

GENERAL COMPETITION REGULATIONS



DEFINITIONS:

AirBadminton: The outdoor version of badminton, played on sand, grass, or other hard surfaces.

Badminton Gaming: Player trading cards, games for computer and playing consoles, social media gaming and similar gaming concepts.

BWF Junior Tournaments: The World Junior Team Championships (defined in Regulation 2.2.4), World Junior Championships (defined in Regulation 2.2.6), Continental Championships for Juniors Under 19 (defined in Regulation 2.5) and International Junior Tournaments Under 19 (defined in Regulation 2.7) shall collectively be called "BWF Junior Tournaments".

BWF Sanctioned Tournament: As defined in Regulation 3.

BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights: all commercial, television, internet, webcasting, audio, film and other rights associated with the BWF Sanctioned Tournament.

Event: As defined in Regulation 2.1.

Field of Play: The total area upon which the competition courts are laid and where spectators are not allowed.

GCR: Abbreviation for these regulations called "General Competition Regulations", which include all regulations under Chapter 5 of the BWF Statutes.

International Representation: As defined in Regulation 6.

JTR: Abbreviation for "Junior Tournament Regulations" (BWF Statutes, Section 5.2.3).

Member: A National Association with membership of BWF according to the BWF Constitution.

Participants: means all Players, Related Person or Tournament Support Personnel.

Player: refers to any Player who enters or participates in any badminton Tournament, competition, Event or activity organised or sanctioned by the BWF or any governing body.

Referee: The BWF or Continental Confederation appointed representative at the Tournament and with the role as defined in Regulation 17.

Registered Player for Entry: A registered Player according to Regulation 5.6 eligible to be entered into BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.

Related Person: refers to any coach, trainer, therapist, physician, management representative, agent, family member, tournament guest, business associate or other affiliate, entourage or associate of any Player, or any other person who receives accreditation at a Tournament at the request of the Player, any other Related Person or a BWF Member (including Member elected officials).

Tournament: As defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.13.

Tournament Support Personnel: refers to any tournament director, owner, operator, employee, agent, contractor, tournament volunteer, technical official (Referee, umpire, line judge or other technical official), doctor, physiotherapist or any similarly situated person at a Tournament at the request of Tournament Support Personnel.

Week: refers to a period of seven successive days, understood as beginning with Monday and ending with Sunday.

1. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY OF THE REGULATIONS

- 1.1. With these General Competition Regulations (GCR) the BWF in accordance with the BWF Constitution:
 - 1.1.1. controls the game, from an international aspect, in all countries;
 - 1.1.2. makes regulations for international Tournaments as defined in these regulations; and
 - 1.1.3. Makes regulations applicable for Participants in all international Tournaments.
- 1.2. Regulation 3 of these regulations regarding sanction of international Tournaments applies to all categories of international Tournaments defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.10, with the exception of Regulation 2.10.5.
- 1.3. The GCR apply to all categories of international Tournaments that are defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.6, except where separate regulations are defined by a Multi-Sport Games/Tournament organiser for Tournaments defined in Regulation 2.6 (International Multi-Sport Games and Tournaments).
- 1.4. For Grade 1, BWF Tournaments (Major Events) the GCR apply except where specific regulations are stated in the regulations for each of the BWF Tournaments (Major Events) (BWF Statutes, Section 5.2.1).
- 1.5. For Grade 2, BWF World Tour Tournaments the GCR apply except where specific regulations are stated in the regulations in BWF World Tour Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.2.2).
- 1.6. For BWF World Junior Team Championships (defined under Regulation 2.2.4), BWF World Junior Championships (defined under Regulation 2.2.6), Continental Championships for Juniors Under 19 (defined in Regulation 2.5) and International Junior Tournaments Under 19 (defined in Regulation 2.7) (collectively called “BWF Junior Tournaments”) the GCR Regulations 1 to 8 apply, while separate regulations for other areas related to BWF Junior Tournaments are stated in Junior Tournament Regulations (JTR) (BWF Statutes, Section 5.2.3).
- 1.7. BWF Sanctioned Team Leagues as defined in Regulation 2.9 shall comply with the terms as defined in the Tournament Sanction Policy (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.1).
- 1.8. For AirBadminton Tournaments as defined in Regulation 2.10, specific regulations as published will apply.

2. EVENTS AND TOURNAMENTS

BWF recognises the Events as defined in Regulation 2.1 and categories of Tournaments and other international matches defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.14.

- 2.1. Events
 - Men’s Singles – played by two opposing male Players
 - Women’s Singles – played by two opposing female Players
 - Men’s Doubles – played by two opposing pairs of male Players

- Women's Doubles – played by two opposing pairs of female Players
- Mixed Doubles – played by two opposing pairs each containing one male and one female Player

For AirBadminton Tournaments only:

- Men's Triples – played by three opposing male Players
- Women's Triples – played by three opposing female Players

2.2. BWF Tournaments (Grade 1 – Major Events)

Tournament Name	Trophy
BWF Men's World Team Championships	Thomas Cup
BWF Women's World Team Championships	Uber Cup
BWF World Team Championships	Sudirman Cup
BWF World Junior Team Championships	Suhandinata Cup
BWF World Championships	
BWF World Junior Championships	Eye Level Cups
BWF World Senior Championships	

2.3. BWF World Tour (Grade 2)

BWF World Tour Finals – Level 1	A finals Tournament for a number of qualified Players as defined in the BWF World Tour regulations.
BWF World Tour – Level 2	Tournaments that are selected to be Level 2 Tournaments.
BWF World Tour – Level 3	Tournaments that are selected to be Level 3 Tournaments.
BWF World Tour – Level 4	Tournaments that are selected to be Level 4 Tournaments.
BWF World Tour – Level 5	Tournaments that are selected to be Level 5 Tournaments.
BWF World Tour – Level 6	Tournaments that are selected to be Level 6 Tournaments.

2.4. Continental Circuit (Grade 3)

Tournaments under the control and management of the Continental Confederation to which the host country belongs. Where separate regulations are decided for such Tournaments in each of the Continental Confederations, these regulations must be in line with the GCR and approved by BWF.

International Challenge	Tournaments recommended to BWF for sanction and following the prize money levels described in the Tournament Sanction Policy (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.1), by the Continental Confederations based on the Continental Confederation Tournament regulations.
International Series	Tournaments recommended to BWF for sanction and following the prize money levels described in the Tournament Sanction Policy (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.1), by the

	Continental Confederations based on the Continental Confederation Tournament regulations.
Future Series	Tournaments recommended to BWF for sanction and following the prize money levels described in the Tournament Sanction Policy (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.1), by the Continental Confederations based on the Continental Confederation Tournament regulations.

2.5. **Continental Championships**

Team and individual championships belonging to the respective Continental Confederation, including Continental Championships for Juniors under 19 and Seniors (over 35 years of age and above). Where separate regulations are decided for such Tournaments in each Continental Confederation, these regulations must be in line with the GCR and approved by BWF.

2.6. **International Multi-Sport Games and Tournaments**

Official international sporting games containing several different sports including Badminton and/or AirBadminton or Tournaments organised by Multi-Sports organisations.

2.7. **International Junior Tournaments Under 19**

International Tournaments for Junior Players under 19 years of age under the control and management of the Continental Confederation to which the host country belongs. Where separate regulations are decided for such Tournaments in each of the Continental Confederations, these regulations must be in line with the relevant regulations in the GCR (Regulations 1 to 8) and the Junior Tournament Regulations, and approved by BWF:

- Junior International Grand Prix
- Junior International Challenge
- Junior International Series
- Junior Future Series

2.8. **International Invitation Tournaments, International Team Ties and Exhibition Matches**

Any international Tournament, International Team Ties or matches under the jurisdiction of a Member accepting entries by invitation from top-ranked Players from other Members.

2.8.1. “Top-ranked” shall be defined as “contained in the first 50 places in any of the five World Ranking lists valid three months before the Tournament or match”.

2.9. **“International Team Leagues” and “National Team Leagues with International participation” – collectively named “BWF Sanctioned Team Leagues”**

2.9.1. “International Team Leagues” are any international team competition organised as an International Team League by BWF, Continental Confederations or Members between teams from different Members (such as,

but not limited to, club teams from different National Team Leagues or teams created with different national connections), which include participation in the International Team League of more than three Top Ranked Players from other Members; AND

2.9.2. “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 the National Team League with International Participation of more than three Top Ranked Players from other Members.

2.9.3. “Top Ranked” shall be defined as “Players ranked in the first 50 places in any of the five World Ranking lists valid three months before the Tournament”.

2.10. AirBadminton Tournaments

2.10.1. BWF AirBadminton World Cup

An AirBadminton Tournament for a number of qualified Teams as defined in the BWF AirBadminton World Cup regulations.

2.10.2. BWF AirBadminton World League

AirBadminton Tournaments that are selected to be a part of the BWF AirBadminton World League.

2.10.3. BWF AirBadminton Open Tournaments

International AirBadminton Tournaments that are open to Teams from more than one Member Association.

2.10.4. AirBadminton Continental Championships

AirBadminton Team Championships hosted in the respective Continental Confederation, including Continental Championships for Juniors under 19 and Seniors (over 35 years of age and above). Where separate regulations are decided for such Tournaments in each Continental Confederation, these regulations must be in line with the specific regulations as published and approved by BWF.

2.10.5. National AirBadminton Tournaments

Any AirBadminton Tournament of whatever nature (with or without prize money) in which entries are restricted to Players being citizens of, or resident in, the country concerned according to regulations adopted by the Member Association in question.

2.10.6. Other AirBadminton Tournaments

Any AirBadminton Tournament with participation of players/Teams from one Member and not falling into one of the categories as defined in Regulations 2.10.1 to 2.10.5.

2.11. National Team Leagues or Regional Team Leagues

Any domestic team league competition or Regional Team League, which does not meet the definition of a “BWF Sanctioned Team League.

2.12. International Seniors’ Tournaments

Any Tournament intending by its title or promotion to attract an international entry and limiting entries to Players over certain age limits.

2.13. National Tournaments

Any Tournament of whatever nature (with or without prize money) in which entries are restricted to Players being citizens of, or resident in, the country concerned according to regulations adopted by the Member Association in question.

2.14. Other Tournaments

Any Tournament not falling into one of the categories defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.13.

3. SANCTION

3.1. Nature, Scope and Purpose

Regulation 3 on Sanctions has been adopted in recognition of the following fundamental sporting imperatives:

3.1.1. The governance of the sport of Badminton is organised in a pyramid structure, with BWF as the sole and exclusive international governing body, one Continental Confederation recognised as the sole and exclusive governing body for each continent, and one Member recognised and admitted into membership of BWF as the sole and exclusive national governing body for each country where the sport is played.

3.1.2. This pyramid governance structure is necessary to protect and promote the sport, for a number of reasons. In particular:

3.1.2.1. The pyramid governance structure is vital to the regulatory integrity of the sport, enabling BWF, the Continental Confederations and the Members to ensure the uniform application of rules protecting the sport and its stakeholders throughout the sport, wherever it is played, and to hold all participants accountable under those rules -- including anti-doping rules and other rules and regulations designed to protect participants and/or to preserve the integrity of the sport -- in a fair and transparent fashion.

3.1.2.2. The pyramid governance structure is also vital to the proper organisation and conduct of the sporting calendar. BWF, the Continental Confederations and the Members have the right and the responsibility to maintain and control the sporting calendar so as to ensure that Tournaments are organised and staged in a coordinated fashion that does not undermine but rather promotes and furthers the development of the sport as a whole.

