

# MEMORANDUM

**TO: BWF PLAYERS AND COACHES**  
**FROM: BWF EVENTS DEPARTMENT**  
**RE: HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT REGULATION CHANGES**  
**DATE: 18 DECEMBER 2018**



At its meeting in late November 2018, BWF Council approved several changes to the Laws of Badminton and technical regulations. The following is a summary of changes most relevant to you as Players:

## **Fixed Service Height Laws**

The Laws for Fixed Service Height (1.15m) have been approved for permanent use at all of the following tournaments from now on:

- BWF Major Events (Grade 1)
- BWF World Tour and BWF Tour (Grade 2)
- Continental Tour Tournaments (Grade 3)
- Junior International
- Continental Championships

## **No On-Court Testing of Rackets by Players on Court Anymore**

In the interests of speeding up play, players are no longer allowed to test new rackets on court before continuing play (e.g. testing a replacement racket after breaking strings or otherwise). This has been introduced together with umpires also having more attention on securing continuous play.

Umpires have already been instructed to enforce this new on-court protocol, and so we appreciate your understanding in ensuring a smooth transition at upcoming tournaments.

## **Table of Offences and Penalties – More and Increased Penalties**

There have been several changes and additions made to the Table of Offences and Penalties, including more breaches of the GCR, withdrawal fees for World Team Championships, breaches of the Players Code of Conduct, and breaches of the Player Commitment Regulations. Please make sure you review this table carefully, so you are aware of all potential fees and penalties that may be charged.

For example, a "Top Committed Player" (as per the Player Commitment Regulations) who does not fulfil requested media, sponsorship and ceremony obligations at a tournament could be charged \$1500 USD for the first incident, and \$2000 for every subsequent incident in a calendar year.

## **No National Separation – BWF World Tour (Grade 2)**

As of 1 January 2019, there will be no national separation for any BWF World Tour tournament (Grade 2). Players / pairs from the same country could play each other in the first round of any of these tournaments.

This rule has been introduced to ensure that draws are conducted with maximum randomness.

## **BWF Umpires to HSBC BWF World Tour Super 300 and BWF Tour Super 100 Tournaments**

Starting March 2019, BWF will appoint four BWF Umpires to officiate at all HSBC BWF World Tour Super 300 and BWF Tour Super 100 tournaments. This has been introduced to help these tournament hosts ensure the highest level of officiating and neutrality as possible.

## **World Rankings to be Published on Tuesdays**

Starting 1 January 2019, BWF World Rankings will be published on **Tuesdays** (currently published on Thursdays).

## **No Equipment on Prize Podium – Player Commitment Regulations**

The Player Commitment Regulations have been updated to clarify that players are not allowed to bring any equipment onto the prize podium, including rackets, caps and bags. This is to ensure that the prize ceremonies are presented in a stylish and elegant way.

## **Player Clothing Regulations Updated – Tracksuits for Prize Podium**

There is now a regulation governing the advertising of player tracksuits worn on the prize podium. The new General Competition Regulation 24.3.5. states:

*"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."*

## **Advertising Regulations for Coach Clothing – 1 January 2020**

As of 1 January 2020, there will be regulations governing the advertising of coach clothing.

For more information on changes to the regulations, all BWF Statutes can be viewed and downloaded via the Statutes page of the BWF Corporate website at: <https://corporate.bwfbadminton.com/statutes>.

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