



## AD-‘DRESS’-ING CLOTHING MATTERS

### TECHNICALLY SPEAKING:

The international badminton season is in full swing and BWF technical officials are criss-crossing the globe to oversee smooth operations at events, from the MetLife BWF World Superseries to Grand Prix Gold, International level and other tournaments. Whether on duty as assessors, referees, umpires, service judges or line judges, they are all contributing to badminton's continued rise.

BWF will start updating technical officials regularly on player clothing as the international federation steps up efforts to ensure the best presentation of players.

As badminton grows in popularity, it is vital our players – who are the most visible representatives of our sport – are showcased well; consistently complying with clothing regulations for advertising, lettering and coloring.

BWF will show TOs recent examples and decisions to illustrate which clothing meets or does not meet regulations and to highlight the specific regulation(s) in each case.

“BWF continues to work with our member associations, continental confederations and clothing manufacturers to keep them updated on regulations or any potential issues related to player clothing,” noted BWF Chair of Events, Peter Tarcala.

Continues on page 4

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

It is wonderful to hear of badminton continuing to improve its image and its focus on the importance of global recognition of players. Your roles as technical officials are important as you are the ones who drive consistency and, behind the scenes, ensure events are run in the fairest and best way possible.

As the Rio 2016 Olympic Qualifying Period is upon us, these are again exciting times. Embrace, enjoy and keep up the good work!

Regards

**VANESSA FREEMAN**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



FROM THE CHAIR BY  
**TORSTEN  
BERG**

# OLYMPICS ON THE HORIZON



Going into the Olympic Qualifying Period there will be focus on every match and every result, not only in the MetLife BWF World Superseries, but at the BWF Grand Prix Gold and Grand Prix level too. Consequently, our performance as technical officials will be scrutinised - and rightfully so.

We go into this pivotal period on an optimistic note, as we can clearly see the positive impact of our recent coordinated campaign to uphold the laws on Continuous Play. Thanks to all who contributed: umpires and referees as well as players and coaches. Keep up the good work on court and enforce the laws as far as possible without resorting to the powers of the yellow card. Continuous Play is an important part of the spirit of the game!

Moreover, we must undertake similar efforts to induce players to present themselves better and improve standard hygienic behaviour. For example: no spitting or blowing noses on court in front of the cameras.

The enforcement of service laws has been a major problem and will be discussed. No immediate changes will be implemented in the Olympic Qualifying Period as there is general agreement that no changes should happen to the game between now and the Olympic Games in Rio.

There seems to be a feeling in some quarters that a change in the laws is necessary, but it is too early to say which way the wind will blow. Until then, we must continue to do our best to uphold the laws and fairness on court, while always remembering the game is for the players. We wish you the best of luck!

Last but not least, we welcome nine new BWF trainee referees at courtside. Having successfully completed their theory test, they will train and be tested on their practical performance over the coming months before they can become BWF Accredited Referees.



# REMEMBERING UNANG SUKARJA

## *ONE OF THE VERY BEST UMPIRES IN THE WORLD WHO FINISHED AT THE PINNACLE OF HIS CAREER*

Our family of technical officials has lost one of its finest servants with the death of our colleague and friend, Unang Sukarja of Indonesia. He passed away on Friday 17 April after suffering a stroke in his homeland.

Unang, aged 55, was highly respected amongst his peers and was an excellent example and a good teacher for younger colleagues. His smiling appearance and friendly manners won him many friends among BWF's technical officials and the international badminton community.

He was one of our very best umpires and this is perhaps best illustrated by the fact that he was in the chair of the Men's Singles final in the London Olympic Games between Lin Dan and Lee Chong Wei (pictured below) – often called the best match ever played. Unang managed that job impeccably as he did so many other challenging duties.

Having recently retired as a BWF Certificated Umpire, he had started refereeing and we had hoped to have him around for many years in that capacity. Sadly, that is not to be.

He will be greatly missed by technical officials worldwide and we offer heartfelt condolences to his wife, family and the Indonesian badminton community.

May he rest in peace.

