

MINUTES
of the
BADMINTON OCEANIA
TECHNICAL OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING
held via Zoom
7:30pm – Tuesday 31st October 2023

Present: Julie Carrel (JC), Peter Cocker (PC), David Turner (DT), Jean-Philippe Berges (JP), Trish Gubb (TG), Greg Vellacott (GV), Lynne Nixey (LN)

Apologies:

Meeting commenced at 7:32pm

Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of meeting held 17th July 2023

The minutes of the meeting held 17th July 2023 were presented and approved.

*Moved: David Turner Seconded: Trish Gubb
Agreed*

Matters arising from the minutes:

Assessments that were deferred this year will need to renominate. NZ and Australia have been requested to nominate for 2024 assessments. Trish Gubb requested a copy of the information that was sent to NZ to be sent to her so she can chase this up.

Report of BWF TOC Meeting

Peter provided a report on the BWF TOC meeting. A copy of the notes from the meeting will be forwarded to all members of BOTOC.

Umpire Assessment Evaluation Form

David presented the proposed Oceania Umpire Appraisal form. Committee agreed that the form should be utilised for 2024 for Appraisals.

A spreadsheet of who has been appraised is to be created by the BOC Office and the ideal is that all Oceania Umpires are to be appraised within a 2-year period. There will be no additional assessors sent to tournaments for appraisals and these will only be carried out when there is an Assessor present undertaking Assessments. Lynne to update the form with logos etc ready to send out – suggested the Appraisal document is changed to 3 candidates per sheet.

The Assessment Document will be looked at by the Assessment Panel and a new suggested Assessment Document will be put together. This to be presented by June 2024 so it can be utilised after that.

Umpire online Workshop – 26th November 2023

Information has been sent to all Oceania / Pacific Officials regarding workshop to be held on 26th November. NZTO and BATOC have also sent to their national level officials.



David to pull together the information to the workshop and send to Lynne to have a PowerPoint presentation for the meeting.

Subsidies for BOC Officials

Discussion was held regarding the current level of subsidies available for BOC Officials.

After discussion, it was agreed that the subsidies be amended to:

- Within Oceania Region \$500
- Asia / USA \$1000
- UK / Europe \$1500

Current information in the policy to remain the same with the following additions:

- Officials must complete a post event report (template will be sent to the Official when the subsidy is confirmed).
- Record of Work must be completed each year and returned to BOC when requested.
- Officials must travel in the black with blue logo Badminton Oceania shirt when travelling to overseas tournaments.

If any of the conditions are not met, this will mean that subsidies will not be available for the following year.

Badminton Oceania is to keep a summary of all Records of Work to ensure that TO's are meeting their obligations.

Above agreed by Consensus

Clothing Policy

BOC Office to look at this policy and come back to BOTOC with an updated policy.

There is a requirement for officials to have some 'unbranded' clothing i.e., not VICTOR or YONEX (still to have Badminton Oceania logo).

A stocktake is to be undertaken of all BOC TO's to see what equipment / clothing they have been issued with.

We will look to procure shirts with pockets for Umpires.

Ratification of Assessments

Agreed to ratify the following assessments:

- Eugene Glazman (AUS) – Oceania Accredited Referee
- Vic Kim (NZL) – Oceania Accredited Umpire
- Holly Cho (NZL) – Oceania Accredited Umpire

This to be ratified by the EB at the meeting to be held on 01 November.



Age limits of TO's

Discussion has been had with BWF Chair of Assessment Panel, a BWF Tournament Series Manager and was discussed at the recent BWF TOC Meeting.

BWF are expecting for World Tour tournaments there will be no Umpires over the age of 60 years. This is currently policy in Europe and Asia has the age of 55.

2019 BOTOC meeting suggested we should have a retirement age of 65 for Umpires and 70 for Line Judges and 75 for Referees. This was a retirement age suggestion only.

Suggested BOTOC recommend that we should follow the BWF recommendation of age limit of 60 to Umpire at a World Tour tournament. Currently the ABO is the only tournament this will affect in the Oceania region. This will also apply to Umpires who are being sent overseas to a World Tour tournament.

Our Umpires will still be able to Umpire at Grade 3 tournaments within the Oceania region if they meet the required standards.

With regards to stating a retirement age for tournaments, Peter is to discuss with BA to see if there is any issue with this legally in Australia. Julie to seek legal advice in NZ regarding age discrimination laws.

