

COCTALES

BWF

THE NEWSLETTER OF BWF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

MARCH 2020 • EDITION NO. 27

BWF Referee Workshop 2020, 19-21 February, Kuala Lumpur

Workshop Participants: BWF Referees, Para badminton Referees, BWF Referee Assessment Panel Chair, BWF Referee Assessors, BWF TOC Chair, BWF Umpire Assessment Panel Chair and BWF Staff.



By Gilles Cavert
Chair – BWF TOC

The technical official's community is facing difficult times with the outbreak of the Coronavirus, with most of us living under restricted and/or isolated conditions.

While challenging us all, I strongly believe that we will come out of this very unpredictable, hostile, and unprecedented experience with increased solidarity and team spirit inside our community, and increasing our performance.

In that context, BWF continues to move forward our performance policies and strategies.

The BWF Referee Workshop in February was a huge success, providing participants with more knowledge and expertise focused on many of the key aspects of their roles as BWF Referees. Presentations were made by members of the BWF Referee Assessment Panel, TOC, Semi-Professional Referees, as well as BWF Staff with a particular emphasis on match fixing, communication, and tournament management.

The road to implementing our Semi-Professional Umpire programme is on very good tracks. The selected BWF Umpires have signed their contracts and officially start their new roles as of 1 April 2020.

In conclusion, please remember that “resilience” is a key attribute of high-level



sport performance, and it will help us best manage destabilising environments like the one we currently face.

BWF TOs demonstrate “resilience” every day by their incredible flexibility, adaptability, and compassion for each other, including calm preparation while striving to be ready when competition begins again!



BWF Referee Assessment Panel Meeting 2020, 18 February, Kuala Lumpur

Left to right are Malcolm Banham (ENG), BWF Umpire Assessment Panel Chair, Jane Wheatley (AUS), BWF Referee Assessment Panel Chair, Gilles Cavert (FRA), BWF TOC Chair and BWF Referee Assessors, Chua Soo Hock (MAS), Gretha Prinsloo (RSA) and Torsten Berg (DEN). Absent: Ernest Robinson (FRA).

UPDATE FOR REFEREES

By Jane Wheatley Chair – BWF Referee Assessment Panel

We live in a changing world and troubled times certainly help put things into perspective and make us realise just how insignificant some of our daily gripes are.

This year began well with the successful staging of HSBC BWF World Tour tournaments the PERODUA Malaysia Masters 2020, DAIHATSU Indonesia Masters 2020, Princess Sirivannavari Thailand Masters 2020, and Barcelona Spain Masters 2020, followed by the BWF Referee Workshop. Three Para badminton international tournaments were held but unfortunately the Spain Para Badminton International 2020 was cancelled. We managed to stage the YONEX All England Open 2020, and then it was downhill after that with cancellation of all HSBC BWF World Tour tournaments from 16 March through to 12 April. The BWF will review the situation after that date.

Unfortunately, because of the number of tournaments involved, we are not in a position to reassign referees to other duties to replace those duties lost due to cancellations. When we get up and running

later in the year and need substitutions we will certainly offer appropriate duties to those of you who have lost your one and only duty in 2020. I am sure you will all agree that this is the fairest route to take.

BWF Referee Workshop 2020 – Kuala Lumpur

We had the luxury of three days for this workshop and we used this time well. On behalf of the referee team I extend our thanks to Chris, Suva, Selena and the BWF Events Staff for the immense amount of work undertaken by them to ensure this Workshop was a success. The extra day negotiated for us by Chris Trenholme was very much appreciated and made a huge difference to the feasibility of the workshop.

The content covered at the workshop certainly brought home to me the huge amount of work on your shoulders. You take the responsibility in your stride, knowing the GCR, Statutes, ITTOs, Laws, preparation of the event and the people management skills required throughout the week and it is not until the content is broken down into segments that the enormity of the job becomes apparent.

It is not getting any easier and we are expecting the very best performance from our team.

The overwhelming feedback from the workshop is as follows:

Overall, how would you rate the workshop?
“Excellent/very good”

How clearly did the facilitators deliver the workshop?
“Very clearly”

How was the speed at which the facilitators delivered their presentations?
“Just the right speed”

How well did facilitators answer participants’ questions?
“Very well”

General comments were that participants felt very *comfortable* voicing their opinions and that the workshop materials presented were *extremely useful*.

■ **Continued on next page**

BWF Referee Masterclass Workshop 2020, 22 February, Kuala Lumpur

Masterclass Workshop Participants: BWF Masterclass Candidates, BWF Semi-Professional Referees, BWF Referee Assessors and BWF Staff

I thank you for your constructive comments that will help us form the basis of our workshop in 2022. As expected, case studies were high on the list of most valuable presentations. We will look at smaller working groups, more homework to enable preparation for the workshop, ensure we use this valuable time more constructively and free up more time for discussion.

