



Badminton World Federation  
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2 June 2016

FAO: - Member Associations - Badminton World Federation

Dear Badminton Colleagues

### **CHANGES & ADDITIONS TO LAWS OF BADMINTON & REGULATIONS**

The BWF Events Committee on Monday 23 May 2016 and BWF Council on Thursday 26 May agreed upon a number of decisions including confirming a Law of Badminton and amendments relating to Appendix 7 (Instant Review System), RTTO's, General Competition Regulations and tournament specific regulations.

The updated RTTO's and regulations will soon be on BWF's website and all will come into immediate effect unless outlined below.

Please note that words in **red** means to be deleted and words in **yellow** are to be added.

#### **Laws of Badminton - Part II – Section 1B – Appendix 7**

- 1.1 On a court where an Instant Review **SS** system is in operation a player/pair may challenge a Line **J** Judge's call, or the overrule call of an Umpire.
- 1.2 The umpire may also call for a review if the Line Judge is unsighted and the Umpire is not able to make **an overrule** **a** decision.
- 2.2 On receiving the players' challenge the Umpire will signal the **Referee** **nominated technical official** who will review the line call using the Instant Review System.
- 2.3 If the call by the line-judge or overrule by the Umpire is deemed incorrect, the players challenge is successful, and the decision by the **L**ine **J**udge or Umpire is reversed.
- 3.1 A player/pair has two rights to challenge line calls during the duration of **each game** of the match.
- 3.3 If the player/pair is deemed to have incorrectly challenged twice then they lose any further right to challenge during the **match** **game**.

## EXPERIMENTAL LAW

To be implemented 1 January 2016:

3.1 A player/pair has two rights to challenge line calls during the duration of each game of the match.

3.3 If the player/pair is deemed to have incorrectly challenged twice then they lose any further right to challenge during the match game.

## Part II – Section 2 – Recommendations to Technical Officials

### *Section 3.7 - Misconduct*

3.7.1 Record and report to the Referee any incident of misconduct and the action taken.

3.7.32 When the umpire has to administer a breach of Law 16.4.1, 16.5.2 or 16.6 by issuing a warning to the offending side (Law 16.7.1.1), call "Come here" to the offending player and call:

"... [name of player], warning for misconduct"

at the same time raising the right hand **holding a yellow card** above the umpire's head.

3.7.53 When the umpire has to administer a flagrant or persistent breach of Laws 16.2, 16.4.1, 16.5.2 or 16.6 by faulting the offending side (Law 16.7.1.2 or 16.7.1.3) and reporting the offending side immediately to the Referee with a view to disqualification, call "Come here" to the offending player and call:

"... [name of player], fault for misconduct"

at the same time raising the right hand **holding a red card** above the umpire's head and calling the Referee.

3.7.64 When the Referee decides to disqualify the offending player or pair of players, a black card is given to the umpire. The umpire shall call "Come here" to the offending player or pair and call:

"... [name of player(s)], disqualified for misconduct"

at the same time raising the right hand **holding a black card** above the umpire's head.

Any disqualification for misconduct shall render a player disqualified for the entire tournament or championship.

3.7.25 Misconduct during intervals (Law 16.2) is treated as misconduct during a game. This should be followed by the appropriate call in either of Recommendations 3.7.32 to 3.7.53 immediately on occurrence of misconduct. At the start of play after the interval, call,

"... game; love all" (after intervals between games)

or call

"11 – [score]" (after intervals at 11 points).

Only in cases of administration of misconduct under Law 16.7.1.2 or 16.7.2 16.7.1.3, the Umpire shall call

"... [name of player], faulted"

Thereafter, call "Service over", where appropriate followed by the score.

Call "Play".

If the player is disqualified by the Referee, call

"... [name of player], disqualified for misconduct"

Thereafter, call in Recommendation 3.3.8

- 3.7.76 Misconduct before and after the match while on court, shall be treated as in RTTO 3.7.32 to 3.7.64, as appropriate. Record and report any incident of such misconduct to the Referee and the action taken. However, it shall have no effect on the score of the match.