**Chair of BWF Technical Official Commission  
Torsten Berg**



Continued from page 1

“Referees and umpires play the most important role in this vital area as our eyes and ears at sanctioned events throughout the world. However, we realise this area can be subjective and sometimes technical officials will need assistance and guidance to determine if a particular article of clothing is in breach of regulations. Therefore, we have decided to provide updates on player clothing to help with the decision-making process.

“BWF has a database of many clothing examples and we will share those with you in due course. In fact, you may have already received the first edition in a separate communication before this edition.”

Stressing the role of TOs in policing this situation, Tarcala asked referees and umpires to forward “all future clothing examples so we can continue to make decisions and provide guidance”.

“If in doubt, please take a photo of the player’s clothing and send it to Technical Events Manager Chris Trenholme (c.trenholme@bwfbadminton.org),” added the Chair.

Meanwhile, BWF has encouraged TOs “to use your best judgment according to BWF General Competition Regulations 19-23” when required to make quick, on-site decisions.

## PRINCIPLES FOR REFEREEING APPOINTMENTS

The annual list of BWF Referee appointments for BWF event levels 1, 2 and 3 will be agreed by the BWF Events Committee based on a proposal from the TO Commission. Continental Confederations (CCs) appoint referees for level 4 tournaments.

The list for the following year must be made available to BWF Referees and CCs as early as possible in the year (no later than June).

The protocol is as follows: The BWF Events Department and the TOC Chair will draft a proposal of appointments. This proposal is then circulated to the TOC for comments and adjusted following any comments received. This final draft is then given to the Events Committee for approval.

The draft proposal is based on the following parameters and considerations:

For the Olympic Games, the referee and deputies must be BWF Certificated. A BWF Certificated Referee must not officiate in more than two consecutive Olympic Games. Selection will take into account continental spread.

For BWF Major Events and BWF World Superseries, the referee must be BWF Certificated. However, for the World Junior Championships Team event and for the World Seniors Championships, the referee may be a BWF Accredited Referee who is being tested for upgrading.

The development of BWF Referees, individually and as a team, is a fundamental consideration for selection.

Younger and less experienced referees will be appointed as deputies to work alongside more experienced referees. A deputy referee, having grown in experience, can become a referee while having a deputy of his/her own for support.

Referees will initially be appointed to work in their own continent. When they are ready, they will be appointed to work in continents other than their own.

Referees will at first be appointed to work as deputies and then appointed to work as referees when deemed ready.



**REFS’ REWARD:** It’s a busy time for referees as the 2015 BWF season is well underway worldwide. At the recent Maybank Malaysia Open (part of the MetLife BWF World Superseries), Carsten Koch of Germany was referee while Chinese Taipei’s David Chang was deputy referee. Here, Koch (right) receives his token of appreciation from Badminton Association of Malaysia Vice President and Chairman of the Maybank Malaysia Open Organising Committee, Ir Dr Koay Ban Hing (left), while Chang, whose contribution was also recognised, looks on.

There will be an equal spread of duties amongst the referees (generally two to four assignments per year). Referees will generally be appointed to the same event for two consecutive years. This is important for continuity and development of the event. There may be individual personal exceptions (e.g. temporary limited availability, language abilities or other similar reasons).

Appointments to multi-sport events are done by the BWF Events Department, the TOC and Events Committee Chair, normally following a proposal from the OC or the CC.

If a referee is ill or unable to take up their post for whatever reason, the Events Department and TOC Chair will find a replacement. An attempt will be made to rebalance the programme by exchanging duties between referees taking into account the above principles.

The Para-Badminton Commission, TOC Chair and Technical Members of the Para-Badminton Commission have put together proposals on referees for Para-Badminton events. The Para-Badminton Committee will make the final decision on these positions. Para-Badminton Referee appointments are made using the same principles listed above for BWF Referees.

By Torsten Berg





# UP CLOSE: DRAW MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The tournament draw is one of the most important facets of a tournament that contains key information impacting everyone involved in that particular event and beyond.

Most importantly, players (and their coaches) need to know who and when they play.

Each event's match schedule is based on the draw. All operations are planned based on the match schedule; that is why it is so important for the host and the referee to be as accurate as possible.