3.1.2.3. BWF seeks insofar as practicable to avoid fixture clashes so as to ensure that its Members have Players fully available for the preparatory periods spent in the lead-up to BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, and throughout the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments themselves.

3.1.3. Unsanctioned Tournaments threaten to undermine these fundamental sporting imperatives.

3.1.3.1. They are not developed as an integrated and coordinated part of the official sporting calendar, in furtherance of the best interests of the sport as a whole. Instead they cut across that calendar and the imperatives it is designed to protect, including potentially clashing with BWF Sanctioned Tournaments and thereby creating potential conflicts between different stakeholders that could be very damaging to the sport.

3.1.3.2. They fall outside the jurisdiction of BWF, the Continental Confederations and Members, and so the organisers of and participants in unsanctioned Tournaments are not properly accountable for compliance with the rules and regulations of the sport. This poses a significant risk to the sport, because the public is unlikely to appreciate fully the distinction between unsanctioned Tournaments and BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, and so if problems occur in unsanctioned Tournaments the reputation of the entire sport will suffer, and public confidence in the ability of BWF, the Continental Confederations and Members to maintain the integrity of the sport will be undermined.

3.1.4. This Regulation 3 therefore:

3.1.4.1. confirms the right and responsibility of BWF, the Continental Confederations and the Members to maintain and control the official sporting calendar of Tournaments; and

3.1.4.2. penalise any Player or other individual who participates in any capacity in an unsanctioned Tournament as per Regulation 3.5.

3.1.4.3. require a Member:

3.1.4.3.1. not to participate in unsanctioned Tournaments; and

3.1.4.3.2. to prohibit participation by Players and other organisations and individuals under its jurisdiction in unsanctioned Tournaments, and to take disciplinary action against anyone that breaches that prohibition.

3.2. Sanction of Tournaments

3.2.1. For Tournaments owned by the BWF as defined in Regulation 2.2 the BWF will grant sanction and decide the time and location of the Tournament.

3.2.2. For all Tournaments and competitive matches defined in Regulations 2.3 to 2.10, with the exception of Regulation 2.10.5, the Member or Continental Confederation must apply for and receive the sanction of the BWF. The BWF shall grant sanction to the Tournament in line with the Tournament Sanction Policy (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.1).

3.2.3. Tournaments defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.10, with the exception of Regulation 2.10.5, shall collectively be called BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.

3.2.4. For International Multi-Sports Games and Tournaments as defined under Regulation 2.6, BWF may accept sanction applications directly from the Multi-Sports Games owner or the NOC of the country where the International Multi-Sports Games and Tournaments are hosted

3.2.5. Applying for sanction

3.2.5.1. Applications may be granted on a conditional basis. In particular (but without limitation), BWF may specify that particular Tournaments must be played in accordance with and subject to BWF compliant codes of conduct, anti-corruption rules, anti-doping rules and/or other rules or regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the Continental Confederation and/or Member organising the Tournament to ensure compliance with that requirement.

3.2.5.2. Any sanction granted under this Regulation 3 shall amount solely to recognition of the Tournament as a BWF Sanctioned Tournament and shall not amount to or be construed as approval by BWF of any of the safety or security or other arrangements for the BWF Sanctioned Tournament. Instead, those arrangements shall remain the sole responsibility of the BWF Sanctioned Tournament organiser.

3.2.5.3. Members and/or Continental Confederations should not issue any formal invitations to participate in the Tournament unless and until all necessary sanctions have been granted and any relevant conditions have been satisfied.

3.2.6. When considering whether or not to sanction a Tournament, BWF shall consider, without limitation, the following:

3.2.6.1. Whether the organiser of the proposed Tournament has made a binding, unqualified and unconditional commitment to stage the Tournament in accordance with and subject to all applicable BWF regulations;

3.2.6.2. Whether that commitment will be enforceable against the Tournament organiser, i.e., whether the Tournament organiser will be transparent and accountable to the BWF as regards its application and enforcement of those regulations in relation to all organisations and individuals participating in the Tournament;

3.2.6.3. The maintenance and promotion of the health, safety and welfare of Players and by ensuring the safety and suitability of the venue(s) intended to be used for the proposed Tournament;

3.2.6.4. The extent to which the proposed Tournament may be accommodated within the existing calendar of Tournaments without conflicting with or otherwise compromising (i) Tournaments already in the calendar, and/or (ii) agreements to which the BWF and/or one or more Continental Confederations or Members is a party;

3.2.6.5. The extent to which the proposed Tournament would have any meaningful role in the promotion and development of the sport or any other charitable or benevolent purpose;

3.2.6.6. Any previous decision(s) by BWF regarding recognition or otherwise of any similar Tournament;

3.2.6.7. The degree to which the proposed Tournament does or does not further the objectives of BWF; and

3.2.6.8. any other factors that BWF consider relevant.

3.2.7. For all Grade 2 and 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments (as defined under Regulations 2.3 and 2.4) which offer prize money, the BWF shall, at the time of sanction of the Tournament, seek confirmation of the total prize money for each BWF Sanctioned Tournament.

3.2.8. Once a Tournament has been sanctioned as a BWF Sanctioned Tournament by BWF as per this Regulation 3.2 and included in the BWF international calendar, any changes to the date(s), venue(s), participants and/or format of that BWF Sanctioned Tournament requires the approval of BWF.

3.3. **Sanction fees**

3.3.1. All Grade 2 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments shall pay a sanction fee to BWF at the rate of 10 per cent of the total prize fund up to and including the first US\$ 500,000 and a lower rate of five per cent for prize money in excess of US\$ 500,000 and calculated up to a maximum of US\$ 1,000,000. Such fee shall be additional to the prize fund.

3.3.2. All Grade 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments shall pay a sanction fee to the Continental Confederation as defined by the Continental Confederation. Such fee shall be additional to the prize fund.

3.3.3. The BWF may approach Members and make any additional financial arrangements as it may decide.

3.4. **Fees for postponement, cancellation or changed prize money**

3.4.1. If, fewer than 120 days before the date of the Tournament, any Grade 2 or 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournament offering prize money is cancelled, postponed or the prize money as confirmed according to Regulation 3.2.7 is reduced, the organiser shall pay the BWF a fee equivalent to 20% of the total prize money. The BWF may also withdraw sanction for the Tournament in question and for future Tournaments. The organisers shall have the liberty to increase the confirmed prize money at any time, however there shall not be any change in the grade or level of Tournament sanctioned earlier.

3.4.2. Fewer than 15 days before the date of the Tournament, any Grade 2 or 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournament offering prize money is cancelled, postponed or the prize money as confirmed according to Regulation 3.2.7 is reduced, the matter shall be referred to BWF for further penalties. The BWF shall, in addition to the fees as stated in Regulation 3.4.1, consider imposing penalties which may include monetary penalty and / or future withdrawing or not granting sanction of Tournaments to that Member.

3.4.3. Where, however, the BWF is satisfied that the Tournament cancellation or postponement was outside the control of the organisers due to force majeure (e.g. civil disturbance, natural disaster), the fees set out in Regulations 3.4.1 and 3.4.2 may be waived (to be determined by BWF in its sole discretion).

3.4.4. The BWF reserves the right to have or not to have jurisdiction in connection with any Tournament promoted directly or indirectly by unaffiliated organisations.

3.4.5. BWF is not liable for any claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any nature whatsoever, including but not limited to injury or loss to person or property, arising out of or in any way related, directly or indirectly, to a particular BWF Sanctioned Tournament. It is recommended that the Member and/or Tournament organisers purchase proper insurance to cover their potential legal liability.

3.5. **Unsanctioned Tournaments and restrictions**

3.5.1. Members shall allow Players under their jurisdiction to compete only in Tournaments sanctioned by the BWF or one of its Members.

3.5.2. No Player shall participate in a Tournament or exhibition matches which are promoted or organised by an individual or company (or other organisation) unless it has been sanctioned by the Member concerned (for domestic Tournaments) or the BWF (for international Tournaments) in accordance with Regulation 3.2.

3.5.3. Any Player who infringes this regulation shall be liable for a suspension or a penalty as stipulated in Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes,

Section 2.5). During any period of ineligibility, the relevant Member may not select the ineligible Player to participate in any capacity in any BWF Sanctioned Tournament and any selection made despite this prohibition may be declined by BWF.

- 3.5.4. A Member must, to the greatest extent permitted by applicable law:
- 3.5.4.1. not participate in any way in any unsanctioned Tournament;
 - 3.5.4.2. prohibit the participation by organisations, Players, technical officials, umpires, coaching or management staff, and other individuals under its jurisdiction in any unsanctioned Tournament;
 - 3.5.4.3. take prompt and effective disciplinary action against any organisation, Player, technical official, umpire, coaching or management staff, or other individual under its jurisdiction who fails to comply with the Regulation 3.5.4.2;
 - 3.5.4.4. recognise and give effect within its own jurisdiction to any restriction, exclusion or ineligibility imposed on an organisation or individual by another Member for failure to comply with the Regulation 3.5.4.2 prohibition; and
 - 3.5.4.5. make it a condition of eligibility for any organisation or individual from another Member wishing to participate in any Tournament played under its jurisdiction that the organisation or individual in question has not participated in any unsanctioned Tournament in the twelve months prior to the Tournament in question.
- 3.5.5. BWF shall have the right to impose such sanctions on Members in breach of Regulation 3.5 as it shall see fit in all of the circumstances of the case at hand, including reprimand or fine and/or suspension or withholding of grants or subsidies from Members, exclude teams from one or more Tournaments and remove or deny accreditation to officers or other representatives of the relevant Member.
- 3.5.6. The BWF has power to vary the requirement of Regulation 3.5 at its sole discretion, provided an application giving reasons is made.

4. TOURNAMENT AND PLAYER RIGHTS/OBLIGATIONS

Tournaments

- 4.1. It is a condition of sanction that ownership of BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights shall be determined by the BWF in its sole discretion.
- 4.2. The ownership of the BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights is as follows:
- 4.2.1. The BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights shall automatically vest in the BWF.

4.2.2. It is the intention of BWF that the ownership of the BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights shall subsequently be shared as follows:

Tournament defined in GCR	Grade of Tournament	Ownership of BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights owned by and the extent of ownership
2.2	Grade 1	Determined by the BWF regulations / contracts associated with each Tournament.
2.3	Grade 2	Retained by BWF as per BWF World Tour host contract.
2.4	Grade 3	All rights granted to the Continental Confederation who will share it with the promoting Member in accordance with the regulations for the Continental Tournaments as approved by the BWF, except for purposes retained by BWF under the GCR.
2.5	Continental Championships	All rights granted to the Continental Confederation, except for purposes retained by BWF under the GCR.
2.6	Multi-sport Games	All rights retained by BWF and may be granted at its sole discretion.
2.7	International Junior Tournaments	All rights granted to the Continental Confederation who will share it with the promoting Member in accordance with the regulations for the Continental Junior Tournaments as approved by the BWF, except for purposes retained by BWF under the GCR.
2.9	BWF Sanctioned Team Leagues	International Team Leagues: All rights retained by BWF and may be granted at its sole discretion. National Team Leagues with International participation: All rights granted to the promoting Member, except for purposes retained by BWF under the GCR.
2.10	AirBadminton Tournaments	BWF AirBadminton World Cup and BWF AirBadminton World League: All rights retained by BWF and may be granted at its sole discretion. AirBadminton Open Tournaments: All rights granted to the promoting Member, except for purposes retained by BWF under the GCR. AirBadminton Continental Championships: All rights retained by BWF, except where granted to the Continental Confederation by BWF.