### **Part III – Section 1A – General Competition Regulations**

#### ***Section 1 – Purpose and Applicability of the Regulations***

- 1.3(NEW) BWF Sanctioned Team Leagues as defined in Regulation x.x shall comply with the terms as defined in the BWF Sanction Policy, ref

(The original 1.3 becomes 1.4)

(NEW)

2.7

**"International Team Leagues" and "National Team Leagues with International participation" – collectively named "BWF Sanctioned Team Leagues"**

2.7.1 "International Team Leagues" are any international team competition organized as an International Team League by BWF, Continental Confederation or Members between teams from different countries (such as, but not limited to, club teams from different National Team Leagues or teams created with different national connections), which include participation in any team tie of more than three "Top Ranked" players from other Members; and

2.7.2 "National Team Leagues with International Participation" are any national team competition organized as a National Team League between domestic teams only by a Member, which include participation in any team tie of more than three "Top Ranked" players from other Members.

2.7.3 "Top Ranked" shall be defined as "contained in the first 50 places in any of the five BWF ranking lists valid three months before the tournament".

(The original 2.7 becomes 2.8 and so on to the end of section 2)

### **Section 5 – Online Entries**

5.5 No player / pair shall enter or be entered in two BWF-sanctioned competitions in the same week except as provided in 5.6 below, **or when competing in BWF Superseries Finals**, a continental individual championship and continental mixed team championship or continental men's or women's team championship in the same week. This includes world ranking and world junior ranking events. A player is deemed to have entered, for the purpose of this regulation, if the entry has been made and not been withdrawn by the Member Association, by midnight local time of the BWF Headquarters on the closing date. Any subsequent withdrawal by a player / pair accepted in the main or qualifying draw of the tournament will not allow him to enter in any other tournament with overlapping dates. **If discovered pre-tournament, the player / pair will not be permitted to play in either or any tournament in that week. If discovered after the tournament, the penalty will be loss of any world ranking points earned by the player / pair in those competitions.**

### **Section 13 – Qualifying**

(New)

13.2.2 For the purpose of creating the M&Q list of players for Junior International tournaments, the BWF World Junior Ranking will be used.

13.2.2.1 For men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles, the respective individual doubles rankings will be used to calculate a priority order of pairs, as follows:

13.2.2.1.1 First priority are pairs where both players have an existing doubles ranking in their respective event. If a tie in combined ranking points of two or more pairs, priority is given to the pair with the lowest combined ranking number total (e.g. if player X and Y are playing together, and player X is ranked #1 and player Y is ranked #10, the team ranking total is 11. This pair would be given priority over the pair made up of player W at #3 and player Z at #10 whose combined ranking total is 13). If still tied, the pair who has played the most number of tournaments in total is given priority.

13.2.2.1.2 Second priority is given to a pair made up of only one player with an existing ranking in their respective event (i.e. the other player does not have a ranking). The highest ranking of the ranked player is given priority (e.g. #1 ranking is higher than #2).

13.2.2.1.3 Last priority is given to a pair where both players do not have an existing ranking in their respective event.

### **Section 23 – Advertising on Players’ Clothing**

23.1 In all BWF sanctioned tournaments, including those organised by the BWF and Multi-sport games, articles of clothing may only have advertising as provided in Regulations 23.2 to 23.5. In Multi-sport games the same regulation applies unless the Multi-sports games organiser (e.g. IOC/Olympic Games) have specify variations to these regulations, in which case the regulations of the Multi-sport games organiser apply.

### **Section 24 – Clothing Regulations for Umpires Where a Uniform Has Not Been Provided**

(New – The original 24.1.3 becomes 24.1.4)

24.1.3 If, in the BWF’s sole judgment, there is a clash between the content of the advertising in Regulation 25.1.2 and the tournament sponsors or the TV broadcasters, or if the content of the advertising would infringe local laws or be considered offensive, then the BWF may limit advertising on the shirt.

