2019 is a particular turning point.

New 360-Degree Umpire Evaluation System

For BWF Umpires, we have implemented a renovated 360-degree evaluation system,

allowing us to measure, as objectively as possible, and from different angles, the umpire's overall performance at a tournament. This new system will, in particular, assist us in the selection of the successful candidates for the BWF Semi-Professional Umpire pool, which is expected to start its in 2020.

BWF TO Educational Resources

The BWF Referee Level 1 Educational Resource is almost ready for distribution to all our Member Associations (MA) to assist them in the development of referees at the national level. This compliments the Line Judge and Level 1 Umpire resources already published and available online for MAs and individuals.

The Level 2 Umpire and Referee Educational Resources, focused on the international level, are currently being

developed, with the goal of distribution by early 2020.

Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and Performance

One last note about performance... With only 15 months before the start of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Badminton competition, now is the time for all BWF TOs to focus on sharpening their skills and overall performance.

As the Umpire Coordinator for Tokyo 2020, I look forward to working with all selected for these Games, and look forward to seeing you at the upcoming DAIHATSU YONEX Japan Open 2019 which will serve as the Olympic Games test event.

As always, thank you to everyone in our BWF TO Family for your commitment and ongoing support of Badminton and BWF!

UPDATE FOR REFEREES

By Torsten Berg

Chair – BWF Referee Assessment Panel

BWF Referee Accreditation Assessment

When you read these lines BWF is well underway in the assessment process to confirming several new BWF Accredited Referees colleagues, following the BWF Accredited Referee Assessment Workshop held in January. Five candidates from three Continental Confederations passed the theory test and will now undergo practical assessments in Grade 3 tournaments this year.

The workshop was expanded to four days, which turned out to be a successful move. We had much more interactive participation and more input from the BWF Referee Assessment Panel, including several lessons from one of our Semi-Professional (SP) Referees, Pencho Stoyanov (BUL). It was also evident that the bar for BWF Referee Accreditation is rising, reflecting the increasing demands and requirements on your capabilities as BWF Referees. Key words were – and are – better preparation of your tournaments and close attention to all the information received from BWF on decisions relevant to referees. Our Events Director Darren Parks often, and rightly, says that “being well prepared is half the battle won!”.

BWF Referee Assessment Panel Meeting

The BWF Referee Assessment Panel met in connection with the BWF Accredited Referee Assessment workshop to discuss the landscape and future of refereeing, appraisals and assessments, and to make recommendations to the BWF Technical Official Commission (TOC) to meet later this year. It will be recommended to have the next general workshop for all BWF Referees in February 2020, again in Kuala Lumpur, and the next workshop for assessment for BWF Accreditation planned for early 2022.

With the arrival of two additional SP Referees, Lynne Nixey (NZL) and Ivanka Pokorni (CRO), only one BWF Referee retiring at the end of 2018, and five retiring



at the end of 2019, our challenge is to offer sufficient training of the younger up-and-coming colleagues. Several ways to contravene this were discussed; the Master Class Programme described earlier will again be proposed as one measure to help this issue.

With the expected increased professionalisation of the workforce – intake of more SP referees for the 2021 - 2023 period and later on fully professional BWF Referees, still to be decided – there will inevitably be consequences for our traditional approach and organisation. In other words, there needs to be changes to

the BWF Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024 in the areas covering BWF Referees compared to the current four-year plan.

Standardisation

With the changes to the BWF regulations agreed by Council late last year – often as a result of observations from you and your colleagues and brought to attention in your Referee Reports – there are naturally questions coming up and a need sometimes to elaborate or even to recommend to reconsider.

■ **Continued on next page**

Here are some of the recent discussion points and reminders, not in any particular order of importance:

- ▶ The revised service law applies in all BWF Grade 1, 2, 3, Junior International, and Continental Championships. Hosts must now follow these Laws, and all hosts of these tournaments must use the BWF approved fixed height service measuring device. The reference is BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.4 (Specifications for International Standard Facilities), Clause 3.3.
- ▶ While it is mandatory to use the last name as in the BWF database and the M & Q on the back of the player shirt, for the time being, BWF will allow the addition of the initial(s) of the first name.
- ▶ Whenever a red card is issued by an umpire, he or she must call the referee. Do go on court, if the umpire does not call you.
- ▶ Semi-finals are now increasingly being played in two sessions on one court only at Grade 2 tournaments, for television and audience reasons. Please bear in mind a

reasonably balanced rest time for potential opponents in the finals when you decide on the order of play.