2.8, 2.11-2.13	Other international Tournaments	All rights granted to the promoting Member, except for purposes retained by BWF under the GCR.
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- 4.2.3. Members should note that the split of ownership of the BWF Sanctioned Tournament Rights as set out in Regulation 4.2.2 is subject to change as BWF formulates the relevant contracts and BWF shall provide Members with reasonable notice of any such changes.
- 4.3. All rights in respect of the Tournaments relating to betting or games of chance to be licensed to betting companies (including but not limited to media rights and data rights including results/scores) ("**Tournament Betting Rights**") shall vest in BWF. BWF shall be entitled to sublicense the Tournament Betting Rights in respect of Grade 3 Tournaments only to Continental Confederations.
- 4.4. The BWF always retains the right to publish results and reports from the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, on the Internet and elsewhere, and to do so at times determined solely by the BWF. All results data from any BWF Sanctioned Tournament will be owned by BWF and can be used freely by the BWF for any purpose. The promoting Member can use data on a non-exclusive basis from its own Tournament only.
- 4.5. BWF is also entitled to use Tournament images, logos and other identifications for the purpose of producing and promoting Badminton Gaming. For each gaming concept for Badminton Gaming purposes, BWF is only permitted to use Tournaments collectively, (collectively being defined as a minimum of five Tournaments).

Participants in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments

- 4.6. All Participants (including Players, team officials, technical officials etc., see definition of Participants) involved in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments shall be bound by the BWF Statutes, including the GCR and other regulations relevant to their participation in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments).
- 4.7. By entering a BWF Sanctioned Tournament a Participant (and in particular a Player) without further need to seek consent of the Participant or Member concerned, grants and assigns to the BWF and the organisers of the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments and any third parties authorised by BWF in connection with the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, the right in perpetuity to use the Participant's name, performance, likeness, voice, and biographical information, and all data of any nature pertaining to a Participant's participation in any and all content and formats (including without limitation, live feeds, pictures, photographs, video recordings, sound recordings, footage, visual or other representations of data, and/or any form of digital image or other representation (the "Materials") and through any media or technology whether now existing or created in the future during and after the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments for the full period of any rights therein and thereafter in a commercial or non-commercial manner (and otherwise in relation to the advertisement and promotion of the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments) and BWF, the organisers of all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments and third parties authorised by BWF in connection with the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments shall have the right to use and edit the same in any manner including combining them with other images, video recordings and/or statements. Any such Materials can be distributed by BWF,

the organisers of all BWF Sanctioned Tournament or any third parties authorised by BWF in connection with the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments (including but not limited to photographers) in any and all territories.

- 4.8. BWF shall be the exclusive owner of the Materials, including the entire copyright in such Materials and Participants agree that any broadcast, telecast, publication, or other exploitation of the Materials or any rights therein will not entitle them (or their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, legal representatives or assignees) to receive any form of compensation or consideration. Participants waive any and all so-called "moral rights" in connection with the Materials. If Participants are deemed by any applicable law to own any rights in and to the Materials, Participants shall irrevocably and unconditionally assign to BWF, with full title guarantee for all purposes, applications and fields of use (including by way of present assignment of existing and future copyright) all rights in the Materials and Participants shall execute such documents and do such things as BWF may consider appropriate to give further effect to Regulations 4.7 and 4.8 within seven (7) days of any request therefor from the BWF. Nothing in this section shall permit the BWF, or the Tournaments to use a Participants name, performance, likeness, voice or biography on any product, service or clothing, or in any manner that solely constitutes a direct endorsement of any product, service or company.
- 4.9. If for legal reasons use of a Participants (in particular a Player's) image as per Regulations 4.7 and 4.8 above or other rights requires the consent of the Participant concerned (or if a written assignment or waiver is legally required to give effect to the provisions of Regulations 4.7 and 4.8), the relevant Member must ensure that such consent, written assignment or waiver is obtained before entering the Player or applying for accreditation for other Participants. By entering the Player in a Tournament, the Member accepts responsibility that the Player commits to the obligations in the BWF Statutes, including the GCR. The user of photographs or other such images of Player(s) assumes sole legal liability for its use.
- 4.10. BWF shall process the personal data of all Participants involved in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments for the purpose of operating the Tournaments, World Rankings and similar areas, including monitoring and investigating anti-doping rule violations or illegal/irregular betting activities committed or suspected to be committed by any such Participant in the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments. In this connection, Members shall assist BWF by taking all steps necessary to provide fair processing information and procure any necessary consents from all Participants within their jurisdiction (including in particular Players, coaches, team officials and technical officials) prior to commencement of the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.
- 4.11. BWF shall have the right to process the personal data, including to share and disclose the personal data of any Participant where involvement in anti-doping rule violations or irregular/ illegal betting is being investigated in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, to any relevant authority. BWF shall furthermore have the right to process the personal data, including to share and disclose the data of any Player for the purpose of operating the World Ranking, promoting the Tournaments and badminton in general and any other relevant purpose connected to the operation of BWF and the Tournaments.
- 4.12. For Player's ranked number 100 or above in any Event on the World Ranking, such Players must sign the BWF Players Undertaking, while providing a phone number

and valid personal email address, to retain the status as a Registered Player for Entry.

- 4.13. For BWF Sanctioned Tournaments in Grade 1 and Grade 2 the Players must follow the Player Commitment Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6).

BWF

- 4.14. BWF staff and BWF council members have a right to be accredited (with accreditation level as requested by BWF) and attend any BWF Sanctioned Tournament.

5. JURISDICTION, PLAYER ENTRY REGISTRATION AND PENALTY

- 5.1. A Player comes under the jurisdiction of all Members to which the Player is directly or indirectly affiliated.

5.2. Duration of Jurisdiction

5.2.1. A Player comes under continued jurisdiction of a Member for a period of twelve months after ceasing to reside in the country of that Member.

5.2.2. After the twelve-month period stipulated in Regulation 5.2.1 above, jurisdiction to that Member shall lapse unless the Player implicitly (e.g. by participation in the Member's activities) continues to accept that jurisdiction, or explicitly declares a wish to accept that jurisdiction.

5.2.3. A Player who represents a Member (the qualifications for which are set out in Regulation 6.3) automatically comes under the jurisdiction of that Member for twelve months thereafter.

- 5.3. Where a penalty is imposed by a Member or other national judicial body (e.g. NADO or similar) following fair procedures, which affects a Player's participation in a Tournament outside of the jurisdiction of the Member concerned, then such penalty shall be notified immediately to the BWF, who shall implement such penalty and notify all Members of such penalty. BWF shall have the power to refer such a penalty to a BWF Judicial Body with the purpose of reviewing the penalty and potentially to amend such penalty if deemed necessary by the BWF Judicial Body.

- 5.4. Where penalties imposed by a Member affect a Player who comes under the jurisdiction of more than one Member, the BWF shall have power to receive representations and to amend such penalties, if deemed necessary.

- 5.5. Where a penalty is imposed by BWF or CAS that affects a Player's participation in national or international Tournaments then such penalty shall be notified to the Member of the Player, who shall ensure the implementation of such penalty. Such penalties imposed by the BWF shall also be notified to all other Members.

5.6. Registration for Entry and Player Movement

5.6.1. Entry into a Tournament can only be done by the Member where the Player is registered with BWF as a Registered Player for Entry. The eligible Member to enter a Registered Player for Entry is the Member country shown for the Player on the World Ranking and/or World Junior Ranking unless no Tournaments has been played.

- 5.6.2. Any Players not being a Registered Player for Entry with a Member must be registered with and approved by BWF as a Registered Player for Entry by a Member having jurisdiction over the Player, before entry into any BWF Sanctioned Tournament is possible.
- 5.6.3. A Player can be registered with any Member, but only one Member at any time as a Registered Player for Entry and the Member can thereby enter the Player in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments. A Player may also transfer registration of where the Player is registered as a Registered Player for Entry from one Member to another on the condition that BWF have been informed in the format required by BWF (Player Transfer Form) and subject to Regulations 5.6.4, 5.6.5 and 5.6.6.
- 5.6.4. Regulation 5.6.3 applies except:
- 5.6.4.1. until and unless another Member objects;
 - 5.6.4.2. for Tournaments under the International Representation regulations (Regulation 6);
- 5.6.5. A Member can object as per Regulation 5.6.4.1 in the following way:
- 5.6.5.1. a Member can object or refuse to sign the Player Transfer Form (Regulation 5.6.3) if it has been registered with BWF as the Member eligible to enter the Player. In such a case, the Player will be ineligible to enter BWF Sanctioned Tournaments for a period of maximum three months after which the Player can transfer to another Member, or
 - 5.6.5.2. a Member can object, but must produce evidence that the Player concerned was under contract to it or one of its regional associations or clubs. In this case:
 - The BWF will review the contract and consider the Player's observations before deciding if the contract is enforceable.
 - If the contract is accepted as enforceable, the Player will be barred from entry to BWF Sanctioned Tournaments for the period specified in the contract (or until the terms of the contract have been adhered to, if the contract provides for possible Player movement). However, the maximum period of ineligibility to enter BWF Sanctioned Tournaments will be 12 months, regardless of the contract's provisions. The Player will hereafter be able to transfer to another Member. The 12 months period is calculated from the date at which the transfer request was made to the Member.
- 5.6.6. From the time of the first registration or transfer of a registration of a Player, the Player cannot transfer registration to another Member for at least three months.

5.6.7. Where a penalty is imposed on a Member which prevents Players from participating in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, the BWF may allow Players from this Member to participate under a “Neutral BWF Nationality Flag” under such conditions as decided by the BWF. For the purpose of these regulations (e.g. in connection with national separation rules) if two or more Players from the same Member is entered under a “Neutral BWF Nationality Flag”, then these Players will be treated as coming from the same Member. Other entries of Players under a “Neutral BWF Nationality Flag”, but coming from different Members will be considered as entries from different Members.

The BWF may also allow Players classified as refugees or stateless persons, as defined by the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), to participate under a “Neutral BWF Nationality Flag” under such conditions as decided by the BWF.

5.7. Deregistration

5.7.1. Purpose

Registered Players for Entry may at any time renounce to such status by submitting a deregistration notice in the form required by the BWF. Deregistration shall be effective once such notice has been received by the BWF.

5.7.2. Automatic Effect

Registered Players for Entry shall also be automatically deregistered after 104 weeks not participating in BWF sanctioned Tournaments.

5.7.3. Consequences

Players who deregister shall:

5.7.3.1. Cease to be considered as Registered Players for Entry by any Member.

5.7.3.2. Continue to be bound by BWF Statutes.

5.7.4. Return to Competition

Players who wish to return to competition after deregistration shall:

5.7.4.1. Give a notice period of three months to the BWF.

5.7.4.2. Be considered for inclusion in the BWF Registered Testing Pool or the Testing Pool; and

5.7.4.3. If such return is earlier than 12 months after deregistration:

5.7.4.3.1. Pay any fines that would have applied as a result of their absence from Tournaments as per the Player Commitment Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6) as if they had been a Registered Player for Entry.

5.7.4.3.2. If they want to be registered to a Member other than where they were last registered, obtain

consent of the Member where they were last registered in the format required by BWF (Player Transfer Form).

5.8. Retirement

5.8.1. Purpose

Players may at any time retire from all involvement in badminton competitions under the framework of the BWF by submitting a retirement notice in the format required by the BWF. Retirement shall be effective once such notice has been received by the BWF.

5.8.2. Consequences

Players who retire are no longer bound by the BWF Statutes, except as otherwise stated in the BWF Judicial Procedures in relation to potential breaches that happened while they were Covered Persons.