### **Section 26 – Withdrawals**

26.1.4 For the purpose of these regulations, retiring from a match 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. A ‘no show’ for a match in a tournament shall be treated as a withdrawal walk-over to the opposition and but will carry a higher penalty than a withdrawal in addition to the existing withdrawal fee.

### **Section 28 – Prizes**

(New)

28.3.6 Any prize money earned by a player in BWF sanctioned tournaments and paid to a Member, must be paid in full by the Member to the player without delay and latest after four weeks of receipt by the Member, unless the Member and the Player have made a mutual agreement about payment schedule and/or deduction by the Member against the prize money.

### **Part III – Section 1A – Appendix 10 – BWF Tournament Sanction Policy**

1. The Member Association must apply for and receive the sanction from the BWF for a tournament and competitive matches as defined in General Competition Regulations 2.2 to 2.123, including 2.7 (International Leagues and National Leagues with International Participants). The Continental Confederation must also apply for and receive sanction from BWF for their Continental Championships, and must be hosted in the pre-allocated date slots. Special dispensation may be given at the discretion of BWF with regards to exhibition matches. BWF may at its discretion sanction organisations other than Members for Para-badminton and Seniors tournaments.

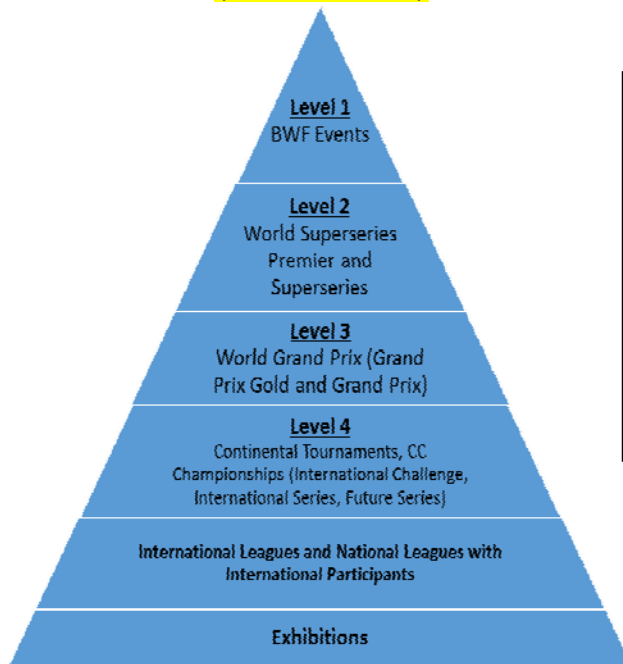
For tournaments to be held in 2017 and beyond:

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.  For 2017 only four 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.
Level 4 and Junior Events	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 31st December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Level 3 Grand Prix	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 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Level 3 Grand Prix Gold	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 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Level 2	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 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.
Level 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 December of the year preceding the commencement of the OQP.

11. The following principles will be used when sanctioning tournaments:

**Basic Hierarchical Structure of Tournaments:**

**(NEW PYRAMID)**



**Invitational/exhibition tournaments**

To encourage:

- prize money
- creativity

Would fit outside the WR points structure, but successful event organisers could apply to hold World Superseries Premier and Superseries tournaments if criteria were met.