- ▶ Organisers and BWF do their best to keep the Field of Play as free as possible from any disturbing movement or objects for obvious presentational reasons. Nevertheless, you must ensure that you, as the BWF Referee, have easy and fast access to the courts (with the doctor), outside the camera view, unless going on court.
- ▶ Flags, like other equipment, are not allowed on the podium during prize-giving ceremonies, unless specifically mentioned in the prospectus (e. g. for certain Grade 1 Team tournaments). If allowed, remember to say so in the Team Managers' meeting. The reference is BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6 (Player Commitment Regulations), Clause 1.9.
- ▶ If a player wants the doctor on court for a cold spray on a muscle problem during play, allow it once only, and let the player know that any further use of spray must be administered by the player or by the doctor or a coach during an interval. This is not a

regulation, but good standard practise to reduce unnecessary delays.

- ▶ Any design on players' shoes is allowed, provided only that the shoes are commercially available. Do not spend many moments of your precious time on shoes.
- ▶ How long should a referee keep records from a tournament where he or she has officiated? There is no standard, but after 90 days any questions on players penalties will have to be resolved, so unless special circumstances apply, you can safely delete or destroy your records three months after the conclusion of the tournament.

We, indeed, live in exciting times, also for badminton technical officials. Badminton continues to progress worldwide: more money, increasing media attention, new technology to support us, and new challenges.

So, the best advice we can give you is to do your utmost to keep up to this pace.

I wish you the best of luck – and also that I were at least twenty years younger!"



Participants, presenters and BWF staff for the BWF Accredited Referee Assessment Workshop in January 2019 in Kuala Lumpur.

WHAT IS UMPIRING?

By Malcolm Banham

Chair – BWF Umpire Assessment Panel

If you have attended one of my umpire workshops at a Grade 1 or 2 tournament, you would have heard me ask: *What is umpiring?*

There are always a range of answers. However, if I were to summarise, I would say that umpiring is:

- ▶ People management;
- ▶ Situation control;
- ▶ Prevention of potential incidents rather than letting them happen;
- ▶ Knowledge and understanding of the Laws;
- ▶ Concentration;
- ▶ Prompt decision making; and
- ▶ Watching for flash points especially between rallies.

And, just as importantly, umpiring is common sense.

Your objective should always be to deliver a smooth, calm performance; this will go a long way to give the players confidence in you.

Recent Common Errors

The following errors seem to be cropping up right now:

- ▶ **Getting the score incorrect following a challenge that has been made on the Instant Review System (IRS) court.**
RECOMMENDATION: Take your time to ensure you have everything correct. And remember that your service judge is also ready to help.
- ▶ **Calling a fault for a player hitting the net when there is clearly no evidence to support this. The downside risk is that if you get it wrong, the TV replay and/or arena screen will clearly show your error.**
RECOMMENDATION: The ITTO clearly states that you should let play proceed if you are not sure an infringement occurred.
- ▶ **Looking versus Acknowledging your line judges.**
RECOMMENDATION: There is a big difference between looking at your line



judges and acknowledging them. They are part of your team. As such, make sure to acknowledge them, smile at them, and be supportive.

- ▶ **Refusing to let a player have a quick towel. Players now know they can have a quick towel providing they do not hold up play. Unfortunately, there have been several instances when an umpire has refused a player the opportunity to towel off resulting in a yellow card.**
RECOMMENDATION: Inform the players why you are saying no so that they can understand the reason.

Service Laws

As a result of the new fixed service height Laws, BWF is currently reviewing all the service Laws to provide greater clarity and/or correct any inconsistencies or errors, where necessary. However, any proposed changes to the Laws (if any) would not be implemented until after approval by the Member Associations at the BWF Annual General Meeting next year.

Fixed Service Height Measuring Device

We have received very positive feedback regarding the modified fixed height device, including it is much easier to judge height due to the setting of the plastics further apart. Of course, this assumes that the device is set up properly, including the bubble on the top of the post set in the centre.

There is no difference in using the new device versus the first version; you still line up the two lines as before. It is just that the greater distance between the plastics and the different coloured lines makes it easier. The blue and black coloured lines were chosen very carefully, taking into account anyone who may be colour blind.

My Assessment Panel colleagues and I look forward to meeting with you at upcoming umpire workshops; there are always lots of topics to discuss, and our goals the same: Consistency and Performance.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.



PARA-BADMINTON TECHNICAL OFFICIALS NEWS

By Torsten Berg Member – BWF Para-Badminton Commission

The BWF Para-Badminton Commission met recently in Dubai, UAE, and saw progress concerning the 'One Sport – One Team' – agenda for BWF Technical Officials.

In the future, the administration of the Para-Badminton Technical Officials will be done by the team of Senior Technical Events Manager Chris Trenholme, TO Manager Suva and Events Officer Selena in the BWF Office, following the same guidelines as apply to other BWF Technical Officials. This change is a part of the integration of Para-Badminton event support into the Events Department, with the purpose of allowing Junior Tournament Series Manager Syahmi Sabron more opportunity to focus on other and more specialised responsibilities to Para-Badminton.

Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games

The appointments for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games were also reviewed at this recent meeting. As a result, we are ready to send the invitations out when the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the Host Organising Committee have confirmed the number of referees, umpires

and line judges for these Games. As it looks, some Continental Confederation Certificated Umpires will complement the BWF Certificated and Accredited Umpires to meet the required numbers and to ensure universality and gender equity; others may be invited as line judges. As many as possible – practicalities and budget permitting – will also be invited to the Paralympic test event, which will be the Japan Para-Badminton International 2019 from 11 to 17 November 2019.

Looking Beyond Tokyo 2020

The tournament structure and structure of the Para-Badminton Technical Officials workforce post-Tokyo 2020 was also discussed, based on the BWF Council's acceptance of our draft policy in March 2019.

From 2021, there will be three grades of BWF Para-Badminton tournaments, similar to other tournaments. The BWF and Continental Confederation Championships will constitute Grade 1, while there will be two levels of other nationally organised tournaments, one aimed at the most competitive players competing for the highest ranking, and another – with classification – aimed at the new or less ambitious competitive players. These

changes will be reflected in the points system and, consequently, the ranking lists.

Integration will also continue in the referee and umpire areas. Appraisals and assessment for upgrading, as well as age limits like those that apply to other BWF Technical Officials will be introduced, possibly in a step-by-step approach. Younger BWF Para-Badminton Referees will be invited to attend the next BWF Accreditation workshop if they do not yet hold a BWF qualification, while those who approach the age limit may be invited to become assessors and teachers. Details of this program, and one for BWF Para-Badminton Umpires will be further elaborated at the next commission meeting.

The progress in player numbers and the standard of play is impressive, and the Paralympic Games Qualification period will surely enhance this positive development. It will be a challenge for the BWF and Continental Confederation Technical Official communities to live up to this challenge, and in particular, to help national level umpires – many without much experience in international or Para-Badminton – to officiate at higher and higher levels of performance. Please help your new colleagues; they may become instrumental in our longer-term development towards the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.



INTEGRITY – MATCH MANIPULATION

By Andy Hines-Randle
BWF Integrity Unit Manager

The threat of ‘match-manipulation’ in badminton is very real and it’s not just the players that need to be aware of it.

When people think of ‘match-manipulation’ or ‘match-fixing’, they think primarily of players and their involvement in wrongdoing. But it should come as no surprise that some of the strongest sanctions in sports, such as tennis have been issued to technical officials, more specifically the umpires.

Just like players, technical officials can also be drawn in by corruptors looking to get an edge in matches for betting purposes. As an umpire, you can basically control the speed of the game and also more importantly, control the speed of the data distributed to the betting operators. It is this perceived ‘power’ that corruptors want to exploit, and as the cases prosecuted in tennis have shown, they can make a lot of money from this activity.

To ensure that badminton stays ahead of this potential risk, all stakeholders need to know what they can and cannot do, but more importantly, know the mechanisms and processes available to them should they be approached in any way.

Initially, it is important for technical officials to know where they sit in the BWF’s integrity structure. In short, you have the same obligations as players under the BWF Code of Conduct in Relation to Betting, Wagering & Irregular Match Results – you are identified as a *Covered Person*.

The messaging to you as technical officials is no different to that given to players:

- ▶ **BE TRUE** – Always do your best. Never fix a match
- ▶ **BE SAFE** – Never bet on badminton
- ▶ **BE CAREFUL** – Never share information that could be used for betting
- ▶ **BE OPEN** – if someone approaches you to cheat – SAY NO!!
- ▶ **BE SMART** – Report any approach to fix. It’s your obligation

What do the above statements actually mean?

- ▶ **BE TRUE** – when you are on assignment, always perform to the best of your ability as an official. Do not be influenced by external factors that may bring your integrity into question.
- ▶ **BE SAFE** – under the BWF Code of Conduct in Relation to Betting, Wagering & Irregular Match Results, you are not permitted to bet on any badminton at any time. If you are found to have been betting, this is a corruption offence and you can be sanctioned.
- ▶ **BE CAREFUL** – do not provide privileged information that is not in the public domain. Corruptors may approach you, just like players, to get information that may give them an edge when betting. Information on player preparedness, injuries and current performance may be information in which a corrupter may

be interested. So, don’t share this with anyone – including any comments on social media about injuries and fitness of players.

- ▶ **BE OPEN** – this is very important, if someone does make a corrupt approach to you in any way, just say NO!! This is the best thing to do.
- ▶ **BE SMART** – if you are approached in any way, even if you are not sure whether the approach is legitimate or serious enough, always report it!! You have an obligation to do so.

