



BWF President Poul-Erik Hoyer and BWF Council Members celebrate the end of another successful Annual General Meeting with volunteers in Dongguan, China, in May.

HIGHLIGHTS

BWF MEMBERS MEET...AND MINGLE (PAGES 7-8)

INSTITUTIONAL ROUND-UP (PAGE 10)

KEY DATES

03-14 July	2015 Universiade Gwanju (FISU), Gwanju (Korea)
11-16 July	XVII Pan Am Games Toronto 2015 (Multi-Sport Games), Toronto
14-19 July	Yonex Open Chinese Taipei 2015 (Grand Prix Gold), Taipei
10-16 August	TOTAL BWF World Championships (BWF Major Event), Jakarta
02-05 September	2015 African Continental Championships (Team), Brazzaville (Congo)
07-09 September	2015 African Continental Championships (Individual), Brazzaville (Congo)
08-13 September	BWF Para-Badminton World Championships (BWF Major Event), Stoke Mandeville (England)
08-13 September	Yonex Open Japan (Superseries), Tokyo
15-20 September	Victor Korea Open (Superseries), Seoul
20-26 September	BWF World Senior Championships 2015 (BWF Major Event) Helsingborg, (Sweden)
29 September -04 October	SCG Thailand Open 2015 (Grand Prix Gold), Bangkok

FISU SAYS 'YES'

Badminton will be part of the compulsory sports programme of the Summer Universiade from 2021.

The Executive Committee of the International University Sports Federation (FISU) has unanimously accepted the Badminton World Federation's (BWF) application for badminton to become part of the Universiade sports programme. This followed a presentation by a three-member delegation, led by BWF President Poul-Erik Hoyer and including BWF Development Chair, David Cabello (also a FISU Executive Committee member), and BWF Director of Operations, Stuart Borrie, on Wednesday 1 July.

Addressing FISU's Executive Committee meeting in Gwangju, Korea, Hoyer explained the benefits which could arise from badminton's inclusion on the Universiade sports programme. Thereafter, the Executive Committee determined BWF had fulfilled all the criteria for badminton's admission as a compulsory sport.

"We are pleased to have been successful in our application. It is certainly another significant step for badminton on the global stage and we look forward to its debut as a compulsory sport in 2021," said Hoyer, noting this ties in with BWF's development plans.

"There is a lot of scope to develop badminton among universities and other tertiary-level institutions and today is a step in the right direction, especially given our focus on this segment of the global community.

"Last year we introduced a university version of Shuttle Time – our grassroots development programme – geared at trainee teachers and sports students who are seeking to become physical education or class teachers. This enables physical education teachers to introduce badminton in a fun and safe manner to children and this not only creates a new base of tutors but, more importantly, increases badminton's sustainability in non-traditional badminton countries by providing

a natural source of badminton-trained teachers for schools.

"So we are constantly working to address badminton-related needs on the global university landscape – and it's good to see various parts of our strategic plan coming together."

In a press statement, FISU noted "badminton is an ideal sport for the university environment".

"The 2015 FISU Sport survey tells us it is the sixth most-popular individual sport within the World University Championships structure, and the fourth most-popular choice of sport to be included in the Summer Universiade, with low infrastructure impact for competition and training venues. It is exciting for FISU because badminton complements FISU's values and relationships: it is a core Olympic sport, it has a global presence and equal gender representation, and current and future ambitions in its educational programmes which mirror FISU's aspirations.

"Beyond this, the number of high-profile players either within, or having passed through higher education offers FISU-BWF a mutually attractive market potential, and opportunities for the sector to directly support player development, research in both applied science support and technical innovation.

Having badminton join the FISU family is a win-win situation for us all!"

Until badminton was included, the Summer Universiade had 11 compulsory sports which hosts must have in the programmes – and they can add up to three optional sports. Badminton has been hosted as an optional sport at most of the recent Summer Universiades – Bangkok 2007, Shenzhen 2011, Kazan 2013 and again this week in Gwangju. Badminton will also be hosted as an optional sport in 2017 when the Summer Universiade will be hosted in Taiwan.

**CELEBRATING BWF'S
81ST ANNIVERSARY
5 JULY 1934 - 5 JULY 2015**



Poul-Erik Høyer
BWF President

Dear Colleagues and Friends

We are already halfway through this badminton season and the flurry of activity continues on various levels as we approach one of the year's high points – the TOTAL BWF World Championships – at which we will crown our World title-holders for the next two years, as we skip the championships during Olympic years.

