

COCTALES

BWF

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2022: A Future Full of Hope

By Gilles Cavert
Chair – BWF Technical Official Commission

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Technical Officials at the YONEX French Open 2021.

Jean-Guy
Poitras
(CAN)

JEAN-GUY POITRAS

By Torsten Berg,
Member – BWF Referee
Assessment Panel

In 2019, BWF honoured Jean-Guy Poitras (CAN) with the BWF Lifetime Achievement Award for his 'significant and lifetime contribution towards the advancement and promotion of the sport worldwide'.

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CONGRATULATIONS!

BWF congratulates the following CC Level Umpires who have been upgraded to BWF Umpires:

BWF Umpires

- ▶ C R Rajeev (IND)
- ▶ Seamus Halpin (IRL)
- ▶ Peter Meszaros (SUI)
- ▶ Kevin Banh (USA)

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2022: A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE



BWF Technical Officials at the VICTOR Denmark Open 2021.

FROM THE CHAIR BY
**GILLES
CAVERT**

Happy new year to everyone in our BWF Technical Official community.

Let us hope we return to normal in the coming months, which will enable us to best implement our assessment and appraisal programmes, and to allow important planning meetings and workshops face to face!

This past year was amazing and challenging, with the delivery of many of our Grade 1 tournaments - all in the second half of the year!

Gratitude goes out to our entire workforce, including BWF Referees, Umpires, Line Judges, Technical Delegates, Assessors, Classifiers and Doctors, as well as BWF Staff and the Assessment Panel Chairs Jane Wheatley and Malcolm Banham for their commitment and resilience during this period.

Working alongside our other stakeholders, we performed at the highest level despite numerous challenges, with a highlight, of course, seeing the official debut of Para badminton at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

The BWF Technical Official Commission moved forward with new initiatives within its strategic plan, including more workshops for BWF Referees and Umpires, the first-ever virtual workshop for BWF Line Judges, and the continued integration of Para badminton technical officials in the BWF TO programme.

Moving forward, 'Performance' remains the core objective, with the expertise and guidance of our assessment panel members playing a key role in that regard. As such, we welcome our new panel members as they begin their work in 2022.



HSBC BWF World Tour Finals 2021.

REFEREE UPDATE

By Jane Wheatley

Chair – BWF Referee Assessment Panel

Out with the old and in with the new

2022 is here and already there is a lot of work ahead for the referee team, both on and off the courts.

I recently traversed Australia by car towing a caravan 7100 kms, computer in hand, badminton and the referee team forefront in my mind, and extra data to enable me to keep in touch with the office as we finalized 2021 matters.

Along the way, I saw a billboard with the words “Tough times never last, tough people do”. As we have slogged through 2020 and 2021 keeping badminton relevant, keeping in touch with our family of referees and planning for the brighter future, I believe we have taken on this mantra. Though I must admit, sometimes I get tired of being tough, having the chin up and shoulders back, but we all have times in our lives where we just have to get on with it and no more so than the past two years.

As we head into a new year it is important that we ensure we are all interpreting the GCR and ITTOs in the same manner. One area of concern is the injury time taken during a match and the following instructions are given.

ITTO 3.5.3.2

“The Referee shall ensure that the Doctor knows that he acts under the Referee’s direction and that if called onto the court, **the Doctor’s primary role is to advise the player of the severity of any injury, and not to administer any treatment that may cause undue delay**”.

Let us be clear.....

The referee is in charge and must first ascertain what the problem is. The referee will then direct the doctor to make an assessment as required, which may include a spray or to stop blood flow. In case of an emergency the doctor will take control and render the necessary medical treatment.

The doctor’s role is to advise the player

of the severity of the injury, to make a medical assessment as to whether he feels the player is fit to continue playing and that, by continuing playing, the player is not endangering themselves. The player will be given the opportunity to make a decision to continue playing or to retire, based on sound medical advice.

In recent Grade 1 and 2 tournaments we have noticed an inconsistent implementation of the role of the doctor on court, with players continually interrupting play to receive treatment, leaving the opponent at a potential disadvantage.