5.8.3. Return to Competition

Players who wish to return to competition after retirement shall:

5.8.3.1. Give notice to the BWF as per article 5.7 of the BWF Anti-Doping Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 2.3); and

5.8.3.2. Comply with the requirements applicable to return to competition after deregistration (Regulation 5.7.4).

6. INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION*

6.1. Representing a Member is defined as accepting a nomination to be part of that Member's national team and having competed in any BWF Sanctioned Tournament where the competition is between national teams. However, playing as an individual in a Tournament does not count as representation, unless the Tournament has been specifically nominated by the BWF (Regulation 6.1.2).

6.1.1. Tournaments between teams counting as International Representation include:

- BWF Men's World Team Championships
- BWF Women's World Team Championships
- BWF World Team Championships
- BWF World Junior Team Championships
- Continental Men's Team Championships
- Continental Women's Team Championships
- Continental Mixed Team Championships
- Continental Junior Team Championships
- Continental Multisport Games Team Championships

- Commonwealth Games Team Championships

6.1.2. Currently, the BWF has also specified the following Tournaments counting as International Representation:

- BWF World Championships
- BWF World Junior Championships
- Olympic Games
- Youth Olympic Games
- Continental Multisport Games
- Commonwealth Games
- Continental Individual Championships
- Continental Junior Championships

6.2. Where Players in a doubles pair are from different Members it shall count as international representation for each Player.

6.3. A Player shall be qualified to represent a Member providing the Player is in good standing with that Member and satisfies Regulation 6.3.1:

6.3.1. Is eligible as follows:

Has not represented any other Member for three years immediately preceding the date of the Tournament, and either:

- Holds a passport of a country whose territory the Member has jurisdiction over; or
- Holds a passport of a country, where such passport is the generally accepted passport of the territory the Member has jurisdiction over (e.g. Players from New Caledonia holding a French passport); or
- A Player who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as the Player may elect. However, after having represented one country the Player may not represent another country unless the Player meets the conditions set forth in Regulation 6.3.1 that apply to Players who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality; or
- Has been registered under that Member as a "Registered Player for Entry" (Member name shown for the Player on the World Ranking and/or World Junior Ranking) for a period of minimum 3 years immediately preceding the date of the Tournament.

6.4. A Player shall be deemed to have represented a Member once the Player has participated for that Member (i.e. having played in a match) in a Tournament under Regulations 6.1.1 and 6.1.2.

- 6.5. If a Player has represented a Member and such Member is subsequently divided into two or more Members or is absorbed by another Member, either politically or by recognition of the BWF, such Player shall, for the purposes of these regulations, be deemed from the date of such alteration not to have represented any Member.
- 6.6. Notwithstanding the foregoing regulations, in the case of any officially-recognised competitive multi-sport international games in which Badminton is included, the qualifications for the representation of a Member shall be in full accordance with the conditions laid down by such a multi-sport international games.

7. ONLINE ENTRIES AND CONTROL OF ENTRIES

- 7.1. Procedure for sending entries:
 - 7.1.1. For BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, as defined in Regulations 2.2 to 2.5 and 2.7, an entry of Player / pair must be made by the Member under which the Player is registered to be entered as a Registered Player for Entry by midnight local time of the BWF Headquarters on the closing date (see Section 5.3.2 of the BWF Statutes for closing dates timeline for different Grades and Levels of Tournaments) in the manner specified by the BWF. The Member submitting the entries shall specify their National ranking order.
 - 7.1.2. Where the entries are sent using the BWF online entry system, after the closing date, the BWF Online Entry System will send an Entry Confirmation to all participating Members confirming the receipt of final entries. This confirmation is the conclusive evidence of receipt of entries before the deadline. The Members shall contact BWF immediately if such confirmation is not received by Wednesday by noon BWF Headquarters time (+08.00 GMT) following close of entries. Any objection to the entries should be notified to BWF. Following the close of entries if no objection is received by BWF by Thursday 23.59 hours BWF Headquarters time (+08.00 GMT) the entries shall be deemed to be correct. No complaints / objections shall be entertained thereafter.
- 7.2. Where the entries are not sent using the BWF online entry system it is the responsibility of the Tournament organiser to acknowledge receipt of the entries of the Player / pair and any subsequent amendment prior to the closing date for entries. It is the responsibility of the Member to ensure that confirmation of acceptance is received.
- 7.3. For team Tournaments, specific regulations for team entry may apply as defined by BWF, Continental Confederation or the Tournament organiser.
- 7.4. No Member shall, for any Tournament directly or indirectly promoted by it, accept entries from any other Member on behalf of any Players who:
 - 7.4.1. are not under the jurisdiction of a Member of the BWF; or
 - 7.4.2. have been declared not in good standing with that Member.
- 7.5. Players must be permitted to be entered in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments for which they are qualified and no restriction in this respect by the Member having received sanction shall be allowed, provided the Players comply with qualification standards and procedures set by BWF, Continental Confederations and/or Members where the Player is a Registered Player for Entry.

- 7.6. For BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, a Player shall not have his / her entry refused for reasons of gender, sexual orientation, race, religion or politics.
- 7.6.1. Tournament organisers may limit the number of entries from a country, where the BWF, Continental Confederations and / or Members are allowed to set qualification standards and procedures for entry of Players (Regulation 5.6); and may limit the number of total entries accepted into a Tournament to accommodate the size of the Tournament (Regulations 13.1 and 13.8).
- 7.6.2. Tournament organisers must run a main competition which include Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles (except in team championships for men and women respectively). However, the BWF reserves the right to accept Tournaments which do not comply with this requirement.
- 7.6.3. Refusal of entries by a Tournament organiser for any reason other than that there are too many entries to be accommodated (Regulations 12.1 and 12.5) requires the specific written permission of the BWF.
- 7.7. No Player / pair shall enter or be entered in two BWF Sanctioned Tournaments counting for World Ranking and World Junior Ranking in the same Week (the Week of a Tournament is considered as being only the Week where the finals of the Tournament takes place) except:
- 7.7.1. as provided in Regulation 7.8;
- 7.7.2. when being qualified/nominated for BWF World Tour Finals, BWF World Team Championships, BWF World Men's & Women's Team Championships, BWF World Junior Team Championships, Continental Mixed Team Championship, Continental Men's and Women's Team Championship and Continental Junior Team Championships.
- 7.7.2.1. Where a Player is entered into a Tournament and being qualified/nominated for another Tournament according to Regulation 7.7.2, the player may only play in one of these tournaments during the same Week, except as provided in Regulation 7.7.3.
- 7.7.3. Where a combination of the following continental tournaments is played in the same Week:
- 7.7.3.1. Continental Individual Championship and Continental Mixed Team Championship;
- 7.7.3.2. Continental Individual Championships and Continental Men's and Women's Team Championship;
- 7.7.3.3. Continental Mixed Team Championship and Continental Men's and Women's Team Championship; and
- 7.7.3.4. Continental Junior Individual and Continental Junior Team Championships.

- 7.7.4. 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, 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 the Player / pair to enter in any other Tournament with overlapping dates. If discovered pre-tournament, the Player / pair will not be permitted to play in any of the Tournaments 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 Tournaments.
- 7.8. A Player / pair may withdraw from a Tournament with an earlier closing date if they are not accepted into the main or qualifying lists and enter another Tournament with a later closing date.
- 7.9. In making or authorising entries, the Member concerned is reconfirming its acceptance, and acceptance by the Players being entered, of the BWF's regulations and Disciplinary processes.
- 7.10. No alterations, except withdrawal, can be made to the entry list after the close of entries until the draw has been made.
- 7.11. In Grade 2 (except Level 1-4), Grade 3, and International Junior Tournaments, if the host Member does not have an entry in the main draw in an Event they may elect to include a host wildcard entry in that Event. Wildcards will not win World Ranking points or World Junior Ranking points unless they win a match. A walkover does not count as winning a match.

The wildcard, if eligible, will be the highest ranked player/pair entered from the host Association, in each event, if applicable. This can include the highest ranked pair where one player is from the host Member and the other player is from another Member.

Should one or more of the highest ranked players/pairs entered from the host Association be tied in an Event, the host Association can choose which player/pair to receive the wildcard in that Event.

The host Association must confirm with BWF before publication of the first MQ report, which eligible players/pairs entered (if any) will be chosen as wildcards.

If the host Association declines to choose the highest ranked eligible player/pair entered by the host Association, no other wildcards will be granted in that event.

Once designated as a wildcard, the player/pair remains a wildcard throughout the tournament.

8. PLAYER AGE LIMITS IN TOURNAMENTS

- 8.1. For BWF Junior Tournaments, all Players must remain under 19 years of age throughout the calendar year in which the Tournament is held. It is recommended that for all other junior Tournaments, all Players should remain under 19 years of age throughout the calendar year in which the Tournament is held.
- 8.2. It is recommended that senior age groups should commence at 35 years of age. Further groups should be considered at five-year intervals. Groups would therefore be 35 and over, 40 and over, 45 and over, etc. In any seniors' competitions,

Players are eligible provided they are 35, 40, 45, etc., years of age or more throughout the calendar year in which the Tournament is held.

9. MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR TOURNAMENTS AND PLAYERS

- 9.1. Each Member shall be responsible for the conduct of all Tournaments held under its jurisdiction and in particular for ensuring compliance by the Tournament organisers with all the relevant Tournament regulations in BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.
- 9.2. Each Member shall be responsible for the control and management of all Players under its jurisdiction.
 - 9.2.1. To be eligible to enter and compete in Tournaments, all Players must be in good standing with their Member. A Member may declare a Player under its jurisdiction to be ineligible to compete, but the reasons for such declaration and the period of ineligibility must be reported to the BWF.
 - 9.2.2. Members shall have full responsibility for any support (financial or otherwise) received by Players under their jurisdiction for the purposes of preparation and competition.
 - 9.2.3. Members shall accept and deal with all prizes paid in cash under Regulations 27.2 and 27.3.
 - 9.2.4. Members shall also supervise or administer any sponsorship, contractual or other arrangements entered into, or involving Players under their jurisdiction.
 - 9.2.5. Members shall ensure that Players adhere to all regulations of the BWF, including the Players' Code of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.4) and Players Commitment Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6).
- 9.3. A Member shall be responsible for the management and control of all coaches and team officials under its jurisdiction at any Tournament.
 - 9.3.1. For all Grade 1 and 2 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, every Member shall appoint a Team Manager before the Tournament.
 - 9.3.1.1. In default of such appointment, the Players present at the Tournament shall choose their own Team Manager.
 - 9.3.2. From the time of arrival at the venue, the Team Manager shall assume all administrative and other responsibilities on behalf of the relevant Member and all the Players and team officials in connection with the conduct of the Tournament.
 - 9.3.3. For all Grade 1 and 2 Tournaments the Team Manager must attend any briefing meeting called by the Referee and / or by the Committee of Management. Where there is a failure to comply, Regulation 31 shall be applied.
 - 9.3.4. Members shall ensure that their coaches and team officials adhere to the Coaches and Educators Code of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.6).

10. INVITATIONS AND TOURNAMENT PROSPECTUS

- 10.1. Members organising Tournaments must issue an invitation (i.e. Tournament Prospectus) to Members within the deadline as per the Time Lines for Tournaments

(BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.2), which includes as a minimum the following information:

- 10.1.1. Name of Tournament organiser, telephone and e-mail address;
 - 10.1.2. Venue: full name and address of the Tournament venue;
 - 10.1.3. Key Dates – dates of the Tournament, closing date for entries, M&Q release date, draw date, date for withdrawal without penalty, ranking dates to be used for M&Q and seeding (main and qualifying draws) & draws;
 - 10.1.4. Link for online entry;
 - 10.1.5. Entry fees and the process for payment of the entry fees;
 - 10.1.6. Draw sizes;
 - 10.1.7. Prize money, including the distribution break down and any withholding tax;
 - 10.1.8. Provisional schedule;
 - 10.1.9. Availability of practice facilities – duration and available timing;
 - 10.1.10. Make reference to clothing and advertising regulations;
 - 10.1.11. Hotel booking and payment procedure;
 - 10.1.12. Visa support letter request process and any special information;
 - 10.1.13. Transportation information from point of arrival and between official hotels and venue;
 - 10.1.14. Name and email address for Referees; and
 - 10.1.15. Shuttle brand and model.
- 10.2. The Tournament Organiser is obligated to provide all possible appropriate and timely assistance to Members and Players to obtain visas to enter the Member country where the Tournament is hosted.