This Major Event is of particular importance, not only for the points which top finishers will earn towards their Olympic qualification for Rio 2016, but also because it heralds the formal start of our partnership with Total as title sponsor of BWF Major Events for the next four years. This landmark deal with the global energy giant underlines the enormity of badminton's growth recently; the esteem in which our sport is now held in the sports-sponsorship realm and the calibre of partnerships to which we can aspire to mutual advantage.

Within our Major Events family, these partnerships currently include Chery, Li-Ning and RedBull China – in long-term deals – and we are also pleased to welcome Xiamen Airlines as a sponsor specially for these World Championships. Such alliances have allowed us to grow badminton for the benefit of our membership, players and other key stakeholders – and we are sincerely grateful for this important support.

I have no doubt this edition of the World Championships will be one of the best ever. Badminton is experiencing a remarkable phase. No single country is dominant; challengers and champions have arisen from all parts of the world. Quality is fairly evenly spread among our top players which makes it impossible to predict who will win. There is also a balance of experienced and youthful players which adds to the drama. The TOTAL BWF World Championships will be one of the last shots at career-defining glory for some athletes while, for others, it could launch their reputation as world-beaters. In short, we have all the makings for a week of amazing action and great suspense.

Speaking strictly as a fan, I must admit I can't wait!

On a related note, I would like to congratulate China on its retention of the Sudirman Cup – the World Mixed Team Championship – on home turf in Dongguan in May. It was another impressive display by the top-ranked hosts who not only played well but expertly staged the biennial tournament in which 35 teams competed. All associated activities, such as the BWF Annual General Meeting and Member's Forum, were a success and well attended by our global membership.

Another significant development which took place on the Sudirman Cup's sidelines was the election of new members to the BWF Athletes' Commission. I'm pleased to welcome Shintaro Ikeda (Japan) and Koen Ridder (Netherlands) who were voted in by their peers as well as China's Tang Yuanting, automatically elected as the lone female nominee. Additionally, may I congratulate Yuhuan Tan on assuming the role of Athletes' Commission Chair and therefore joining us on the BWF Council. Yours is a crucial role and I wish you all the best in representing your fellow athletes. We look forward to your contributions in our deliberations.

I wish to conclude with Happy 90th Birthday greetings to a BWF stalwart to whom we will always be indebted for his vision and courage in paving the way for some of the most significant developments in badminton's history, including our sport's entrance into the Olympic Games.

Sweden's Stellan Mohlin has undoubtedly been one of badminton's pioneering statesmen and this Honorary Life Vice-President's invaluable contribution will long be remembered. On the occasion of his 90th birthday on Saturday 11 July, we salute him and wish him the very best for the future.

Poul-Erik Høyer

CHAN 'KONG-QUERS' ALL

Some of the top names in the para-badminton world were in action in the Carlton Irish Para-Badminton International in Dublin from 26-28 June.

Hong Kong's Chan Ho Yuen was the big winner grabbing three gold medals in the WH 2 sport class. Not only did he claim the Men's Singles title, ousting Jordy Brouwer Von Gonzonbach of the Netherlands in the final, but he also teamed up with France's David Toupe to take Men's Doubles honours in the WH 1/WH 2 combined competition and with Karin Suter-Erath of Switzerland to win WH 1/WH 2 Mixed Doubles.

Meanwhile, Suter-Erath was among a group of five athletes who won two golds; the others being Lucas Mazur (France); David Toupe (France), Bartłomiej Mroz (Poland) and Ermine Seckin (Turkey). The latter triumphed in WH 2 Women's Singles and WH 1/WH 2 Women's Doubles, partnered by Germany's Elke Rongen. Top seed Mroz overcame Singapore's Tay Wei Ming in the SU 5 Men's Singles final before prevailing in Men's Doubles with Turkey's Ilker Tuzcu.

In other results, England's Krysten Coombs and Jack Shephard took the SS 6 Doubles crown while Ireland's Niall McVeigh kept home fans happy with victory in SS 6 Men's Singles.

PARA
BADMINTON
IRELAND



Chan Ho Yuen (left) and David Toupe.



Bartłomiej Mroz



Niall McVeigh and Wong Chun Yim (right) in action.



BWF Vice-President Para-Badminton Paul Kurzo presents a token of appreciation to Badminton Ireland President Breda Connolly.