Suva has sent out the workshop material that will be valuable tools for you.

Outcomes from the Workshop:

The Surprise Quiz certainly gave some interesting results:

- ▶ Referees would benefit if they had access to case studies showing incidents and direction on how to deal with them;
- ▶ Referees need to put more time into keeping up to date with the GCR;
- ▶ Referees must read information sent out from the office; and
- ▶ Referees need to make an effort to get to know their TO team better.

Your suggestions and recommendations during the Workshop:

- ▶ Assess the feasibility to have TMM and UB presentations electronically distributed prior the meeting;
- ▶ Decision from BWF as to whether it wishes to prohibit the local deputy(s) from wearing the BWF uniform(s) at CC level tournaments;
- ▶ The new Extranet report template will be tested by our semi-professional team and provide feedback on its functionality;
- ▶ BWF to investigate the extent of information to be shared with referees and their overall involvement in the anti-doping process;
- ▶ Update the GCR to make "Promotion from

Reserves to Qualifying/Main Draw" a regulation, currently only a part of the Draw Management Document; and

- ▶ BWF to share the latest versions of the HSBC BWF Word Tour and BWF Tour Host Organisation Manuals with referees.

Recommendations of particular interest:

Practice Schedule:

- ▶ that Tournament Software generates a report on the active players for each country.

Umpire Scheduling:

- ▶ share with all BWF Referees the electronic version of "umpiring scheduling"
- ▶ when planning the umpire roster give umpires a session off to allow some rest time; they do not have to be in the hall the full day; and
- ▶ when organising the umpire schedule make sure that the umpires sharing a room are on the same shift.

Player and Coach Clothing:

- ▶ BWF to further clarify the definition of "similar clothing".

Case Studies:

- ▶ That BWF review the regulation that the IRS decision is final.

Referee Responsibilities:

It is not uncommon for incidents to occur during an event that will require a report to be sent in by the referee that may end up be reviewed by the disciplinary review panel.

A reminder... if an on-court incident occurs it is your responsibility to ensure you obtain

a very detailed report from the umpire and service judge immediately after the match.

When looking at off-court issues, such as clothing, if, after attempting to enforce the GCRs that are ignored, the referee believes there has been a deliberate breach of GCR then you must provide a detailed report substantiating the issue so that the BWF has enough information to act. Do not simply tell the player they will be fined and walk away. Advise the player that you will be making a full report of this breach that may go to the disciplinary review panel for action.

When meeting with your host tournament committee make sure the person operating the Tournament Software programme is aware that nothing is to be sent out unless you have signed off. At the end of play each day you must be given a copy of the results, check that all WDN, DNS, etc. information has been correctly entered, following the direction the Draw Management document, and sign off each page before results are sent to BWF.

A Reminder

BWF Referees are reminded that if a local deputy referee is not a BWF Referee they should not be allowed to go on court.

We will keep in touch with you all and again, I encourage you to keep reviewing the BWF Corporate website as the Events Department is working hard at keeping us up to date.

If I may follow Torsten's song book and further quote the legend Bob Dylan.... "There's a battle outside and its ragin".



UPDATE FOR UMPIRES

By Malcolm Banham
Chair – BWF Umpire Assessment Panel

Well, what crazy times we are living in at the moment! I pray for all my friends and colleagues to stay safe and well.

As you are aware, we managed to complete the YONEX All England Open 2020 shortly before all the restrictions took place. I would like to thank all the participating umpires who helped make the tournament great, despite the difficult circumstances.

We now have seven Semi-Professional Umpires, who, as part of their last stage of preparation, participated in a meeting held during the YONEX All England Open 2020. What a fantastic step forward for our sport to implement a semi-professional umpire workforce! Our sport moves so quickly, so it's paramount that we keep pushing performance standards even higher.

Also in conjunction with the YONEX All England Open 2020, BWF held a joint

BWF and CC Umpire Assessor Workshop, inviting three umpire assessors from each Continental Confederation. The aim, similar to the workshop held in 2018, was the standardisation of the training of our umpires from the new to the more experienced. Please get in touch with your CC Assessors that attended the workshop to see how things are progressing; the more we work together, the more consistent we will be.

To that end, I encourage all Member Associations to get in touch with their respective Continental Confederation to stay abreast of information and resources on how to train their umpires.

Very soon, there will be a new document available for download from the BWF Corporate website focused on what umpire assessors should be looking for when appraising or assessing umpires. There should be no excuses anymore for an assessor to say to an umpire that “nothing happened in that match”.