**Principles of Sanctioning**

Tournament	Principle
Level 1 and 2	Ideally, three weeks (minimum two weeks) gap before and after a BWF tournament or a run of two Superseries level tournaments.
Levels 1, 2 and 3	Level 2 and 3 tournaments cannot be sanctioned with overlapping dates of Level 1.
Level 2 and 3	Should try to avoid tournaments standing alone.
Level 2 and 4	Can have overlapping dates as they should attract a different standard of players.
Level 3 and 4	Should try to avoid tournaments standing alone. Can have overlapping dates.
Level 2 Superseries	Should aim to have three weeks (minimum two weeks) before or after any other level 1 tournaments and such a gap after a pair of Superseries tournaments.  Ideally two level 2 tournaments should pair each other, however, there will be occasions where a level 3 tournament will have to pair with a lone Superseries tournament or occasions where three Superseries tournaments will follow each other.  A level 3 tournament can be held the week before or after a Superseries tournament if it is in the same continent.
Level 3 Grand Prix Gold Grand Prix	Grand Prix Gold cannot have overlap with Superseries and other Grand Prix Gold tournaments. Grand Prix can have overlapping dates in two different continents.
Level 4	Cannot be sanctioned on dates with CC Championships pre-allocated dates (in effect from January 2015) and Level 1 team events.
Level 4 International Challenge	Can have overlapping dates with level 2 and Level 3.
Level 4 International Series	Can have overlapping dates with level 2 and Level 3.
BWF Sanctioned International Leagues" ("International Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BWF sanction of BWF Sanctioned International Leagues is mandatory to ensure proper coordination of the International Tournament Calendar.</li> <li>BWF will not provide protection of dates for any "National Leagues with International participation" to avoid overlapping dates with International</li> </ul>

<p><b>Leagues” and “National Leagues with International participants” - GCR2.7)</b></p>	<p>tournaments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Team Leagues cannot be hosted in a way that will provide conflicting overlapping dates with Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 (except Grand Prix) tournaments unless explicitly approved by BWF.</li> <li>• Sanction of any “BWF Sanctioned International League” is conditional on the league organizer accepting the “BWF Sanctioned League Coordination Conditions” to avoid overlapping dates with defined tournament dates and to avoid compromising Mandatory Player Participation.</li> <li>• BWF Sanctioned Leagues Coordination Conditions include, but are not limited to the following:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The league organizer must ensure that players having Mandatory Participation Commitments in any BWF Sanctioned Tournament cannot participate in a league match during the same week as the BWF Sanctioned Tournament.</li> <li>o International Team Leagues can only be organized by BWF or Continental Confederations</li> <li>o International Team Leagues involving participation of any Member ranked 1-20 on the World Team Ranking can only be organized by BWF.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Invitational and exhibition tournaments</b></p>	<p>Cannot be sanctioned on the same dates, or dates just prior to or after any level 1, 2 or 3 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 level 1, 2 or 3. This judgment will be made at the sole discretion of the BWF. At the discretion of BWF special dispensation may be granted.</p>



**Part III – Section 2 – Thomas Cup & Uber Cup Regulations**

**Section 4 – Format**

4.1 The Thomas & Uber Cups shall be contested by 16 teams which include:

No. of teams	Description / Continent
One	Trophy Holder
One	Host Member Association
Fourteen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-finalists from Asia (4)</li> <li>• Semi-finalists from Europe (4)</li> <li>• Winner from Africa (1)</li> <li>• Winner from Oceania (1)</li> <li>• Winner from Pan Am (1)</li> <li>• Next three highest ranked teams (excluding above) from the World Ranking (3)</li> </ul> <p>*If the trophy holder and/or Host Member Association also take part and occupy a qualifying position in its respective Continental qualifying tournament, the next one or two highest ranked teams (excluding above) from the World rankings in the <b>same continent</b> would also qualify.</p>

**Part III – Section 2 – Regulations for the Sudirman Cup**

**Annexure 1 – Timelines for Sudirman Cup**

Timeline	Action	Responsibility	Regulation Reference
15 February 31 January	Sending the entry for the Competition	Member Associations	4.2

**Part III – Section 2 – Superseries - Regulations for Superseries**

**Section 6 – Conditions for Tournaments Taking Part in the Superseries**

(New)

6.11.2 At least three speeds of shuttles must be available throughout the tournament.

In addition to the changes to Laws & regulations above the following was also agreed:

**Scoring System Experiments**

To extend the testing of five games to eleven (with choice of setting options) to targeted MetLife BWF World Superseries and BWF Grand Prix Gold tournaments in 2017.



Any problems or questions relating to the above additions and changes please do not hesitate to contact Events Director, Darren Parks or Senior Technical Events Manager Chris Trenholme.

Yours sincerely

Darren Parks  
Events Director

3 June 2016