Krysten Coombs



Bobby Griffin competed in the SL 4 sport class.



Ermine Seckin



26 YEARS ON... CLASSIC IN THE MAKING

Over 25 years after it last hosted the BWF World Championships, Jakarta will once again welcome the world's best players for the sport's ultimate prize.

The Istora Senayan, where many epic battles have been fought and reputations built and shattered, will provide the setting as the biggest contemporary names seek glory.

Located within the Gelora Bung Karno Sports Complex – built for the fourth Asian Games in 1962 – this indoor stadium is perhaps the most famous badminton venue. In times past, throngs of spectators were so tightly packed in that they extended close to the sidelines, with the smoky, humid environs providing a daunting challenge to players. More recently, however, the air-conditioned arena does not have these distractions. What makes the Istora Senayan a universal favourite among players is the feverish enthusiasm of fans and that unique feature has not changed over the decades. If anything it has become more entrenched and there is therefore little doubt this colourful backdrop will be filled to capacity on each day of the TOTAL BWF World Championships, starting Monday 10 August.

When Jakarta hosted the World Championships in 1989, the tournament began a day after the inaugural Sudirman Cup which the hosts won. The toll of the back-to-back competition was evident, as local favourite Susi Susanti fell in the Women's Singles quarter-finals to Huang Hua of China. Denmark's Morten Frost saw his World Championships dream evaporate as he lost to emerging Indonesian star Ardy Wiranata in the fifth round of Men's Singles.

Wiranata went on to reach the final against defending champion Yang Yang of China (4). The young Indonesian made a match of it despite a gruelling semi-final over compatriot Eddy Kurniawan, but the stamina and guile of the left-handed Chinese proved too much for Wiranata in the end, 15-10 2-15 15-5. The legendary Li Lingwei (1) claimed the Women's Singles crown beating compatriot Huang Hua 11-6 12-9. China wrapped up the event with four titles, including the Men's Doubles (Li Yongbo/Tian Bingyi 3) and Women's Doubles (Lin Ying/Guan Weizhen). The only exception to Chinese domination was in Mixed Doubles, which was won by Korea's Park Joo Bong (2) and Chung Myung Hee over Indonesia's Eddy Hartono/Verawaty Fajirin. Having won her second world title, Li Lingwei announced her retirement.

Interestingly, some of these personalities are still actively involved in international badminton. While Li Yongbo has achieved vast success as China's head coach (assisted by his former partner Tian Bingyi), Park Joo Bong has taken Japan to unprecedented heights as the country's head coach. Li Lingwei, a BWF Council Member since 2005 and now Deputy Chair of the BWF Events Committee, became an International Olympic Committee member in 2012. Returning to the scene of one of their great triumphs is bound to be nostalgic.

The 1989 World Championships was the sixth edition of the event, after it debuted in 1977 in Malmö (Sweden). Originally slated to be held every three years, the interval was reduced to two after 1983. It became an annual event from 2005 onwards.

The TOTAL BWF World Championships 2015 will be the 22nd edition of the prestigious event and has all the ingredients to be classic that is long remembered. All five categories boast the crème de la crème and are evenly balanced.

The stage is set for intrigue...and upsets!

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...AND WHAT ABOUT THE DEFENDING CHAMPIONS?



In **Men's Singles**, defending champion Chen Long **(2)**, having won three World Superseries titles this year, is the obvious favourite. But Chen has not been infallible – he suffered losses to Hong Kong's Hu Yun and India's Kashyap Parupalli, and was nearly upstaged in The Star Australian Open final by young Dane Viktor Axelsen. It is worth noting Chen's demise to Parupalli came in the BCA Indonesia Open quarter-finals at the very Istora Senayan.

Spain's Carolina Marin **(1)** has been in stellar form in **Women's Singles** this year, with three titles. Marin showed that her injury troubles of last year were behind her as she won the Yonex All England, the Maybank Malaysia Open and The Star Australian Open. Her stated goal is to retain the crown she won in dramatic fashion last season and it is left to be seen who will challenge this gritty competitor who is currently the world No.1 also.

Men's Doubles titlists Ko Sung Hyun/Shin Baek Choel of Korea **(3)** were missing in action for most of the season until they turned up in Australia where they made the quarter-finals. The next week, however, they hit peak form, winning the BCA Indonesia Open, ensuring they would be among the pairs to watch at Worlds.

