



PRESS RELEASE

Friday 13 March 2020

BWF MEDIA STATEMENT ON COVID-19 AND HSBC BWF WORLD TOUR AND BWF-SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) has taken the necessary step to suspend all HSBC BWF World Tour and other BWF-sanctioned tournaments from Monday 16 March until Sunday April 12.

The escalation of the COVID-19 outbreak globally has led the BWF, in close consultation and consensus with its Host Member Associations and Continental Confederations, to cancel or postpone all tournaments in this period due to heightened travel and quarantine restrictions in place and the subsequent extreme logistical complications this causes to the movement of badminton athletes.

BWF equally has strong considerations for the health, safety and wellbeing of all athletes, their entourage, officials and the greater badminton community in general.

Tournaments affected include the YONEX Swiss Open 2020, YONEX-SUNRISE India Open 2020, Orléans Masters 2020, CELCOM Axiata Malaysia Open 2020, and Singapore Open 2020, as well as a number of international Grade 3 tournaments (see full list below).

The suspension of the circuit will come into effect following the completion of the YONEX All England Open 2020 in Birmingham, England, on Sunday 15 March.

Both BWF and Badminton England have been in constant communication with government officials and relevant authorities in the United Kingdom in relation to any possible disruption to the YONEX All England Open and both parties are satisfied with the British government's most recent advisory issued Friday morning UK time to continue with the staging of the tournament.

Unless government advice changes, Badminton England remains confident that the robust and comprehensive measures in place before and during the event will minimise the potential risk of the virus.

BWF duly accepts this position and that all relevant health, safety and logistical risks have been considered by BWF, Badminton England, tournament organisers, and the local government in reaching this decision.

A number of the tournaments impacted as a result of the suspension fall within the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games qualifying period. BWF will make a further announcement on regulations related to Olympic qualification points at a later date.

Tournaments Suspended

Tournament	Dates	Level	City	Olympic Qualifier	Status
YONEX Swiss Open 2020	17-22 Mar	HSBC BWF World Tour Super 300	Basel	Yes	Suspended
XXI Giraldilla 2020	18-22 Mar	Future Series	La Habana	Yes	Suspended
YONEX North Harbour International 2020	19-22 Mar	Future Series	Auckland	Yes	Suspended
CIPUTRA HANOI - YONEX SUNRISE Vietnam International Challenge 2020	24-29 Mar	International Challenge	Hanoi	Yes	Postponed
YONEX-SUNRISE India Open 2020	24-29 Mar	HSBC BWF World Tour Super 500	New Delhi	Yes	Suspended
Orléans Masters 2020	24-29 Mar	BWF Tour Super 100	Orleans	Yes	Cancelled
YONEX Waikato International 2020	26-29 Mar	International Series	Hamilton	Yes	Suspended
Polish Open 2020	26-29 Mar	International Challenge	Krakow	Yes	Cancelled
CELCOM Axiata Malaysia Open 2020	31 Mar - 5 Apr	HSBC BWF World Tour Super 750	Kuala Lumpur	Yes	Suspended
YONEX Canadian International Challenge 2020	31 Mar - 5 Apr	International Challenge	Fort McMurray	Yes	Suspended
YONEX Osaka International Challenge 2020	1-5 Apr	International Challenge	Moriguchi	Yes	Suspended
Finnish Open 2020	2-5 Apr	International Challenge	Vantaa	Yes	Suspended
Singapore Open 2020	7-12 Apr	HSBC BWF World Tour Super 500	Singapore	Yes	Suspended
ADIDAS Dutch International 2020	8-11 Apr	International Series	Wateringen	Yes	Suspended

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ABOUT BWF

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) is the international governing body of the sport of badminton, recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). It was originally the International Badminton Federation (IBF) which was founded on 5 July, 1934, before being rechristened the Badminton World Federation in 2006.

The purpose and objectives of BWF include regulating, promoting, developing and popularising the sport of badminton throughout the world and organising, conducting and presenting international events at the highest level.

The BWF's vision is to make badminton a leading global sport accessible to all – giving every child a chance to play for life. Its mission is to lead and inspire all stakeholders; to deliver entertainment through exciting events to drive fan experience; and to create innovative, impactful and sustainable development initiatives.

BWF has its headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with 193 Member Associations worldwide.

Poul-Erik Høyer is the BWF President and Thomas Lund is the BWF Secretary General.

Websites: www.bwfbadminton.com and www.bwfcorporate.com

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