



DUBAI DUTY: BWF's refereeing team and umpires at the Dubai World Superseries Finals in December.

'BETTER AND MORE' TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

The BWF Technical Official Commission is eager to start its ambitious plan to increase the quality and quantity of the technical official workforce, under the theme 'Better and More'.

This is a key aspect of the TO Development Strategic Plan 2016-2020 which has been endorsed by the BWF Events Committee and approved by the BWF Council.

The TOC identified the following key strategies:

1. Recruitment and strategies for recruitment; resources designed to assist member associations identify, recruit, develop umpires and referees
2. Multi-level standardised education programmes for new and developing umpires and referees
3. A standardised training programme for line judges
4. Development and motivation of the current workforce of umpires of referees: appraisals, systematic mentoring, system retention

5. of retiring BWF umpires and referees, rewards and benefits
5. Removal and/or reduction of barriers: language, assessment opportunities and age limits
6. Working towards a partly professional workforce by 2020
7. Development of a technical official manual

These strategies have been broken down into objectives and key-performance indicators for 2016 and the next several years. Work is underway to design and build these programmes, resources and systems.

The TOC looks forward to working with you, including the Umpire Assessment Panel and the Referee Assessment Panel, as we bring these resources together. We will continue to keep you updated as plans progress.

For more information, please contact TOC Chair, Torsten Berg, or Technical Events Manager, Chris Trenholme.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy 2016.

It's another exciting jam-packed badminton year - enjoy every moment!

In this newsletter we touch on the co-operation between court officials and players, which is a

very important factor in our sport. There needs to be mutual respect and understanding. After all, we work together in our passion.

Badminton is the greatest sport on earth!

Regards
Vanessa Freeman
Editor-in-Chief



FROM THE CHAIR BY
**TORSTEN
BERG**

WORKING WITH OUR PLAYERS



RTTO 1.3 says "All technical officials shall remember that the game is for the players."

The players are represented in BWF by the Athletes Commission (AC), and the Chair of the AC is a Council member.

When I was also a Council member, the cooperation with the AC Chair Emma Mason and previously Kaveh Mehrabi was simple and straightforward as we met regularly in Council sessions and sat on more or less the same committees.

In order to maintain good relations I arranged a meeting in Paris at the YONEX French Open between the new AC Chairman Yuhuan Tan (Belgium), his colleague Koen Ridder (Netherlands), Chris Trenholme and myself to discuss matters of mutual interest and to nurture the relations between players and technical officials. This is important to ensure we speak to each other on friendly and constructive terms. The meeting was more than successful and I am pleased to say the new Chair appears just as good a partner as his recent predecessors. I am pleased to share with you some of the points we covered:

CONTINUOUS PLAY

Willful delay of the game is an issue of major concern for both players and technical officials. It is important umpires, guided by the referees, continue to enforce continuous play in the way we have written about

already. The players agree and will assist. Yet another step in the right direction will be for the umpire to emphasise that any change of shuttle shall happen immediately after the rally and not when the players have already taken up position to serve and receive. Let us work together to enforce this good practice, without becoming officious.

MATCH SCHEDULING

The players are keen to know their schedule for the next day as early as possible. This is so they can plan their sleep and meals and the referees in particular can help in this respect. We all know there are other stakeholders such as broadcasters and it may not always be possible to accommodate the players' wishes. We may, however, try to publish a preliminary schedule with some winners not yet decided, or a schedule for the first 2-3 hours of the next morning well before the end of play. Uploading the schedule for next day in the Tournament Planner, as a general practice, will also help, so players and coaches can be informed in their hotel rooms and not have to wait at the hall. This issue deserves to be given further attention and we will do so.

As referees we have to do our best to ensure fair competition. Scheduling is an important part of that. The players, rightfully, made the point that often opponents are not scheduled so they have similar rest before they have to play each other. For example: one Mixed Doubles semi-finalist pair books their place

in the morning; their opponent is in the last match that evening, and they will meet in the first match on Saturday. This seems unfair.

I am well aware there may be reasons, such as players being in more than one draw, however, it is my clear impression that referees could and should pay more attention to scheduling. Fairness is more important than presentation; rest time more important than presenting a mixed schedule with singles and doubles, men and women on court.

Planning and scheduling are areas requiring our attention. Nobody likes very late nights followed by early mornings. Keen attention to planning and scheduling can certainly help. Tournament Planner is a useful tool but referees must make their own calculations and prepare well in advance of the event, in order to minimise problems.

I have seen several reports and schedules lately where I am unsure the referee has paid enough attention to the schedule. There may be inevitable reasons to end around midnight, but we must do our best to avoid this problem when we can. Due diligence, please!

When you read this newsletter, the holiday season will be well behind us. Nevertheless, may I take the opportunity to wish each of you a successful and pleasant 2016, health and happiness in your BWF capacity as well as in your personal life.

NORIDAH JAMIL LEAVING

Having served over ten years as an Events Officer with BWF – with the majority of that time spent supporting the administration of the technical officials programmes – Noridah Jamil will bid farewell to the Badminton World Federation in February 2016.

“It’s been a pleasure working with everyone in the technical officials’ area over these past several years. While I haven’t had the chance to meet you all, I’ve enjoyed getting to know you through our correspondence. I wish you all the best in the coming years as you continue to help present our sport at the highest level. Thank you for your support,” said Noridah.

TOC Chair Torsten Berg thanked Noridah for her contribution as one of the first BWF staff in Kuala Lumpur when the office relocated to Malaysia.

“Noridah has always been there in service of our TO community. Among our TOs, she has made friends worldwide for BWF and for herself. Thank you, Noridah, for all of your work to help us do our jobs to the best of our ability. We wish you the best with the next steps in your career and personal endeavors,” he said.