Women's Doubles champions Tian Qing and Zhao Yunlei of China played just one event together this season – the All England, in which they reached the semi-finals – following which Tian was paired with other partners, while Zhao focused on Mixed Doubles. Having played so infrequently together, it will be interesting to see how well they fare.

Zhao is also defending **Mixed Doubles** honours with Zhang Nan **(4)**. They suffered a rare loss to compatriots Xu Chen/Ma Jin in the Indonesia Open final. Otherwise they have been unbeaten all season. Continuing their winning form from 2014, the top-ranked duo picked up the All England, Malaysia Open and Singapore Open titles while helping China defend the Sudirman Cup on home turf.



FOLLOW THE RACE TO RIO!

Badminton players are in race mode, trying to qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games and fans can track their favourite players' progress during the Olympic Qualifying Period, ending 1 May 2016.

The first of two weekly ranking lists is now live on the home page of the BWF website (<http://www.bwfbadminton.org>).

Called the "Notional Rankings – BWF Olympic Qualification", this list is based on the current weekly world rankings and identifies which players would qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympics if the qualification period ended on the current given week. Hence the label 'notional rankings'.

The second ranking list is the "Race to Rio – BWF Olympic Qualification Ranking" and, barring any adjustments for host wildcard spots in Men's and Women's Singles or any Tripartite Spots, this will be the most accurate reflection of which players will qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

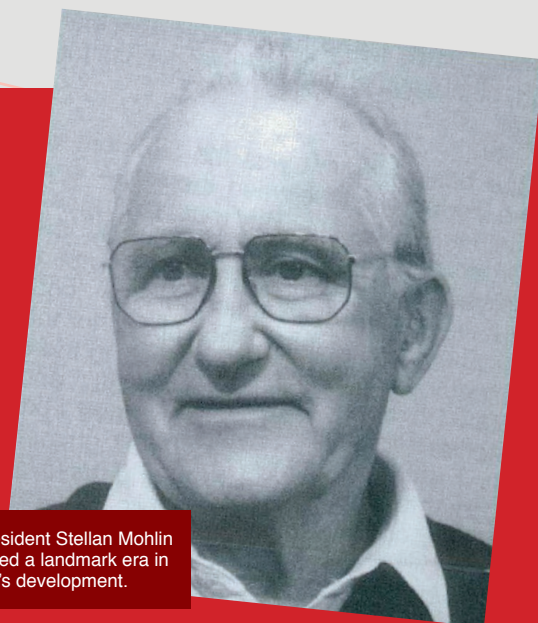
It will show rankings based only on the points accumulated during the Olympic Qualification Period which started on 4 May, 2015.

This "Race to Rio" ranking will be live online shortly...so stay tuned!

NOTIONAL RANKINGS
BWF OLYMPIC
QUALIFICATION

RACE TO RIO
BWF OLYMPIC
QUALIFICATION

CELEBRATING STELLAN MOHLIN – BADMINTON VISIONARY



As IBF President Stellan Mohlin spearheaded a landmark era in badminton's development.



Stellan Mohlin receiving the Herbert Scheele Award from Betty Scheele in 1991.

On 11 July this year, a tireless advocate of badminton's growth celebrates his 90th birthday.

Badminton would have been a poorer sport without the services of Stellan Mohlin, who served as President of the International Badminton Federation (IBF) during the crucial years 1976 to 1981. This was the period in which revolutionary changes transformed the sport: the introduction of the World Championships (1977); the entry of the Chinese into the international circuit (1981) and the concerted campaign to make badminton part of the Olympic Games programme.

Mohlin succeeded in convincing fellow Council members and national federations – despite some voicing their concerns – of the importance of badminton becoming an Olympic sport, for which they needed to show a united front. Another significant challenge for the Swedish administrator was persuading China that they needed to be in the IBF.

Once China entered the international fold it was crucial for Mohlin to display a world structure to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Finally, after four consecutive World Championships, the IBF was accepted into the IOC as a development sport. His dream was finally realised as all the stars aligned on a fateful day in Copenhagen in 1983.

"The World Championships in Copenhagen in 1983 was when the tide finally turned for badminton," recalled Mohlin.

"We were lucky to get one of the best final days ever witnessed in badminton with all five matches being top class which impressed the IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch. In his press conference following those finals Samaranch said badminton must now be a full Olympic sport."

Two years later, Sir Craig Reedie was in Baden Baden for the IOC Annual General Meeting where badminton was voted in as part of the Olympic programme for Barcelona 1992.