As you know, all draws must be conducted according to BWF General Competition Regulations (GCR) 12 and 13. Changes to the draw, like withdrawals, are regulated by GCR 14 and 15; it is the responsibility of the referee to ensure the correct application of these regulations.

Draws must be clear and transparent, especially the 'status' of each player/pair as draws are updated. Changes to draws must be done ensuring no information is lost or impairing the ability to retrace the reason(s) for any draw changes.

Potential scenarios could include:

- Removing a withdrawn player/pair from a draw without filling this vacancy from the qualifying draw/reserve list
- Deleting the place holder 'Qualifier Q#' in the main draw or
- When there are fewer entries in the qualifying draw than qualifiers for the main draw after the managers' meeting.

If the referee decides to re-do a draw of the qualification event, he/she, he/she must notify the BWF or the respective Continental Confederation (depending on the level of the

event) and should ensure that the necessary changes in the roster (e.g. 'updated' Seeding List) are made. Main draws are normally only redrawn in case of an error.

Please keep in mind there is a difference between a 'walkover' and 'no match' when entering the result for a match which has not been played.

For example, a player/pair is awarded a walkover if the opponent withdrew, did not show up for the match, or was promoted.

If both players/pairs withdrew, did not show up for the match, or were promoted, the result is 'no match'.

Precise handling of the draws is necessary for accurate processing of the data post-event (such as world rankings), which can affect players' prize money, future event participation, seeding, etc.

For example, if players/pairs lost in the second round, the points each receives is dependent on the result of the first round. There is a noticeable difference in points between a bye and a walkover for a particular round.

Ultimately it is the referee's responsibility to ensure accurate draws.

Editor's note: BWF will circulate a comprehensive document to referees on draw management, including the examples mentioned above, in the coming weeks.

**By Carsten Koch**

# CANDIDATES IN TRAINING

Nine referee candidates nominated by Continental Confederations attended a three-day workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in late March 2015.

The workshop included instruction and educational sessions on day one and two, followed by a theoretical examination on day three – all part of the assessment process to reach BWF Accredited level.

Sessions were led by BWF Technical Official Commission Chair Torsten Berg (Denmark); BWF Referee Assessors Isabelle Jobard (France) and Chua Soo Hock (Malaysia); BWF Events Director Darren Parks; and BWF Technical Events Manager Chris Trenholme (pictured below with candidates).

Sessions included:

- Laws and Regulations
- Practical refereeing
- Preparation of events
- Managing umpires and line judges
- Clothing regulations
- Shuttles and shuttle speed
- Tournament briefings
- Tournament Planner as a tool
- Dealing with injuries and illnesses
- A tour of the competition venue of the Maybank Malaysia Open (MetLife BWF World Superseries Premier event)

The next step for candidates will be a practical assessment at a BWF-sanctioned event later in 2015 or 2016.

BWF would like to thank the Badminton Association of Malaysia for their logistical support and for allowing us to tour the Maybank Malaysia Open competition venue.



# TO MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS (2015)

## **BWF UMPIRE ASSESSORS WORKSHOP**

9-10 May – Dongguan, China

## **BWF ACCREDITED UMPIRE ASSESSMENTS**

10-17 May – Dongguan, China  
(during BWF Sudirman Cup)

## **BWF MEMBERS FORUM SESSION ON TECHNICAL OFFICIALS DEVELOPMENT**

15 May – Dongguan, China  
(during BWF Sudirman Cup)

## **BWF CERTIFICATED UMPIRE ASSESSMENTS**

10-16 August 2015 – Jakarta, Indonesia  
(during the BWF World Championships)