You may think this will never happen to you and you will never be approached. That may be true, but it’s better to know your obligations and the mechanisms available to you, just in case – the sanctions open to technical officials hold as much weight and can be as severe as those issued to players, so it’s important you make the right decisions should the situation arise.

Any questions you may have regarding your obligations under the BWF Code of Conduct in Relation to Betting, Wagering & Irregular Match Results can be directed to the BWF Integrity Unit through the BWF Technical Officials Manager.

Alternatively, if you need to report any wrongdoing, you can contact Andy Hines-Randle, BWF Integrity Unit Manager directly at: a.hines-randle@bwfbadminton.org

The BWF also has a *Whistleblower* mechanism available to all stakeholders and further details can be found on the BWF website ([linked here](#)).

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BWF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Confirmed for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

Referees

■ Head Referee:

- ▶ Carsten Koch (GER)

■ Deputy Referees:

- ▶ Lynne Nixey (NZL)
- ▶ David Chang (TPE)
- ▶ Yves Côté (CAN)

Umpire Coordinator

- ▶ Gilles Cavert (FRA)

Umpires

■ Asia

- ▶ Tan Ai Teng, Kristil (MAS)
- ▶ Qomarul Lailiah (INA)
- ▶ Ma Janelyn T Fundal (PHI)
- ▶ Law Chi Kwong, Daniel (HKG)
- ▶ Wahyana (INA)
- ▶ Hidetomo Kasahara (JPN)
- ▶ Kuo Pan Hsien, Benjamin (TPE)
- ▶ Wong Wai Nap, Victor (HKG)
- ▶ Fine C Dathan (IND)
- ▶ Nguyen Pham Duy Anh (VIE)

■ Oceania

- ▶ Kelly Hoare (AUS)
- ▶ Trish Gubb (NZL)

■ Europe

- ▶ Ivanka Pokorni (CRO)
- ▶ Iris Metspalu (EST)
- ▶ Sven Serré (BEL)
- ▶ Jacob Syndberg (DEN)
- ▶ Christof Osebold (GER)
- ▶ Andrea Chiappini (ITA)
- ▶ Ivo Kassel (SUI)
- ▶ David Graf Von Schwerin (AUT)

■ Pan Am

- ▶ Eric Desroches (CAN)
- ▶ Gerald Arseneault (CAN)

■ Africa

- ▶ Satiawan Mahadoo (MRI)
- ▶ Louwrens Bester (RSA)



TOKYO 2020



2019 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND APPRAISALS

Date	Meetings, Workshops and Appraisals	Location	Country	Tournament
11 Apr - 14 Apr	Referee Assessment for BWF Accreditation	Wateringen	NED	20th VICTOR Dutch International 2019
17 May - 18 May	Umpire Assessor Meeting 2019	Nanning	CHN	in conjunction with TOTAL BWF Sudirman Cup 2019
19 May - 26 May	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals, Workshop and Assessment for BWF Accreditation	Nanning	CHN	TOTAL BWF Sudirman Cup 2019
04 Jun - 09 Jun	Umpire Appraisals and Workshop	Sydney	AUS	CROWN GROUP Australian Open 2019
16 Jul - 21 Jul	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals and Workshop	Jakarta	INA	BLIBLI Indonesia Open 2019
30 Jul - 04 Aug	Umpire Appraisals and Workshop	Bangkok	THA	TOYOTA Thailand Open 2019
17 Aug - 18 Aug	TOC Meeting 2019	Basel	SUI	in conjunction with TOTAL BWF World Championships 2019
19 Aug - 25 Aug	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals, Workshop and Assessment for BWF Certification	Basel	SUI	TOTAL BWF World Championships 2019
03 Sep - 08 Sep	Referee Appraisals	Taipei	TPE	YONEX Chinese Taipei Open 2019
10 Sep - 15 Sep	Referee Appraisals	Ho Chi Minh	VIE	YONEX Vietnam Open 2019
17 Sep - 22 Sep	Umpire Appraisals and Workshop	Changzhou	CHN	VICTOR China Open 2019
30 Sep - 05 Oct	Referee Appraisals and Assessment for BWF Certification	Kazan	RUS	BWF World Junior Mixed Team Championships 2019
15 Oct - 20 Oct	Umpire Appraisals, Workshop and Assessment for BWF Accreditation	Odense	DEN	DANISA Denmark Open 2019
22 Oct - 27 Oct	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals and Workshop	Paris	FRA	YONEX French Open 2019
26 Nov - 01 Dec	Referee Appraisals	Lucknow	IND	Syed Modi International 2019
11 Dec - 15 Dec	Umpire Appraisals and Workshop	Guangzhou	CHN	HSBC BWF World Tour Finals 2019
12 Dec - 15 Dec	Referee Assessment for BWF Accreditation	Milan	ITA	Italian International 2019