Mohlin's pioneering work as an administrator paved the way for the world federation to reach the heights which it has today.

His 90th birthday is an occasion for the international badminton family to salute his contribution and remember him with gratitude.

Happy Birthday, Stellan Mohlin!

Adapted from Badminton Europe magazine (writer: Mark Phelan)



Stellan Mohlin chatting with youth.



General Secretary of the Chinese Badminton Association, Liu Xiaonong, welcomes delegates to the gala dinner.



BWF Deputy President Gustavo Salazar Delgado (third right) and his wife, Sandra (second right) were joined by BWF Vice-Presidents and Dongguan officials at the gala dinner.

BWF MEMBERS MEET...AND MINGLE

Badminton's inclusion in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games; preparations for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games; badminton's integrity and celebrating hard-working stalwarts of the sport were among the highlights of this year's annual gathering of Badminton World Federation members in Dongguan, China.

The mid-May festivities, beginning with the BWF Member's Forum and including the Annual General Meeting, unfolded on the sidelines of the Vivo BWF Sudirman Cup, thereby affording delegates the twin opportunities of attending official engagements while also watching high-quality badminton.

Away from the on-court action, which saw China impressively retain their World Mixed Team Championship for a tenth Sudirman Cup success overall, there was much to

absorb the badminton family's attention as BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer stressed the importance of ensuring badminton remains a clean sport, "free of corruption and manipulation from external forces".

"We take this seriously...Everyone has a role in this. As members – you all have an obligation to provide education programmes for our youth in the sport in the areas of anti-doping and anti-match fixing," he told representatives of 106 of the BWF's 182 member associations in attendance.

Hailing 2014 as "a truly productive" year with some "significant achievements", Høyer underlined the importance of badminton's inclusion on the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games sports programme which "will be another opportunity to demonstrate that badminton is truly a sport for all".

Keynote speaker at the Member's Forum, retired Paralympic Games swimmer Stephanie Dixon, congratulated BWF on "being inclusive and accessible to people with disabilities" noting the attitude of those close to persons with disabilities plays a crucial role in how the latter develop and challenge themselves.

"I was born with a disability (but) I felt it was normal to have one leg...I was fortunate my parents saw a healthy baby who had all the potential in the world. I was extremely active and my parents encouraged me to do things for myself; to do everything.

"You don't know what a person can do until you let them try," said the Canadian champion who collected 19 medals from three successive Paralympic Games, including seven golds.



Wang Wenjiao of China (right) and Bulgaria's Dr. Puzant Kassabian were honoured for outstanding service to badminton.



BWF Deputy Chair of Development, Jassem Kanso (left), addresses his colleagues while fellow BWF Council Members listen.



Among the African delegates at the annual gathering of BWF members were (from left) Michel Bau (Seychelles), Medard Lomboto (Democratic Republic of Congo), Nestor Galley (Ghana) and Odette Assembe (Cameroon).

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Sharing some of the tough times she navigated to stardom, the 31-year-old recalled the reaction of other swimmers when she began competing – “They would look at me with sympathy like ‘Good on you for trying.’”

However, Dixon gave credence to the adage that adversity makes one stronger, stating “it was because I fell down over and over and had people believe in me that I was able to pick myself up...I am proud of who I am and what my body has been able to do. It’s the

values you learn and character you develop that will stay with you”.

Alluding to Dixon’s speech, Høyer said: “We heard an inspirational presentation from a really talented Paralympic champion...I can’t help but wonder which para-badminton stars will emerge in the next five years as we prepare for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.”

On a related note, the BWF President highlighted next year’s Olympic Games in Rio while fellow BWF colleagues outlined four goals which the world-governing body is seeking to achieve through its ongoing legacy programme: increase awareness of badminton; promote badminton as a sport

for all; increase participation; and ensure a legacy beyond Rio 2016.

Meanwhile, Wang Wenjiao and Dr. Puzant Kassabian were the toast of their peers at the annual gala dinner. The pair who hailed decades of friendship between them received two of the BWF’s top administrative honours for 2014, marking outstanding service to the sport. Former Chinese head coach, 82-year-old Wang received the BWF’s Lifetime Achievement Award while his Bulgarian counterpart, aged 74, was bestowed with the Distinguished Service Award.