11. THE DRAW

- 11.1. The draw for all knock-out Tournaments shall be made in the manner set out below.
 - 11.1.1. In all Grade 1 and 2 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, the seeding shall be done by the BWF.
 - 11.1.2. In all Grade 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments and Continental Championships, the seeding shall be done by the Continental Confederation to which the host country belongs.
 - 11.1.3. In all Multi-sport games requiring sanction by the BWF, the seeding shall be done by the BWF or the Continental Confederation as decided by BWF.
- 11.2. The draw shall be done by the organisation doing the seeding (Regulations 11.1.1, 11.1.2 and 11.1.3), as per the timelines specified in the Time Lines for Tournaments (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.2). The draw must be published as soon as possible after it is done, but in all cases not later than 24 hours after the draw has been made. The qualifying rounds, if any, count as part of the Tournament for these

- purposes. The draw should not be published until it has been approved by the Referee.
- 11.3. Any Player participating in two matches is entitled to a minimum interval of 60 minutes between them. In exceptional circumstances, the Referee can reduce the minimum interval to no less than 30 minutes between two matches.
- 11.4. The draw shall be conducted as follows:
- 11.4.1. When the number of playing units is 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128 or any higher power of 2, they shall meet in pairs in the order drawn, as in Diagram 1 (Technical Diagrams and Tables (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.8)) for eight playing units.
- 11.4.2. When the number of playing units is not a power of 2, there shall be byes in the first round. The number of byes shall be equal to the difference between the next higher power of 2 and the number of playing units, (e. g. with 17 playing units, there are $32-17 = 15$ byes).
- 11.4.3. The byes shall be placed as in the Technical Diagrams and Tables (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.8), Tables 1 to 7 and Diagram 2.
- 11.5. The seeding of the draw at all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments shall be done using the World Ranking for Grade 1, 2 and 3 as published on the reference date (Time Lines for Tournaments (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.2)) even if results are missing. In each Event, the entry which is ranked highest shall be seeded number 1, and the next highest number 2, and so on until all seeds required by Regulation 11.7 are decided.
- 11.6. Before implementing Regulation 11.5 in doubles Events in which the BWF or Continental Confederations do the seeding, the World Ranking of each pair shall be modified for seeding purposes when Regulation 11.6.1 or 11.6.2 applies. (For explanation please refer to the Explanation of Adjusted & Notional Ranking (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.3.4)).
- 11.6.1. If two Players do not have a World Ranking as a pair but the Players have a World Ranking with other partners, a notional ranking is calculated for the pair. An average (the "notional" average) is taken of the highest World Ranking points by each of the two Players with other partners, including eligible World Ranking points from partners who have deregistered or retired. This notional average is converted into the total notional points for the pair by multiplying by 10 and taking 80%. The notional points are used to determine a notional ranking.
- 11.6.1.1. Where two Players are paired together in a BWF sanctioned team Tournament, and play at least one match, that pair would be eligible for notional ranking after three months, as per the normal regulations for a notional ranking.
- 11.6.2. If the two Players have a World Ranking as a pair but have competed in fewer than eight Tournaments that count for World Ranking points in the 52-week period, an adjusted ranking is produced by taking the pair's World Ranking points and adjusting as follows:

Number of Tournaments played in	Adjust by multiplying by:
1	$10/5$
2	$10/5$
3	$10/5$
4	$10/5$
5	$10/5$
6	$10/6$
7	$10/7$

- 11.6.3. The resulting notional ranking as in Regulation 11.6.1 or adjusted ranking as in Regulation 11.6.2 is used to determine the seeding position.
- 11.6.4. A pair may have a seeding from one to four on the basis of any World Ranking but a seeding no higher than five based on any notional ranking and / or adjusted ranking. This only applies in the main draw. However, if the number of Players / pairs having world ranking is less than the permissible number of seeding places, the remaining seeding places can be based on the notional or adjusted world ranking.
- 11.7. To seek even strength throughout the draw, the draw may be seeded or arranged subject to the following restrictions:
- 11.7.1. A maximum of 32 seeds if there are 129 or more entries;
 A maximum of 16 seeds if there are 64 to 128 entries;
 A maximum of eight seeds if there are 32 to 63 entries;
 A maximum of four seeds if there are 16 to 31 entries; or
 Two seeds if there are less than 16 entries.
- See draw structures in the Technical Diagrams and Tables (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.8), Table 1-6.
- 11.7.2. The seeded entries shall be selected as the highest ranked in the Event at that time.
- 11.8. The top two seeded entries shall be dealt with as follows:
- 11.8.1. number 1 placed at the top of the draw; and
- 11.8.2. number 2 placed at the bottom of the draw.
- 11.8.3. Seeded entries shall be placed as detailed in the example draw in Diagram 2. Seeded entries in the top of the draw are placed at the top half of their sections (e.g. eighths or sixteenths), and in the bottom half of the draw at the bottom of their sections.
- 11.9. Placing of byes and seeds in a draw shall be done in accordance with the Diagram in Technical Diagrams and Tables (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.8), Diagram 2 (Sheets 1-4).

- 11.10. The other seeds shall be dealt with having regard to the requirements of Regulation 11.11
- 11.10.1. Numbers 3 and 4 drawn by lot to the remaining two quarters of the draw.
- 11.10.2. Numbers 5 to 8 drawn by lot to the remaining eighths of the draw.
- 11.10.3. Numbers 9 to 16 drawn by lot to the remaining sixteenths of the draw.
- 11.11. **Separation of Entries**
- 11.11.1. For Grade 3 the first and second ranked entries in either the final seeding report and/or the final M&Q report from any one Member shall be drawn by lot in opposite halves of the draw;
- 11.11.2. wherever possible, entries from any one Member shall not meet in the first round.
- 11.12. For the purposes of Regulation 11.11, a qualifying entry or a pair from two different Members shall be regarded as not coming from any particular Member.
- 11.13. The places allocated for any qualifying Players / pairs in the main draw shall be drawn by lot, shall not be placed, and shall not be artificially separated. The main draw shall be made and published before play begins in the qualifying rounds.
- 11.14. Where the draw is done under Regulation 11.13, entry separation (as in Regulation 11.11) shall be ignored, and entry separation (as in Regulation 11.12) shall not apply.

12. QUALIFYING

Principle of qualifying

- 12.1. Where entries exceed places in the main draw, the Tournament organisers are required to play qualifying rounds, as provided for in Regulations 12.2 to 12.5.

Determination of main draw, qualifying draw or reserve list for entries received

- 12.2. The World Ranking shall be used to determine the Players / pairs whose entries can be accepted in the main draw, with the principles of Regulations 11.7.1 and 11.7.2 used to modify the World Ranking regardless of whether or not a pair has competed during the ranking period.

Qualifying draw

- 12.2.1. The Players or pairs not directly in the main draw shall play for a limited number of places and there shall be one place for each eight places in the main draw.
- 12.2.2. In Grade 3 the Players or pairs not directly in the main draw shall play for a limited number of places and there shall be one place for each four places in the main draw.
- 12.2.3. The draw for the qualifying competition shall be done in accordance with Regulation 11.
- 12.3. Any seeding in the qualifying draw shall be done in accordance with Regulation 11.
- 12.4. In Grade 3 it is recommended where as far as possible, the first and second ranked entries in either the final seeding report and/or the final M&Q report from any one

Member shall be drawn by lot into different qualifying sections, and wherever possible, entries from any one Member shall not meet in the first round.

Excess entries for the qualifying draw

12.5. If more Players / pairs enter than the Tournament organisers can accept even in the qualifying draw, the World Ranking (as modified using the principles explained in Regulations 11.5 and 11.6) shall be used to determine the Players / pairs whose entries can be accepted into the qualifying draw, and which entries will be on the reserve list and are to fill any subsequent vacancies that may arise.

12.5.1. If there are more Players / pairs that have the same rank than the available places in the qualifying draw, the selection of entries shall be done by drawing lots (Regulation 12.5.2).

12.6. After taking entries into the main or qualifying draw based on the World Ranking and Adjusted and Notional Rankings (Regulation 11.6), as specified in Section 5.3.3.4 of the BWF Statutes and there are vacancies in the draw to be filled by entries without a World Ranking or Adjusted and Notional Rankings (Regulation 11.7), they shall first be drawn by nationality of such entries and then the entry with the highest national ranking from that country shall fill the vacancy.

This is achieved by randomly ordering the highest unranked entries from all nationalities, followed by randomly ordering all second highest unranked entries from all nationalities, if applicable, followed by randomly ordering the third highest unranked entries from all nationalities, if applicable, and this continues until all unranked entries from all nationalities are randomly ordered.

13. WITHDRAWALS AND PROMOTIONS

13.1. Where Players or pairs withdraw their entry from the main competition, the Referee shall fill the vacancies from the entries in the qualifying rounds or from the reserve list if there is no qualifying draw.

13.1.1. Following the promotion of Qualifying Draw entries to the Main Draw based on ranking as per Regulation 13.1.2, at the Team Managers' Meeting, an entry remaining in the Qualifying Draw which does not have any matches to play to proceed to the Main Draw in a qualifying position (e.g. Q1, Q2, etc.) shall be considered accepted into the Main Draw in that qualifying position and not considered for promotion, should further vacancies arise in the Main Draw.

13.1.2. In Events with a qualifying competition, the Referee shall promote entries from the qualifying draw until play has started in that main draw, provided these entries have not yet lost a match, even stopping a match in progress if required. The highest-ranked entry not accepted in the main draw (as described in Regulation 12.5) and which has not yet lost a match in the qualifying draw can be placed in the vacancy.

13.1.2.1. Players/pairs must accept promotion from the qualifying draw into the main draw to fill a vacancy, or otherwise be considered withdrawn.

13.1.3. In Events with a qualifying competition, the Referee shall promote entries from the reserve list to the qualifying draw, until the order of play for the qualifying draw has been published, except at Grade 3 Tournaments where

Continental Confederations are allowed, should they choose, to continue promotions after the order of play for the qualifying draw has been published. The highest-ranked entry on the reserve list and available (as described in Regulation 12.5) can be placed in the vacancy. Where more than one vacancy arises, the relevant places shall be filled by drawing lots.

13.1.3.1. Players/pairs must accept or decline a promotion from the reserve list to the qualifying draw (for Events with a qualifying competition) within the following timeframes:

- Between the publication of the draw and three days before the team managers' meeting: 72 hours after notification.
- Between three and two days before the team managers' meeting: 48 hours after notification.
- Between two days and one day before the team managers' meeting: 24 hours after notification.
- Within 24 hours before the team managers' meeting: by the team managers' meeting.

If no confirmation is given, the player/pair will be considered as declining the promotion.

13.1.3.2. Players/pairs can decline promotion from the reserve list to the qualifying draw (for Events with a qualifying competition) and will not be considered withdrawn.