## **TECHNICAL OFFICIAL COMMISSION MEETING**

14 August 2015 – Jakarta, Indonesia

## **BWF REFEREE ASSESSOR AND CERTIFICATED REFEREE WORKSHOP**

10-11 October 2015 – Denmark

## **BWF ACCREDITED UMPIRE ASSESSMENTS**

27 October-1 November 2015 – Saarbrücken, Germany  
(during the Bitburger Badminton Open; a BWF Grand Prix Gold event)

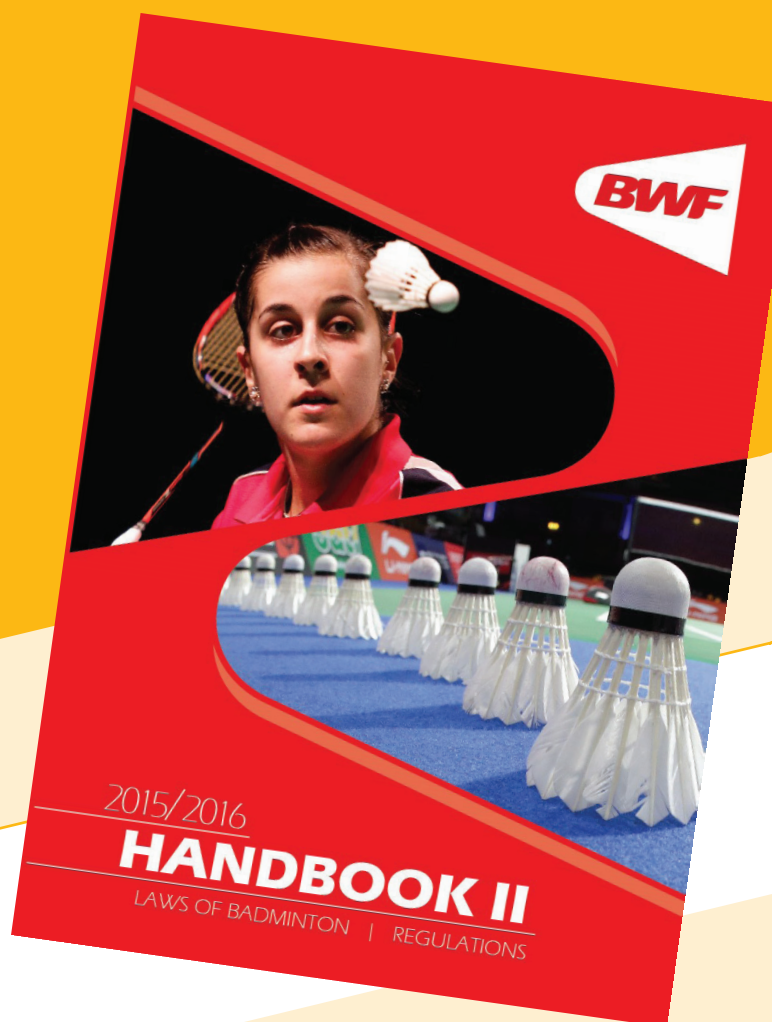


# NEW EDITION OF HANDBOOK II (2015/16)

BWF will soon distribute a new printed version of its Handbook II, containing all BWF Laws, Recommendations to Technical Officials (RTTO), General Competition Regulations and event/series specific regulations.

BWF staff will contact BWF TOs regarding when and how to receive your copy (i.e. direct mail, via your Member Association, or provided to you at an assigned event).

In the meantime, refer to the BWF website for the most up-to-date laws and regulations. Any changes made in the year are posted online.



# BWF BOOSTS EVENTS STAFF

The Events Department recently welcomed two new Tournament Series Managers to the team:

**Ruvian Ruslan** (Malaysia) joined our team in February. Ruslan has experience working in the TV production industry, including working with BWF events in the past.

**Matt Judson** (England) joined in March having previously worked in multi-sport event management in British university sport.

Both will work closely with BWF Events Director Darren Parks and Senior Tournament Series Manager Selvam Supramaniam. This increase in the staff complement, plus continued support from Major Events Manager Venu Mahalingam, will ensure BWF tournaments – Major Events,

BWF World Superseries and Grand Prix Gold – will be well serviced.

The key responsibilities of the Tournament Series Management Staff include ensuring commercial and media (TV) contractual obligations are met by the host and to work with the refereeing teams to ensure an effective, well run, well presented event for players, team officials, technical officials and the public.

Referees assigned to a BWF Major Event, World Superseries or Grand Prix Gold event will be contacted pre-tournament by the respective Tournament Series Manager. We encourage umpires to introduce themselves to BWF staff when officiating at tournaments.