Badminton Australia President and BWF Vice-President Oceania, Geraldine Brown, accepted the Women in Badminton Award on behalf of Val Nesbitt, another long-serving and pioneering administrator who – at age 81 – is still the secretary of Badminton Victoria.



Delegates enjoy the festivities at the gala dinner.

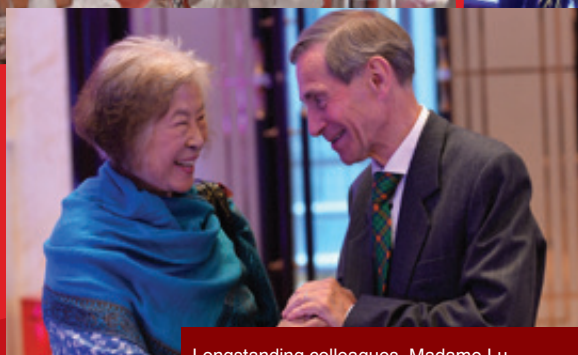


Retired Canadian Paralympic swimmer, Stephanie Dixon, and Chair of BWF Para-Badminton Athletes' Commission, Richard Perot, shared the stage at the BWF Member's Forum.

President of the Saint Lucia Badminton Association, Myrtle Alexander (left), and BADMINTONscotland Chief Executive Anne Smillie.



Chair of BWF's IOC & International Relations Committee, Etienne Thobois, presents his report to the BWF Annual General Meeting.



Longstanding colleagues, Madame Lu Shenrong and Torsten Berg, greet each other at the BWF Member's Forum.



Sports Director of the German Badminton Association, Martin Kranitz, pays rapt attention.



Poon Lok Yan and Tse Ying Suet (left) of Hong Kong.



Lin Dan wins the final for China.



Japan's Kenta Kazuno (left) and Ayane Kurihara took their country to the final.



TEN TIMES A WINNER!

Chinese fans in Dongguan received the perfect gift from their national team, with a sterling title defence to seal the hosts' tenth Sudirman Cup success overall.

This was China's sixth straight triumph. Except for 2003, China have won each edition of the biennial World Mixed Team Championships since 1995.

The defending champions were in commanding form throughout the event (10-17 May 2015), dropping just one match and winning 19 in their successful campaign. The only point they lost was in the semi-finals against Indonesia, when Mohammad Ahsan/Hendra Setiawan outclassed Olympic gold medallists, Cai Yun/Fu Haifeng, in the opening Men's Doubles match.

While China's matches were mostly one-sided, there were exciting contests in other ties. The most nerve-wracking of these was the semi-final between Japan and Korea. Japan recovered from a 1-2 deficit and sealed the berth when scratch combination Kenta Kazuno and Ayane Kurihara blazed past established Mixed Doubles duo, Ko Sung Hyun/Kim Ha Na.

Korea, having fallen to an inspired Malaysian team in sub-group 1D, avenged that defeat in the quarter-finals.

Elsewhere, the match of the tournament was a late-night Group 2 clash between World champion, Carolina Marin of Spain, and Commonwealth Games champion, Michelle Li – with the Canadian saving five match points to win 12-21 27-25 24-22.

Group 1 - Finals:

China bt Japan 3-0

MD: Zhang Nan/Fu Haifeng bt Hiroyuki Endo/Kenichi Hayakawa 21-17 20-22 21-17

WS: Li Xuerui bt Akane Yamaguchi 23-21 21-14

MS: Lin Dan bt Takuma Ueda 21-15 21-13

Group 1 - Semi-Finals:

China bt Indonesia 3-1

Japan bt Korea 3-2

Group 2 - Finals: Hong Kong bt Netherlands 3-1

Group 3 - Finals: Vietnam bt Czech Republic 3-0

Group 4 - Finals: Philippines bt Sri Lanka 3-0



China retained the Sudirman Cup.

BWF SUSPENDS TIES

Badminton World Federation was among more than 20 international sports federations which suspended their membership of SportAccord indefinitely following strong disagreement with SportAccord President Marius Vizer's comments about the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and IOC President Thomas Bach at the annual SportAccord Convention in April.

Under the signature of BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer, BWF informed Vizer of this decision in writing. BWF had been among a group of federations which first distanced themselves from Vizer's position by signing a collective statement expressing opposition to remarks in his welcome speech, noting Vizer did not "reflect the views of the international federations".

BWF's letter to Vizer – who has since resigned the SportAccord presidency – noted further statements by him "clearly show BWF is not aligned with the opinions and vision of SportAccord and you as the President of the organisation".