13.1.4. In Events without a qualifying competition, the Referee shall promote entries from the reserve list, until the order of play for the first day(s) has been published, except at Grade 3 Tournaments where Continental Confederations are allowed, should they choose, to continue promotions after the order of play for the main draw has been published. The highest-ranked entry on the reserve list and available (as described in Regulation 12.5) can be placed in the vacancy. Where more than one vacancy arises, the relevant places shall be filled by drawing lots.

13.1.4.1. Players/pairs must accept or decline a promotion from the reserve list to the main draw (for Events without a qualifying competition) within the following timeframes:

- Between the publication of the draw and three days before the team managers' meeting: 72 hours after notification.
- Between three and two days before the team managers' meeting: 48 hours after notification.
- Between two days and one day before the team managers' meeting: 24 hours after notification.

- Within 24 hours before the team managers' meeting: by the team managers' meeting.

If no confirmation is given, the player/pair will be considered as declining the promotion.

13.1.4.2. Players/pairs can decline promotion from the reserve list to the main draw (for Events without a qualifying competition) and will not be considered withdrawn.

13.2. The withdrawals reported until the draw is made shall be considered while preparing the draw by amending the list of participants of the main draw and the qualifying draw as well as of any reserve list.

13.3. The withdrawals reported during the period from the draw until the team managers' meeting shall be dealt with in the team managers' meeting according to Regulation 13.1. The organisers shall inform the next eligible Players about their inclusion in the main / qualifying draw.

13.4. The withdrawals reported after the team managers' meeting shall be dealt with by the Referee as and when they arise (as in Regulation 13.1).

13.5. Where vacancies are filled under Regulation 13.1, entry separation (as in Regulation 11.11) shall be ignored.

13.6. Retiring from a match in a Tournament shall not be considered to be a withdrawal.

13.6.1. Should a Player be entered in more than one Event, by retiring or withdrawing from one Event, the Player must be withdrawn from all other Events in which the Player is entered.

13.6.1.1. This forced withdrawal regulation shall not apply to the BWF World Senior Championships.

13.6.2. Retiring or withdrawing in a tie in a Team Tournament means that the Player shall be withdrawn from all subsequent matches in that tie and cannot be substituted.

13.6.2.1. A Player who retires or withdraws from a match in one tie can, however, participate in other matches in future ties in that Team Tournament.

13.6.3. A Player disqualified during a match in a tie in a Team Tournament shall not participate in any subsequent match of that Team Tournament.

13.7. If a Player or pair (not reported as withdrawn) fails to turn up in time for a match, the Referee may declare a 'no show' and award the match as a walkover to the opposing Player or pair.

14. WITHDRAWAL FEES

14.1. It is a condition of entry to a BWF Sanctioned Tournament that the Tournament organisers must be notified by the Member entering the Player of any withdrawal of a Player / pair or team from the Tournament or any Event thereof.

14.1.1. Where such withdrawal is made no later than the Monday immediately preceding the draw no penalty is involved.

14.1.2. Any withdrawal after the Monday immediately preceding the draw for any reason whatsoever, renders the Member concerned liable to a withdrawal fee, due to the inconvenience caused by the withdrawal, of:

14.1.2.1. Grade 1 Tournaments:

- A. Players / pairs obligated under the “Top Committed Players” regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6) shall pay to BWF a withdrawal fee as stated in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5).
- B. Other Players / pairs shall pay to BWF a withdrawal fee as stated in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5).

14.1.2.2. Grade 2 Tournaments:

- A. Players / pairs obligated under the “Top Committed Players” regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.6) shall pay to BWF a withdrawal fee as stated in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5).
- B. Other Players / pairs shall pay to BWF a withdrawal fee as stated in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5).

14.1.2.3. Grade 3 Tournaments:

- A. Players / pairs shall pay to the organisers, Continental Confederation and BWF a withdrawal fee as stated in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5).

14.1.3. Where there is a withdrawal of 10 or more Players by one Member in any given Tournament the penalty as specified in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5) shall apply. The BWF Disciplinary Committee will consider whether any additional penalty to that listed in Regulation 31 (Penalties) is applicable.

14.1.4. Responsibility for the administration of withdrawals and penalties is allocated as per the following table. All responsible organisations shall observe the same principles as the BWF.

Tournament	Responsible	Other arrangements
Grade 1, 2, 3 and Continental	BWF	

Championships		
Olympic Games		BWF and IOC responsible
Continental Multi-sport games		Responsibility assigned as decided by the BWF.
Commonwealth Games		Responsibility assigned as decided by BWF.

14.1.5. The payment of withdrawal fees shall be collected by the BWF and the amount shall be forwarded to the Tournament organisers after US\$ 50 per withdrawal is retained by BWF except as follows:

14.1.5.1. If the Player was entered by the Member under whose jurisdiction the competition was held, the whole payment shall be retained by the BWF.

14.1.5.2. For Grade 1 Tournaments the whole withdrawal fee is retained by the BWF.

14.1.5.3. For Grade 2 Tournaments US\$ 50 is retained by the BWF.

14.1.5.4. For Grade 3 Tournaments US\$ 50 shall be forwarded to the Tournament organisers, US\$ 50 to the Continental Confederation and US\$ 50 retained by the BWF. If the Player was entered by the Member under whose jurisdiction the competition was held, the payment has to be equally divided between the BWF and the Continental Confederation.

14.2. The Referees of all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments must, immediately after the conclusion of the Tournament, advise the BWF through a withdrawal report about all Players (or teams in the case of team competitions) who withdrew from the Tournament after the date specified for withdrawals without fees, or who did not appear (no show).

14.3. For each Player or team in Regulation 14.2, the Referee must advise the BWF of the circumstances of the withdrawal, including whether they were notified.

14.4. The Member concerned will be invoiced with the fees payable by BWF.

15. PROMOTIONS AND REDRAWS

15.1. In Grade 1, 2 and 3 Tournaments except Tournaments with nationally restricted entries, no alterations are permitted to the draw after the draw has been made, except redraws as in Regulation 15.3 or promotions as in Regulation 13.

15.2. No Player (singles) and no pair (doubles) may be moved from one draw position to another.

15.3. The Referee shall do a redraw only if play in that draw has not begun and either:

15.3.1. an error has been made in the control of entries (Regulation 7.1) or making the draw (Regulation 11); or

15.3.2. a particular qualifying draw has been rendered severely imbalanced. A qualifying draw is considered to be severely imbalanced if, after withdrawals

and promotions, more than one qualifying position (e.g. Q1, Q2, etc.) will be unfilled; or

15.3.3. In exceptional circumstances if a particular main draw has been rendered severely imbalanced, provided there is no qualifying.

15.4. A Player (singles), a Player as part of a pair (doubles), or a pair losing a match shall not play again in the same Event in the same Tournament.

16. RANKING IN TOURNAMENTS PLAYED IN GROUPS

16.1. The ranking in Tournaments using a group system shall be determined in accordance with Regulations 16.2 to 16.3

16.2. In case of individual Tournaments:

16.2.1. Ranking in individual Tournaments will be established by the number of matches won.

16.2.2. If two Players / pairs have won the same number of matches, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.

16.2.3. If three or more Players / pairs have won the same number of matches, ranking will be established by the difference between total games won and total games lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

16.2.3.1. If this still leaves two Players / pairs equal, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.

16.2.4. If three or more Players / pairs have won the same number of matches and are equal in the difference between total games won and total games lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total points won and total points lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

16.2.4.1. If this still leaves two Players / pairs equal, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.

16.2.4.2. If three or more Players / pairs are still equal, then ranking will be established by drawing lots.

16.2.5. If illness, injury, disqualification or other unavoidable hindrance or withdrawal prevents a Player / pair completing all the group matches, all the results of that Player / pair shall be deleted. Retiring during a match shall be considered to be not completing all group matches.

16.2.6. A Player / pair is entitled to prize money according to the confirmed result in the respective Event of the Tournament.

16.3. **In case of Team Tournaments:**

16.3.1. Ranking will be established by the number of ties won.

16.3.2. If two teams have won the same number of ties, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.

16.3.3. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties, ranking will be established by the difference between total ties won and total ties lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

16.3.3.1. If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.

16.3.4. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and are equal in the difference between total ties won and total ties lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total matches won and total matches lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

16.3.4.1. If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the ties between them will be ranked higher.

16.3.5. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and are equal in the difference between total ties won and total ties lost and are also equal in the difference between total matches won and total matches lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total games won and total games lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

16.3.5.1. If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.

16.3.6. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and are equal in the difference between total ties won and total ties lost and are equal in the difference between total matches won and total matches lost and are equal in the difference between total games won and total games lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total points won and total points lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

16.3.6.1. If this still leaves two teams equal, the winner of the tie between them will be ranked higher.

16.3.6.2. If three or more teams are still equal, then ranking will be established by drawing lots.

16.3.7. If a team is unable to complete all their group ties, all the results of that team shall be deleted.

16.3.8. If a team is unable to complete a match in a tie (e.g. retiring or conceding a match due to illness, injury or other unavoidable hindrance), the result of that match shall count as if completed without the conceding side scoring another point.

16.4. In group play, the following order, based on the tournament ranking order, is recommended:

Group of 3	Group of 4	Group of 5	Group of 6	Group of 7
1 v 3	1 v 4	1 v 5	1 v 6	1 v 7
	2 v 3	2 v 4	2 v 4	3 v 5
2 v 3			3 v 5	4 v 6
	1 v 3	3 v 5		
1 v 2	2 v 4	1 v 4	1 v 4	1 v 6
			2 v 5	2 v 5
	3 v 4	2 v 5	3 v 6	4 v 7

	1 v 2	1 v 3		
			1 v 3	1 v 5
		4 v 5	2 v 6	2 v 7
		2 v 3	4 v 5	3 v 6
		3 v 4	1 v 5	1 v 4
		1 v 2	2 v 3	2 v 6
			4 v 6	3 v 7
			5 v 6	1 v 3
			3 v 4	2 v 4
			1 v 2	5 v 7
				2 v 3
				4 v 5
				6 v 7
				5 v 6
				3 v 4
				1 v 2

- 16.5. Where there are Players from the same Member in the same group the match or matches between them must be completed first irrespective of their order in the group.

17. MANAGEMENT OF TOURNAMENTS

- 17.1. A Referee shall be appointed for all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.
- 17.1.1. The Referee shall be in overall charge of the Tournament.
- 17.1.2. The Referee or a deputy shall always be present in the hall during the playing of matches.
- 17.2. The BWF shall appoint the Referee for all Grade 1 and 2 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, and the Continental Confederation shall appoint the Referee for all Grade 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments and Continental Championships.
- 17.3. Where requested, the BWF shall appoint the Technical Delegate(s) and the Referee(s) for Multi-sport games.
- 17.4. The duties of the Referee shall include:
- 17.4.1. ensuring that the conduct of the Tournament is in accordance with the Laws of Badminton, the regulations of the BWF and any other regulations pertinent to the particular Tournament;
- 17.4.2. ensure that the Players are given facilities and playing conditions of adequate standard and safety, including apply the relevant requirements according to the Specifications for International Standard Facilities (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.4).
- 17.4.3. approval of the schedule of play and practice schedule; and

- 17.4.4. overall control of the Tournament and ensuring that there is an adequate panel of technical officials of requisite ability and appropriate international representation.
- 17.4.5. There shall be no appeal against the decision of a Referee.
- 17.4.6. The Referee must submit to BWF a Referee's report, which includes a withdrawal report and any appropriate on-court/off-court penalty reports (Players, or teams in the case of team competitions, who withdrew from the Tournament after the date specified for withdrawals without fees, or who did not appear (no show)) at the latest two weeks after the last day of the Tournament.
- 17.5. At all Grade 1 and 2 Tournaments, BWF may appoint a BWF Tournament Director. The duties of the BWF Tournament Director, wherever appointed, shall include:
- 17.5.1. to get all the information regarding the Tournament and to take any necessary actions to ensure that BWF's contractual obligations are met;
- 17.5.2. to give advice to the organisers, ensuring the general organisation is at a desired standard;
- 17.5.3. to ensure proper presentation of the game and co-ordination with TV, other media and publicity.
- 17.5.4. to attend the Tournament and any associated meetings, such as publicity conferences and general social functions;
- 17.5.5. to represent the interests of the BWF in any dispute not the direct responsibility of the Referee; and
- 17.5.6. to support the Referee in his general duties.
- 17.6. **BWF Approved Shuttles**
- 17.6.1. For the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments the shuttles shall conform to the requirements specified in the Specifications for International Standard Facilities (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.4) for the different Grades/Levels of Tournaments.
- 17.7. **Competition, Warm Up and Practice Courts**
- 17.7.1. For the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments the Competition, warm up and practice court requirements shall conform to the requirements specified in Section 5.3.4 of the BWF Statutes for the different Grades/Levels of Tournaments.
- 17.7.2. The practice schedule must be approved by the Referee in advance of the Tournament.