Despite what people may think, umpires are human and can make mistakes, so do not be frightened to ask your service judge for assistance to solve the problem quickly and efficiently so the game goes ahead without any fuss. Asking the service judge for assistance does not make you a bad umpire; it makes you a good umpire for solving the problem quickly.

This means that more pressure is now on the service judge to make sure they always know the score and what is happening on court. As a service judge, you are not there just to give out shuttles and smile at the umpire.

Please note that BWF Umpires are requested to wear their BWF casual top at the first Umpire Briefing. This will help set a more “professional” and consistent look for all stakeholders, including the team managers and coaches.

Look after yourselves and I hope to see you all soon.

PARA BADMINTON – THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGING

By Torsten Berg
Member – BWF Para badminton
Commission

These days a fine song from my youth comes to my mind (Bob Dylan, of course!) when I shall try to update you on the most important steps forward concerning Para badminton and BWF Technical Officials.

Within a few weeks, the landscape has changed, and it keeps changing since the late cancellation of the Spanish Para Badminton International 2020 in Cartagena, as well as several other Para and badminton tournaments on our well-prepared calendar. Probably more changes will come while this article is in print, so you will have to bear with me, if further events have overtaken my statements below. While writing these lines, the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games are postponed until next year, meaning that all our timelines will have to return to the drawing board.

In mid-February this year – seems ages ago – the Para Badminton Commission met in Geneva, just before the Council session in nearby Lausanne. The Council accepted and confirmed several significant proposals from the Commission, some of which were described in detail in the latest issue of COC-Tales.

Most important, the new tournament structure, a World Circuit for Para badminton, was adopted. The structure comprises three grades: Grade 1 for the World Championships and Paralympic Games; Grade 2, Level 1 will have no classification and run mostly like the top HSBC BWF World Tour top tournaments, calling upon the strongest players. Grade 2 Levels 2 and 3 will have classification and will run more according to the well-known pattern of Para tournaments. As a new element, Levels 3 may not feature all sport classes, possibly only standing or only wheelchair classes.



Shortly after the Council session, the RFP (Request for Proposals) for the World Championships for 2021 and 2023, with new regulations and playing system, an RFP for the Para Badminton World Circuit 2021+ went out, and we are now waiting for proposals.

Once the tournaments are allocated – but not before – we can start assigning technical officials to these tournaments.

Regrettably, this means that your programme of duties can only be ready later in 2020. The recent changes may

even delay this process further. Next year will become a year of transition, and we shall have to see how much of the integration plans we can implement next year.

On a happier note, the online entry system is now up and running and will be used fully for upcoming tournaments, whenever those will be. Also, a working group has begun a full review of the PBGCR and related regulations, meeting by phone and internet.

'As the present now will later be past, The order is rapidly fading...'

EXPERIENCE AS A MEMBER OF THE BWF UMPIRE ASSESSMENT PANEL

by Kelvin Martin – BWF Umpire Assessor

My experience as a member of the BWF Umpire Assessment Panel so far has been very interesting.

When I was asked if I would consider becoming a member of the panel, I first had to ask my family for their opinions. I had already used up most of my annual work holidays since 1996 when I became a Pan Am Accredited Umpire through to retirement in 2018.

Both my daughter, a student in the USA, and my son, an aspiring international badminton player, were elated.

My wife was also happy and gave her approval. Was it a case of not wanting me around or the thought of accompanying me on more overseas assignments to far away destinations like the trip to Dubai which coincided with our 25th wedding anniversary a few years ago?

So far, my assignments have been focused on the assessment of continental level umpires who have been nominated for assessment for BWF Accreditation.

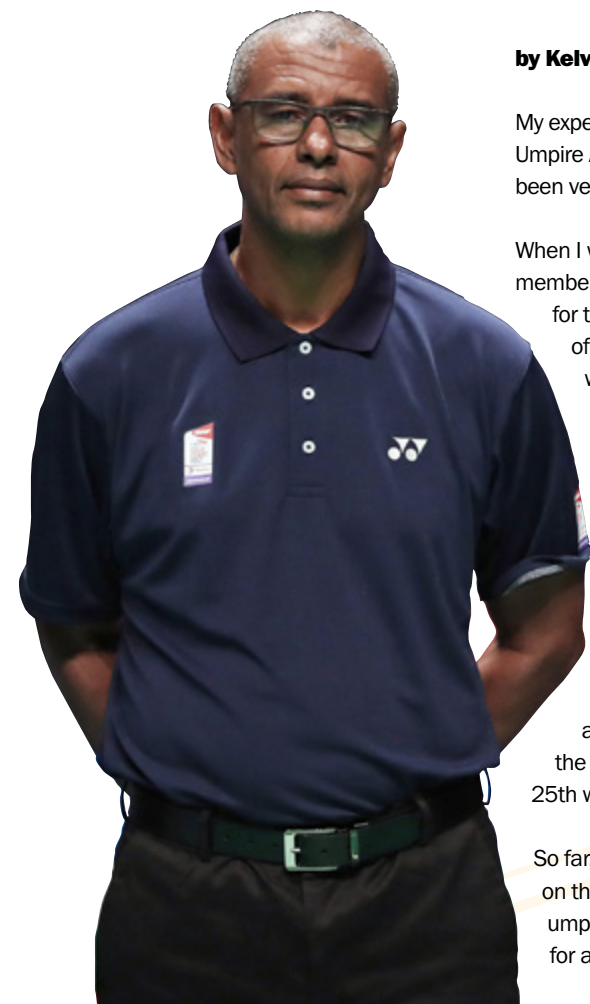
Through these assignments, I now have had an opportunity to work with all members of the BWF Umpire Assessment Panel and it has been an enlightening and educational experience for me.