MUSASHINO MOVE

Following open and constructive discussions with the Tokyo 2020 Local Organizing Committee and the International Olympic Committee, BWF agreed to change the badminton venue for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to Musashino.

The BWF Council expressed confidence that the relocation proposal would present the opportunity to host a highly successful badminton event which players and spectators alike will enjoy. BWF also stressed its commitment to working positively with all stakeholders to showcase the sport in the best way possible and the federation is "excited about starting its planning for Tokyo 2020".

BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer acknowledged the challenges which prompted the change, stating "we fully support the principles of sustainability and legacy" and concerns about the "overall cost factors around the Olympic Games".

However, he noted it's important BWF expresses "our views sincerely while also being a responsible member of the Olympic Family," adding that hopefully the International Olympic Committee's Agenda 2020 would reduce the likelihood of such significant changes to future bid proposals.



INSTITUTIONAL ROUND-UP

CELEBRATING OLYMPIC DAY

The international badminton family joined the global sporting community in marking Olympic Day on Tuesday 23 June. BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer led by example, taking to the courts of Hillerød Badminton Club in his homeland Denmark.

Meanwhile, BWF staff in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, engaged in some friendly lunchtime badminton in the foyer of their office complex, with some passers-by stopping for a quick hit.

"Olympic Day is a great way to celebrate sport. Being active and fit is not only good for one's health but also for one's general well-being," said Høyer.

IPC VISIT

A BWF delegation visited the International Paralympic Committee in Bonn, Germany, on Monday 22 June to attend a series of meetings with key staff including IPC CEO Xavier Gonzales, as part of the IPC's IF consultation programme. This annual engagement provides an opportunity to exchange ideas and information in the build-up to Paralympic Games (Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020).

BWF Vice President Para-Badminton, Paul Kurzo; BWF Director of Operations, Stuart Borrie; and BWF Para-Badminton Manager, Andy Hines-Randle, attended the presentations which included timelines and

processes leading up to Tokyo 2020 (in which para-badminton will debut), classification, shared media and communications activities, broadcast of para-sport and development of para-badminton.

OLYMPIC FAMILY IN KL

The 128th IOC Session will be held from 31 July to 3 August at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in the Malaysian capital. It will be preceded by a meeting of the IOC Executive Board (28-30 July).

This Session will decide on key policy issues and other matters, including the host cities for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games and for the 2020 Youth Olympic Winter Games.

TAN'S THE MAN!

Yuhan Tan is the newest face within the BWF Council, having been selected as Chair of the BWF Athletes' Commission.

The 28-year-old Belgian badminton player was chosen by fellow Commission members to lead the players' representative body and replaces Emma Mason in that role.

Tan, who competed in the London 2012 Olympic Games, has already been a member of the Athletes' Commission for two years and will have Koen Ridder of the Netherlands as his Vice Chair.

Other members of the BWF Athletes' Commission are: Tang Yuanling (China); Hans-Kristian Vittinghus (Denmark); Greysia Polii (Indonesia) and Shintaro Ikeda (Japan). Pedro Yang (Guatemala) is a member of the IOC Athletes' Commission and therefore an ex-officio member of the BWF Athletes' Commission.

The Commission was established in 2008 to represent the views of athletes within the BWF Council.



PLAYERS' VOICE: Belgium's Yuhan Tan has assumed the chairmanship of the BWF Athletes' Commission.



Participants in the UN Youth Leadership Camp in Bradenton, Florida in June.



Palomino Piñeres participated in the camp held in Medellin, Colombia in May.



BWF Development Manager John Shearer delivers Shuttle Time training to the UN Youth Leadership Camp in Berlin in April.

UN EMBRACES SHUTTLE TIME

BWF's Shuttle Time training for youth leaders, in partnership with the United Nations, has been yielding results.

BWF delivered its grassroots development initiative at UN Youth Leadership Camps in Berlin on 15 April; in Medellin (Colombia), on 11 May, and in Bradenton (Florida) on 15 and 16 June 2015. These were an outcome of the BWF Development staff meeting with the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) in January this year, focusing on BWF being incorporated into the UN's Youth Leadership Camps.