A recruitment process is currently underway to fill this Events Officer position.



HANCOCK HONOURED NATIONALLY

Congratulations to recently retired BWF certificated umpire, Jane Hancock, who was nominated for a Lifetime Achievement Award by Sports Officials UK (SOUK) in 2015.

“I feel very honoured and humbled to have got this far not least because this is not just for officials in badminton but across all sports

and it is great that our sport is in the running for recognition in this way,” said Hancock, who received a certificate to commemorate her nomination.

SOUK is recognised in the industry as the umbrella organisation for representing and supporting the education and development of sports officials across all sports in the UK.

Dear Badminton Friends

Many of you have expressed your profound help and thoughts following the death of my son Pascal, aged 42 and I wanted to express my most heartfelt thanks.

I am completely devastated by the loss of my eldest son but, at the same time, so very proud of the work he has accomplished for our world and the safety of all.

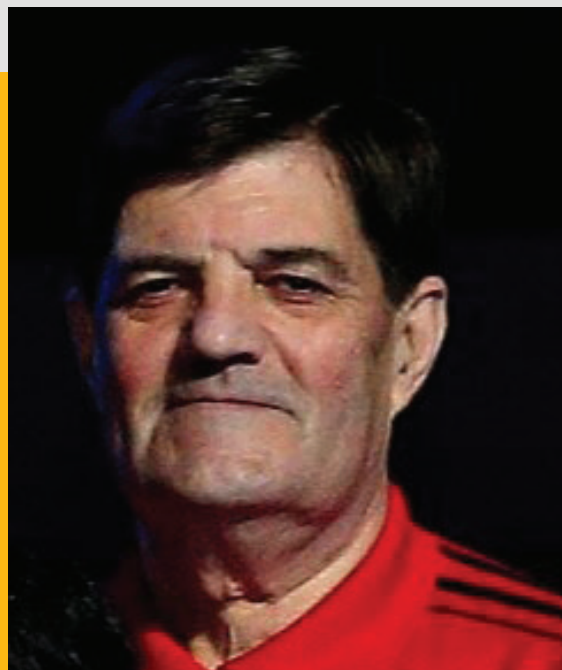
It is with the help of all your words of sympathy and support that our family has managed to stand in these difficult moments.

Close to my retirement as a BWF Referee, I wanted once again to thank the Badminton Family.

Many thanks to all.

Ernest

Ernest Robinson has recently retired as a BWF Certificated Referee and has been appointed a BWF Referee Assessor





NEW BWF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

BWF congratulates the following technical officials on reaching either the BWF Accredited or Certificated level within the past few months, or serving in new assessor roles as of 1 January 2016:

BWF ACCREDITED UMPIRES

- Jan Andersson (SWE)
- Hermin Armin Mehr (IRI)
- Iris Metspalu (EST)
- Remi Beaulieu (CAN)
- Victor Wong Wai Nap (HKG)
- Kamasha Robertson (TRI)
- Yassan Sairally (MRI)
- Ezzad Salman (MAS)
- Artur Zaluzhnoi (EST)
- David von Schwerin (AUT)

BWF ACCREDITED REFEREE

- Barbara Fryer (SUI)

BWF CERTIFICATED REFEREE

- Pencho Stoyanov (BUL)

BWF UMPIRE ASSESSORS

- Gilles Cavert (FRA)
- (Sandie) Zheng Sanliang (CHN)

BWF REFEREE ASSESSORS

- Nahathai Sornprachum (THA)
- Ernest Robinson (FRA)

CALENDAR OF WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, Rose Hill International 2016, 11-14 February, Rosehill, Mauritius
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, YONEX All England Open, 8-13 March, Birmingham, England
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, YONEX SUNRISE India Open, 29 March – 3 April, New Delhi, India
- BWF Accredited Umpire Assessments, Maybank Malaysia Open, 5-10 April, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, Singapore Open, 12-17 April
- Umpire Assessors Panel Workshop, 13-14 May 2016 – Kunshan, China
- Technical Official Commission Meeting #1, 17-18 May 2016 – Kunshan, China
- BWF Certificated Umpire Assessments, Thomas & Uber Cup Finals, 15-22 May, Kunshan, China
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, Australian Open, 7-12 June, Sydney, Australia
- BWF Referees Workshops, 23 – 25 September, Kuala Lumpur – **DATES TBC**
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, YONEX Open Japan, 20-25 September, Tokyo, Japan
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, YONEX Denmark Open, 18-23 October, Odense, Denmark
- Technical Official Commission Meeting #2, October – **Location TBD**
- BWF Accredited Umpire Assessments, YONEX French Open, 25-30 October, Paris, France
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, China Open, 15-20 November, Fuzhou, China
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, Scottish Open, 23-27 November, Glasgow, Scotland
- Umpire Appraisals/Workshop, Dubai World Superseries Finals, 14-18 December, Dubai, UAE

CURRENT DAILY ALLOWANCES FOR BWF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

In its 2016 budget, BWF Council has approved the increase to \$60 USD as the daily allowance for BWF Umpires at our major events.

All other daily allowances will remain the same in 2016 for major events, Superseries, Grand Prix Gold, and Grand Prix tournaments.

The following is a table summarizing all daily allowances.

EVENT LEVEL	TECHNICAL OFFICIAL	DAILY ALLOWANCE
BWF Major Event	BWF Referee BWF Umpire BWF Line Judge	\$80 USD \$60 USD \$50 USD
Superseries Premier Superseries Finals Superseries	BWF Referee BWF Umpire	\$80 USD \$50 USD
Grand Prix Gold	BWF Referee	\$80 USD
Grand Prix	BWF Referee	\$80 USD