18. ADVERTISING IN THE PLAYING AREA

- 18.1. The only allowable display of advertising in words or pictures anywhere within a two-metre clear space behind the baselines and 1.5 metre clear space from the side lines (see also Specifications for International Standard Facilities (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.4) or over the court itself must satisfy Regulations 18.2 to 18.9.
- 18.2. Any form of advertising in the playing area must not distract Players, spectators or TV viewers, or cause any confusion with the court lines.

The Court

- 18.3. A maximum of two identical emblems of a Tournament sponsor can be situated flush with the court surface at each end of the court. These may be situated such that these are outside each baseline at each end of the court 30 centimetres or more away and clearly separated. Each emblem can be 170 centimetres or less by 30 centimetres or less.
- 18.4. Two emblems of a Tournament sponsor can be situated flush with the court surface in the area under the net, the same distance from each of the two short service lines and from each of the side lines for singles. Each emblem can be 250 centimetres or less by 100 centimetres or less.
- 18.5. There is no restriction on the shape of the advertisement(s). No 3D advertising can be made on the surface of the court. However, non-slip materials with similar properties to the rest of the playing surface must be used to apply / display advertisements.

The Net

- 18.6. No advertisement will be permitted on the net except as described in 18.7.
- 18.7. A maximum of two net supplier's emblems can appear on the net. If present, they should be placed such that there is one on each end of the net on opposite sides of the court. Each emblem must be placed on the white tape at a distance of four centimetres from the post and can be 3.5 centimetres high or less and 10 centimetres broad or less.

18.8. The Posts

18.8.1. Post Pole

Each post pole can have a maximum of two identical emblems on the pole. Each emblem must face an end of the court, be flush with the surface of the post and be 30 centimetres high or less and three centimetres broad or less.

18.8.2. Base of Post

Each base of the post can have a maximum of three emblems of the same brand. These must be flush with the surface of the base of the post and be 30 centimetres high or less.

Umpire's and service judge's chair

- 18.9. The umpire's and service judge's chairs are permitted to have advertising.

18.10. The Service Height Measuring Device

- 18.10.1. The service height measuring device can have a maximum of two identical emblems on the pole. Each emblem must face an end of the court, be flush with the surface of the device and be 30 centimetres high or less and three centimetres broad or less.

19. VIRTUAL IMAGING OR ADVERTISING

Use of any virtual imaging or advertising on the TV signal at BWF Sanctioned Tournaments is not permitted without prior written approval of the BWF except where rights are granted to Continental Confederations or other promoting organisations.

20. PLAYER AND COACH CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- 20.1. For the purpose of these regulations, an article of Player clothing shall be defined as anything worn or carried by a Player on the Field of Play, except the racket, and including, but not limited to, pullovers, shirts, shorts, skirts, socks, shoes, headbands (including headscarves and turbans), towels, wristbands, bandages and medical supports.
- 20.2. For the purposes of these regulations, a Coach refers to all Coaches, Team Managers, and/or other Participants in a coaching capacity for a match on the Field of Play. An article of Coach clothing shall be defined as anything worn by a Coach while in a coaching capacity for a match, but not limited to jackets, shirts, pants, skirts, and shoes.
- 20.3. In order to ensure attractive presentation of Badminton at Tournaments organised or sanctioned by the BWF, all clothing worn by Players and Coaches shall be acceptable badminton sports clothing. It is not acceptable to tape over nor to pin on advertising nor in any other way to modify such clothing to comply with advertising or other regulations.
- 20.4. Regulations regarding advertising apply to Player clothing worn on the Field of Play and Coach clothing worn on the Field of Play.
 - 20.4.1. Advertising regulations for Player shirts govern Coach jackets and/or shirt.
 - 20.4.2. Advertising regulations for Player shorts and skirts govern Coach pants.
- 20.5. In applying Regulations 20 to 24 the decision of the Referee at each Tournament shall be final.

21. COLOUR OF PLAYERS' CLOTHING

- 21.1. In all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, including those organised by the BWF and multi-sport games, each article of clothing may be of any colour or combination of colours.
- 21.2. **Team Competitions**

In all BWF team championships (i.e. World Men's & Women's Team Championships, World Team Championships and World Junior Team Championships) Players must wear team colours. Each Player must wear the same colour and design of shirts and shorts (or equivalent articles of clothing) throughout a tie.
- 21.3. For all team championships, preferred colours of shirts should be registered with the BWF.
- 21.4. **Singles matches**

Each Player must wear, as far as colour and design is concerned, shirts and shorts (or equivalent articles of clothing) throughout a match in accordance with the

Summary Sheet for GCR 21 & 23 (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.7), and no change of colours is allowed.

21.5. **Doubles matches**

Each Player in a given pair must wear shirts and shorts (or equivalent articles of clothing) of the same colour and similar design throughout a match in accordance with the Summary Sheet for GCR 21 & 23 (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.7). No change of colours is allowed.

21.6. In individual and team championships if the opposing Players / pairs involved in a match are not wearing significantly different coloured clothing, the Player / pair ranked lower will be required to wear clothing of a significantly different colour. Where both Players / pairs have the same or no ranking the Player or pair listed lower in the latest version of the M&Q report made for the Tournament will be required to change the colour of clothing.

21.7. **Television Court**

BWF may insist that Players on the television court(s) change the colour of their shirt or shorts or skirt or dress to avoid problems with the implementation of the on court virtual advertising.

22. DESIGNS ON PLAYERS' CLOTHING

22.1. In all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, including those organised by the BWF and Multi-sport games, each article of clothing may only bear a design as provided in Regulations 22.2 to 22.4.

22.2. Designs should be abstract and devoid of advertising, representational, commercial or promotional content. Figurative and pictorial representations may be included as part of an overall abstract design. BWF are the sole arbiters of what constitutes an abstract design.

22.3. The front of the shirt may carry the flag along with the country name or abbreviation thereof or national emblem of the association represented not exceeding 20 square centimetres in total. The country name on its own and / or along with sponsor's name or logo shall not be permitted.

22.4. A design is allowed when it forms part of an advert permitted by Regulation 24 and falls wholly within the permitted dimensions.

23. LETTERING ON PLAYERS' AND COACHES' CLOTHING

23.1. In all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, including those organised by the BWF itself, and Multi-sport games, each article of clothing may only have visible lettering as provided in Regulations 23.2 to 23.6.

23.2. Colour, style and height of lettering

23.2.1. Lettering shall be in capital letters in the Roman alphabet (except as in Regulation 23.6.2), and in one single colour contrasting with that of the shirt.

23.2.2. If there is a pattern on the back of the shirt, the lettering should be on a contrasting panel.

23.2.3. In order that the Player's name can be seen from a distance for spectators in the stadium and television viewers, lettering must be a minimum height of six centimetres and a maximum height of 10 centimetres.

23.2.4. The country name must be a height of five centimetres.

23.2.5. Lettering should be horizontal, or as close to horizontal as practically possible, and placed near the top of the shirt.

23.3. **Player names**

Any name of a Player appearing on the back of the shirt must be in accordance with the Summary Sheet for GCR 21 & 23 (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.7). On Player clothing the Player's name, if used, shall be identical with the name registered as the Last Name (or an abbreviation thereof) in the BWF Player database, and if desired, the initial(s) of the name(s) registered as the First Name in the BWF Player database. Last Name is defined as the family name, surname or similar name under the respective naming protocol of the Member country.

23.4. **Coach Name**

The name of the Coach, affiliated organisation, or "COACH" is allowed on the back of the jacket or shirt.

23.5. **Country Name**

The name of the Player's or Coaches' country may appear on the back of the shirt and must be in accordance with the Summary Sheet for GCR 21 & 23 (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.7), but, if used, shall meet all requirements of Regulation 23. The country name, if used, shall be either full country name in English or Olympic approved abbreviation.

23.6. **Lettering sequence and use in advertisements**

23.6.1. The sequence on the shirt from top to bottom shall be Player Name (if present), country name (if present), and advert (if present).

23.6.2. Lettering is also allowed when it forms part of an advert permitted by Regulation 24, and falls wholly within the permitted dimensions. Such lettering can then be in any alphabet.

24. ADVERTISING ON PLAYERS' AND COACHES' CLOTHING

24.1. In all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments, including those organised by the BWF, articles of clothing may only have advertising as provided in Regulation 24. In Multi-sport games, the same regulation applies unless the Multi-sports games organiser (e.g. IOC/Olympic Games) have specific variations to these regulations, in which case the regulations of the Multi-sport games organiser take precedence.

24.2. The shirt may carry advertising as in Regulation 24.2.

24.2.1. A maximum of one advertisement may appear on each of the following locations; left sleeve, right sleeve, left shoulder, right shoulder, left collar, right collar, right chest, left chest and centre chest. The shoulder is defined as the visible part of the shoulder on the front of the shirt. There must be no more than five advertisements in total and National flags or emblems for the purpose

of this regulation count as advertisements. Each advertisement, including National flags or emblems, must be 20 square centimetres or less.

24.2.1.1. One advertisement is allowed on a compression/support sleeve as substitute for the advertisement allowed in Regulation 24.2.1 on the right sleeve (for compression/support sleeve worn on the right arm), or on the left sleeve (for compression/support sleeve worn on the left arm).

24.2.2. In addition to the above, one BWF mark may be worn in the form of a non-commercial emblem, as defined by BWF from time to time (e.g. BWF logo, integrity campaign logo or similar). The mark must not exceed 20 square centimetres and must follow the definition of the mark outlined by BWF. The mark can appear on any of the following locations not already used for advertising or a national flag or emblem: left sleeve, right sleeve, left shoulder, right shoulder, left collar, right collar, right chest, left chest and centre chest.

24.2.3. One advertisement contained in a band of uniform width not exceeding 10 centimetres on the front and one advertisement not exceeding five centimetres on the back. Such a band may be at any angle and may be on the front of the shirt, the back of the shirt, or both.

24.2.4. If, in the BWF's sole judgment, there is a clash between the content of the advertising in Regulation 24.2 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 in Regulation 24.2.

24.3. Other Clothing

24.3.1. Each sock may carry two advertisements (including manufacturers' logos/emblems) of 20 square centimetres or less. The total number of advertisements allowed on each leg/foot is just two should a Player or Coach wear a compression/support sock or compression/support pants (full leg) as well as a regular sock.