JC has recommended that Umpires on the Oceania Development program be given the opportunity to officiate for the first 2-3 days at the Australian Open. Discussions have already been held with Peter and Loke Poh (Event Director AO) with the intention of appointing 4 umpires under this proposal.

Make up of BOTOC for future

NZ and Australia were contacted around the suggestion that the Chair of NZ and AUS TO Committees be appointed to BOTOC in the future. Both agreed that this is a good proposal and would be in support of it.

Recommended that Umpire Assessment Panel is expanded to become a 'BOC Assessment Panel'. This is to be made up of Umpire, Referee and Line Judge Assessors. The Chair of that Assessment Panel to be appointed to BOTOC.

BOTOC should also have a representative for Pacific TO Development. This person is not necessarily someone from the Pacific (but could be), but someone who solely looks after development/co-ordination in this area working closely with the new BOC Development Officer (yet to be appointed)

Terms of Reference for this Committee will need to be re-written.

BOC Office to discuss with the Umpire Assessment Panel regarding adding in Referee/Line Judge Assessors included in the Committee.

Julie Carrel to put a document together regarding the change in structure for discussion.

General Business

Development Program (NZ & AUS)

Has now been running for 2 years. The end goal of this program is to get Officials to BWF. NZ and AUS to be approached to see if they are still happy with those who are on the current program and to be given the opportunity to add some additional people.



Participants on the Development program are offered preferential appointments to International events in our region and additional travel subsidies to these tournaments. This is funded by the BWF National TO Grant.

2024 tournaments in the region will be: Oceania Champs (Open individual, Men's & Women's team), 2 x International Challenge in Northern Marianas, 2 International Challenge in Australia and one in NZ.

Suggested at each event we have up to 5 x Development Umpires – budget dependent. Question raised as to how long these Officials remain on this program. Is it when they reach BOC level or when they reach BWF level. Suggested that financial support may reduce slightly once they are BOC level, but they would still be given preferential appointments to tournaments.

Currently there is no program similar for Pacific Umpires. If a person/s is identified as a potential BWF candidate, then we would implement a targeted program.

Noted that Australia has no female Umpires on the development program, any additional umpires added in 2024 to be female.

Tahiti Umpire Training

Tahiti has had a lot of Umpire training in-country (Nicolas and Taurea). Currently the training has been in French but will shortly change to English. In 2024 or 2025 when they are ready BOC to send someone to Tahiti to assess these Umpires in preparation for the 2027 Pacific Games

2024 Tournaments

Information to be sent out to Officials with dates for 2024.

Stephanie Ho is to be appointed to the ABO as the Local Deputy
BWF has been approached to find overseas appointments for Eugene Glazman, Cynthia Tam & Joshua Ho to give them further experience outside of our region.

Other

Peter passed on his thanks to those who had carried out Assessments in 2023.

Noted that Greg Vellacott will finish his tenure with BWF as a BWF Assessor at the end of 2023. Thanks were passed to him from Badminton Oceania.

Oceania assessment nominations due to BOC by 15th November. Once nominations are received, these will be sent to the Assessment Panel for consideration/approval before being sent to BOTO for discussion and confirmation of the tournament/s.

BOC Office to determine if there are any Pacific TOs who should be assessed in 2024.

Next Meeting: To be confirmed – possibly June in conjunction with ABO.

Meeting concluded: 9:26pm



Action Item	Who to Action	By
Oceania Appraisal Form – update with logos etc	Lynne	End of November 2023
Oceania Umpire Assessment Document – to be updated	David, Lynne, and Umpire Assessment Panel	By June 2024
Online Umpires Workshop	Umpire Assessment Panel	Sunday 26 th November
Age restrictions for specific tournaments / retirement.	Julie Carrel Peter Cocker	End of year
Code of Conduct – Non-Players. To be distributed to all TO's	BOC Office	When Disciplinary Policy is finalised
TO Subsidy. New policy agreed – to forward to EB for ratification prior to sending to all TO's	BOC Office	End of November
Clothing Policy. BOC Office to draft updated Clothing Policy	BOC Office	End of year
Change of BOTOOC composition	Julie Carrel	By end of February 2024
2024 Tournaments – Information to be sent out	BOC Office	ASAP
Pacific Training	Julie Carrel	By end of year