The courses signaled an important milestone in the partnership between BWF and UNOSDP. The one-day gathering in Berlin was attended by 28 Youth Leaders (YLS) from 19 countries, in addition to presenters from international federations and other organisations, while the Medellin camp was attended by 30 YLS from 14 countries. There was even greater participation in Florida, with 60 YLS from 20 countries. In total,

Shuttle Time courses have been delivered to 118 Youth Leaders from 55 countries. Since the initial course in Berlin, more than 12 YLS have started to teach badminton in their communities.

Based on 'Breaking down barriers in sport', the sessions included discussions and group work on how to overcome issues such as lack of equipment, facilities and educated deliverers.

Following each course, all YLS received follow-up contact from BWF, to offer support and guidance should they wish to introduce badminton to children in their communities. Youth Leaders believe badminton/Shuttle Time can be a tool to tackle social issues, such as encouraging pupils to stay in education; increasing female participation in sport and tackling teenage pregnancy; providing education on the rights of women and encouraging the participation in sport for those with physical and/or learning disabilities.

Bismark Wulo of Ghana, who has been receiving support from his national association to introduce badminton to his community, was excited about the opportunity.

"Badminton was the best game for me among all the other games that we learned because it favours everyone. I want to use it as my number one activity in my field of work," he said.

UNOSDP Programme Officer Ben Taylor also lauded the BWF programme.

"The UN is thrilled to be working in partnership with the BWF. The Shuttle Time session received excellent feedback from our Youth Leaders, many who had never played or seen badminton before. We look forward to developing our relationship with BWF and receiving their expert input at future Youth Leadership Camps."

DONORS EQUIP BADMINTON FAMILY

Now in its second year, the BWF Equipment Donation Project truly reflects the family spirit within the Badminton World Federation.

It's not so much "each one, teach one" but rather "each one, reach one" with established badminton nations reaching out to support less well-resourced countries with welcome gifts of equipment and clothing that have contributed significantly to Shuttle Time's progress among recipient BWF member associations (MAs).

Started in February 2014, this initiative has so far resulted in eight BWF MAs adopting fellow MAs to which to donate rackets, shuttles, bags, nets and badminton apparel (including shoes). These donations, usually collected from persons (players, officials, fans, etc.) at BWF-sanctioned tournaments held by the donor MA, are then sent to the adopted country.

Badminton Ireland has been particularly generous, first collecting a donation for Lesotho last year and following up with a similar gesture to another African country, Uganda, this year.

"Badminton Ireland is keen to support BWF development programmes such as the schools-based, Shuttle Time initiative. We have seen the benefits this offers schools in Ireland over the past two years and are confident it can be equally effective in less developed nations," said Badminton Ireland Chief Operating Officer, Richard Vaughan.

"We had natural links with both Uganda and Lesotho. A local school trust has been doing great work in Lesotho for a number of years and by linking with them we have been able to get a number of pupils/teachers trained in the Shuttle Time programme. In Uganda, the Irish Embassy is involved in local charitable work in Kampala. We hope the small amount of equipment support that we can provide will be well used in both countries."

Tonga – the Polynesian island which first piloted Shuttle Time in 2011 – has also benefited from this scheme, with fellow Oceania and BWF member, Badminton Australia, providing some timely assistance.

"The Tonga National Badminton Association is thankful for the donations we received both last year and again this year. The equipment was good and helped a lot with our badminton activities among primary schoolchildren. Thanks very much to Badminton Australia for helping to improve the badminton skills of our children here in Tonga," said Tonga National Badminton Development Officer, Lauti Na'aniamotu.

Sporting equipment manufacturer Yonex has also embraced the programme, donating 100 rackets to the Cook Islands in addition to portable nets for use in Shuttle Time implementations globally.

Overall, more than 1400 pieces of second-hand equipment and clothing have been donated since the BWF Equipment Donation Project was initiated, with BWF coordinating the displaying of Equipment Donation branding with tournament hosts and providing logistical support regarding the transportation of all donations.

Member Association	Country Adopted	Year
Australia	Tonga	2014 and 2015
Belgium	Zambia	2014
Denmark	Ivory Coast	2014
England	Ghana	2014 and 2015
Germany	Rwanda	2015
Hong Kong	Cambodia	2014
Ireland	Lesotho	2014
Ireland	Uganda	2015
Netherlands	Bosnia-Herzegovina	2014
* Yonex	Cook Islands	2014 and 2015



Local junior player, Ray Charles Marsters of the Cook Islands, is thrilled with the Yonex donation of rackets.



These Ugandan children are benefiting from Badminton Ireland's equipment-donation drive.