24.3.2. Advertising on shoes is accepted subject to the make and model of shoe being made available in the open market.

24.3.3. Each other article of clothing may carry one advertisement of 20 square centimetres or less. It is recommended that the advertising be placed in the locations noted in the Visual Guide for BWF Player Clothing Advertising Regulations (BWF Statutes 5.1.2).

24.3.3.1. One advertisement is allowed on compression/support shorts (those not defined as 'underclothing' in Regulation 24.3.4) or compression/support pants (full leg) as substitute for the advertisement allowed in 24.3.3.

24.3.4. Clothing worn under Player or Coach shirts, shorts, skirts or dresses, shall be known as 'underclothing' and not categorised as 'articles of clothing', and if visible must not display advertising.

24.3.5. Advertising for tracksuits for prize presentation ceremonies is governed by Clause 24 as follows: Regulations for shirts govern tracksuit jackets; and Regulations for shorts govern tracksuit pants.

24.4. **Member Advertising**

24.4.1. Members may use an area not exceeding fifty square centimetres on their Players' or Coaches' shorts or lower part of dresses or skirts.

24.4.2. The area shall be used for a Member's logo or an advertisement for a Member's sponsor provided it conforms to Regulation 24.5.

24.4.3. If the Member does not use such area, that area shall not be utilized for any other advert.

24.4.4. If Players or Coaches wear Member advertising on their shorts or skirts, or lower part of dresses at a Tournament this must be the advertising permitted by the BWF. All Players or Coaches from the same Member in a Tournament do not have to wear advertising on their shorts, skirts, or lower part of dresses.

24.4.5. Any Member wishing to use this type of advertising must have written permission from the BWF for doing so. BWF will invite the Members to seek permission in January, but a Member can seek separate permission at any time during the year. Any permission must be sought and given a minimum of two months before a Tournament.

24.5. **Restrictions on the advertising**

24.5.1. The advertisements in Regulations 24.2, 24.3 and 24.4 may be the clothing manufacturer's emblem or that of any sponsor.

24.5.2. Each advertisement shall only be of one organisation or product.

24.5.3. The advertisements shall not contain any political, religious messages or anything which is not a commercial brand, registered mark or trade mark (e.g. I don't have a sponsor, I am nice, etc.).

24.5.4. Players may not display any tattoo, paint, taping, transfer or similar means (which are not on clothing) which is illegal, defamatory or commercial in nature or which otherwise carries an assertive political or religious message.

24.5.5. Advertising of tobacco and electronic cigarettes (e.g. vaping) related companies and products is prohibited.

24.5.6. Technology marks related to the material on clothing or similar are allowed at a maximum of 10 square centimetres or less.

25. CLOTHING REGULATIONS FOR UMPIRES WHERE A UNIFORM HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED

25.1. The Tournament organiser is entitled to provide a uniform to the umpires and the uniform may carry advertising as approved by BWF for Grade 1 and 2 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments and as approved by the respective Continental Confederation for Grade 3 Tournaments.

25.2. For Grade 2 and 3 BWF Sanctioned Tournaments where the Tournament organiser is not providing a uniform:

- 25.2.1. The umpires are to bring their own uniform, consisting of black pants or skirt, a black collared shirt with pocket, black socks, and black shoes.
- 25.2.2. Only one manufacturer's logo and one additional advertisement are allowed on the shirt and each logo must not be larger than 20 square centimetres.
- 25.2.3. If, in the BWF's sole judgment, there is a clash between the content of the advertising in Regulation 25.2.2 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.
- 25.2.4. Only one BWF, Continental Confederation, or Member logo, as appropriate, is allowed on the shirt. This logo is reflective of the level of accreditation or certification achieved by the respective umpire, and provided to the umpire by the respective organisation. This logo must not be larger than 20 square centimetres.

26. RESULTS

- 26.1. The results for all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments must either be e-mailed to the BWF, using the stipulated software file on a daily basis or be uploaded to BWF servers using the stipulated Tournament management software on a daily basis.
- 26.2. Final results for all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments must either within 24 hours of the conclusion of the Tournament, be e-mailed to the BWF using the stipulated software file or be uploaded to the BWF servers using the stipulated Tournament management software. In case of contingency, the print out of the updated draws must be electronically communicated within the stipulated time. Those not received will be excluded from the World Ranking.

27. PRIZE MONEY

- 27.1. Under no circumstances may a Player be offered or paid money or goods to play matches other than exhibition matches (as defined in Regulation 2.8) except what is paid to a Player as prize money.
- 27.2. Prize money may be awarded to Players in all international Tournaments sanctioned by the BWF and paid in cash or via bank transfer as defined in these regulations. Any prizes in kind shall be awarded over and above the prize money as additional prizes. The entry form or Tournament Prospectus for the Tournament shall set out the total value of the prize money and must be quoted in US dollars.
- 27.3. In a Tournament where the total prize money is less than US \$75,000 (Grade 3 Tournaments) this prize money may be given directly to the Player concerned during the Tournament, or in accordance with the instructions of the Player's Member.
- 27.4. Prize money from Tournaments with larger prize funds
 - 27.4.1. In a Tournament where the total prize fund is US \$75,000 or more, and Grade 2 Tournaments, all prizes must be paid in accordance with Regulations 27.4.2 to 27.4.6.
 - 27.4.2. All prize money must be paid to the BWF (for Grade 2) or Continental Confederation (for Grade 3, Continental Championships or where applicable)

within two weeks of the end of the Tournament. Upon receipt, the BWF or Continental Confederation shall, without delay, remit the appropriate amounts to the Members of the Players concerned.

27.4.3. If prize money is not received by the BWF or Continental Confederations after two weeks, an interest surcharge of 5.0% per annum (calculated on a weekly basis) on any outstanding amount will be added to the total prize money due, where this interest to accrue on the first day of each succeeding week that the payment is outstanding.

27.4.4. Proof of payment of withholding tax must be supplied to the BWF or Continental Confederations within nine months of the Tournament or sanction of future Tournaments may be withdrawn. Individual withholding tax certificates in appropriate legal form in each Player's name shall be issued along with such proof of payment, so that the Player will be able to take credit of such withholding tax, if allowable, in his country.

27.4.5. The BWF or Continental Confederations shall not have any responsibility for paying to Members any prize money that have not been paid in accordance with Regulation 27.4.2.

27.4.6. 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.

28. DIVISION OF PRIZE MONEY

28.1. The division of prize money in the Distribution of Prize Money regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.5) is mandatory for the BWF Sanctioned Tournaments in Grade 2 in the following way:

- Table 1: Prize money division for Grade 2, Level 1
- Table 2: Prize money division for Grade 2, Level 2 and Level 3
- Table 3: Prize money division for Grade 2 Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6

The Prize money division for Grade 2, Level 5 and Level 6 is recommended for BWF Sanctioned Tournaments in Grade 3, including all other Tournaments with a comparable number of entries.

28.2. The BWF will retain the undistributed prize money in all BWF Grade 2 Tournaments, and Continental Confederations will retain the undistributed prize money in all Grade 3 Tournaments, where the entry is so low that the prize money is not fully distributed.

28.3. To be eligible to receive prize money the Player / pair must have achieved a confirmed result in the respective Event of the Tournament. For the purpose of this regulation a confirmed result can be achieved through winning via a walk over or losing through retiring, while having a bye position in the first match is not considered having achieved a confirmed result.

29. INTEGRITY

- 29.1. Doping control is regulated by the provisions of the Anti-Doping Regulations (BWF Statutes, Section 2.3) which shall apply to all Tournaments run directly or indirectly under the auspices of the BWF or one of its Members, whether or not the Tournament needs sanction by the BWF. The BWF encourages doping control at all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments.
- 29.2. Monitoring, investigation and penalties is regulated by the provisions of the “Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions” (BWF Statutes, Section 2.4), which shall apply to all Tournaments run directly or indirectly under the auspices of the BWF or one of its Members, whether or not the Tournament needs sanction by BWF.

30. WORLD RANKING SYSTEM

The BWF will implement and modify the World Ranking System according to the Section 5.3.3.1 of the BWF Statutes. To be eligible for World Ranking points the Player / pair must have achieved a confirmed result in the respective Event of the Tournament. For the purpose of this regulation a confirmed result can be achieved through winning via a walk over or losing through retiring, while having a bye position in the first match is not considered having achieved a confirmed result.

31. PENALTIES

- 31.1. Any Participant who commits an offence as referred to in Regulation 31.2 shall be levied with a penalty as stated in Regulation 31.2 and any financial penalties are to be retained by the BWF.
- 31.2. For the details of offences covered (including betting/wagering offences) under this regulation and penalties payable, please refer to the GCR and to the following documents:
 - Players’ Codes of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.4);
 - Coaches and Educators Code of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.6);
 - Technical Officials Code of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.5);
 - Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5);
 - Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions (BWF Statutes, Section 2.4).
- 31.3. The penalty for the offences shall be based on the Referee’s Report for that Tournament and any other information obtained by the BWF from any source.
- 31.4. The Referee shall send a report for any misconduct warranting a penalty or disqualification of a Participant included in the GCR and in the following documents:
 - Players’ Codes of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.4);
 - Coaches and Educators Code of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.6);
 - Technical Officials Code of Conduct (BWF Statutes, Section 2.2.5).
- 31.5. Any Participant who is issued a black card in any BWF Sanctioned Tournament shall be disqualified from participating in all Events (in case of a team

championships including subsequent matches and ties) in the Tournament in which the black card was issued.

31.6. On receipt of a report of a black card or a report misconduct warranting a penalty or disqualification (Regulation 31.4), the BWF shall immediately initiate disciplinary proceedings as per the BWF Judicial Procedures.

31.7. If the Member fails to settle the withdrawal fee or penalty within 60 days of receipt of the original invoice, the Member concerned shall be barred from entering any Player in all BWF Sanctioned Tournaments until the fee or penalty is paid.

31.8. **Review of Penalties**

31.8.1. The Participant being imposed the penalty and his/her Member may request a review of the penalty within 10 days of receipt of the penalty.

31.8.2. Where requested under Regulation 31.8.1, the penalty shall be reviewed by the Secretary General. Subject to Regulation 31.9, the finding of the Secretary General shall be final and binding.

31.9. **Appeal of Penalties**

31.9.1. Where appealable, review of decisions may be appealed as Administrative Fines under the BWF Judicial Procedures (BWF Statutes, Section 3.1).

31.9.2. Where the Sports Disciplinary Panel is satisfied that the offence causing the penalty did not occur, was outside the control of the Participant, due to force majeure, or for any other reason beyond the control of the Participant, the penalty may be waived.

31.9.3. The following penalties and fees are not appealable:

- All breaches of the Players' Code of Conduct with an associated fine of \$500 USD or less;
- All breaches of the Coaches' and Educators Code of Conduct with an associated fine of \$500 USD or less;
- All breaches of the GCR Regulations 20-24 (Player and Coach Clothing) with an associated fine of \$500 USD or less;
- All Yellow Cards;
- All Red Cards; and
- All Withdrawal fees.

31.9.4. For those penalties and fees which are not appealable, the Member may formally file a complaint to the BWF through the procedure described in the Complaint Procedure (BWF Statutes, Section 3.2).

32. IMPLEMENTATION, MODIFICATION AND PENALTIES

32.1. The BWF has full authority to implement, interpret or modify these regulations and to impose penalties on any Member or Participant directly for infringement of any of the regulations. The Members of the offending Player(s) may also be instructed to take specified disciplinary action.

- 32.2. The BWF shall, on its own or on proposal from its Members, have power to grant a dispensation from any of the General Competition Regulations (including the its sub-sections), in cases where extraordinary or unforeseen circumstances apply. Such dispensation must be approved by the Chair of the Events Committee.