You are always learning in life, whether it be from the candidates, former umpiring colleagues, fellow assessors and during workshops organised by BWF and attended by representatives from the BWF Referee Assessment Panel and Staff.

These opportunities have helped me become prepared for my role as a BWF Umpire Assessor focused on improving and standardising the manner in which badminton is presented and officiated by the team of BWF Umpires.

I look forward to being part of the process to help raise and maintain our performance standards and professionalism of our umpires around the world.

I want to commend the BWF for the approach in trying to ensure and strive for high standards from all technical officials through its many resources and programmes, including guidance documents and updates, instructions, educational resources, workshops, and the continued work of the assessment panel.



BWF Semi-Professional Umpire Preparatory Meeting 2020, 09 March in Birmingham

CONGRATULATIONS!

BWF congratulates the following seven newly appointed Semi-Professional Umpires:

- ▶ Diraj Gooneadry (MRI)
- ▶ Robbertus Tommy Oscariano (INA)
- ▶ Bert Vanhorenbeeck (BEL)
- ▶ Iris Metspalu (EST)
- ▶ Fabio Betto (ITA)
- ▶ Jiten Bhatt (AUS)
- ▶ Trish Gubb (NZL)

2020 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND APPRAISALS

As of 01 April 2020 – calendar subject to change

Date	Meetings, Workshops and Appraisals	Location	Country	Tournament
31 Mar – 05 Apr	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop (suspended)	Kuala Lumpur	MAS	CELCOM AXIATA Malaysia Open 2020
May	BWF Umpire Assessment Panel Meeting			
May	BWF Technical Official Commission Meeting			
02 Jun – 07 Jun	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Sydney	AUS	Australian Badminton Open 2020
16 Jun – 21 Jun	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Jakarta	INA	Indonesia Open 2020
15 Aug – 23 Aug	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals, Workshop & Assessment for BWF Accreditation	Aarhus	DEN	TOTAL BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals 2020
18 Aug – 23 Aug	Referee Appraisals	Akita	JPN	YONEX Akita Masters 2020
25 Aug – 30 Aug	Referee Appraisals	Da Nang	VIE	Vietnam Open 2020
08 Sep – 13 Sep	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Seoul	KOR	Korea Open 2020
15 Sep – 20 Sep	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals, Workshop & Assessment for BWF Accreditation	Changzhou	CHN	China Open 2020
22 Sep – 29 Sep	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Tokyo	JPN	DAIHATSU YONEX Japan Open 2020
28 Sep – 03 Oct	Referee Appraisals	Auckland	NZL	BWF World Junior Mixed Team Championships 2020
28 Sep – 11 Oct	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Auckland	NZL	BWF World Junior Championships 2020
29 Sep – 04 Oct	Referee Appraisals	TBC	INA	Indonesia Masters 2020 - Super 100
06 Oct – 11 Oct	Referee Appraisals	Almere	NED	YONEX Dutch Open 2020
13 Oct – 18 Oct	Referee Appraisals, Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Odense	DEN	DANISA Denmark Open 2020
20 Oct – 25 Oct	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Paris	FRA	YONEX French Open 2020
27 Oct – 01 Nov	Referee Appraisals	Macau	MAC	Macau Open 2020
27 Oct – 01 Nov	Referee Appraisals	Saarbrücken	GER	SaarLorLux Open 2020
10 Nov – 15 Nov	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Hong Kong	HKG	YONEX-SUNRISE Hong Kong Open 2020
17 Nov – 22 Nov	Referee Appraisals	Lucknow	IND	Syed Modi India International 2020
24 Nov – 29 Nov	Referee Appraisals	Gwangju Metropolitan City	KOR	GWANGJU Korea Masters 2020
09 Dec – 13 Dec	Umpire Appraisals & Workshop	Guangzhou	CHN	HSBC BWF World Tour Finals 2020