Providing a band-aid or a quick spray is not undue delay; strapping joints is undue delay. The player can receive treatment during the regulated breaks in play, provided they are within the time allowed, and under the guidance of the referee.

Be proactive in working with the assigned tournament doctor(s), so that everyone is on the same page prior to the start of the

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tournament. This is especially important at Grade 2 tournaments where the doctor/medical staff is recruited by the host and may not understand his/her role as well as those of our BWF Tournament Doctor team.

New direction

Information on our new mentor programme will be available through your Member Association.

Mentoring has been an important steppingstone in our development, especially as some of us live in CCs that do not have great exposure to top level tournaments and top-level technical officials. We all need a confidante, a mentor we can get advice from, knowing our weird question will not be scoffed at and that you have someone with whom you feel safe.

With the development of the Referee Assessor Panel and the Semi Professional Referee team, you are likely to find one of them at a tournament and you are welcome to develop a working mentor relationship with whomever you wish. The old system of linking you to a particular mentor was fine but constantly needed upgrading as our members retired. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity and rest assured that all your discussions with a mentor are in strict confidence.

BWF Referee Workshops

Two years have passed since our last referee workshop in Kuala Lumpur.

We are planning to conduct our next series of workshops in 2022, possibly in June, and hopefully in Kuala Lumpur.

We will be preparing for a BWF Referee Assessment Workshop (new candidates), a BWF Referee Assessment Panel Meeting, BWF Referee Masterclass Workshop, the Semi-Professional Referee meeting and most importantly, the BWF Referee Workshop to be held over four days. A large programme indeed, and we will keep you informed of dates and venues as soon as possible. Sadly, we are still being ruled by COVID.



BWF Referee Ewald Cejnek (AUT) at the HYLO Open 2021.

During 2021

You will recall in COC-Tales V30 January 2021, I advised you of a new project: the BWF Online Preparatory Workshop for BWF Referee Assessment Candidates. All Continental Confederations were represented with 21 candidates completing assignments on each presentation topic. Feedback from participants clearly spelt out the need for this type of programme that helps bridge the gap and prepare CC Referees for the BWF Referee level.

The online referee refresher workshops were appreciated, and we will continue with this programme into 2022.

My sincere thanks go to our Technical

Officials Manager, Suva, and the Semi Professional Referee team for their continued support with both these programmes. Thank you also to Events Officer, Selena, for the support she provided throughout each workshop. As Malcolm Banham always says, "they make us look good"!

We have finalised the referee duties for 2022. There is no doubt that changes will need to be made and I would ask if you would please let us know as soon as possible of any problems with your appointments so that we can make the necessary adjustments.

I wish you well throughout the coming year.

BWF Umpire Satiawan Mahadoo (MRI)

UMPIRE UPDATE

**By Malcolm Banham,
Chair – BWF Umpire Assessment Panel**

I hope everyone had a good holiday and a prosperous 2022. As another year starts, we continue with our umpiring at many more Grade 1, 2 and Para badminton tournaments.

BWF Umpire and Line Judge Workshops

As some of us could not umpire in 2021, BWF organised virtual workshops for BWF Umpires and Line Judges.

Our BWF Line Judge workforce is a very important part of the BWF Technical Official family. Tournaments cannot run without line judges, and we know how hard they work throughout every tournament, sometimes with little acknowledgement. So, remember to always say thank you to your line judge colleagues.

From the feedback I have received, the BWF Umpire workshops were a great success. Thanks to all who messaged me noting how much they enjoyed it and can we do more. I am happy to report that discussions have already taken place to arrange another workshop when it can be fitted into the busy schedule.

Workshop Discussions/Topics

Announcement of the Score at the End of a Rally

A good discussion about the timing of when to say the score at the end of a rally. Clearly you have to be mindful of applause but not saying the score until after a change of shuttle or a towel and drink is too long, you can repeat the score again if you wish, nothing wrong with saying the score more than once.

What makes a complete umpire?

- ▶ Your appearance at all times;
- ▶ Knowing the laws and understanding how to use them;
- ▶ Concentration at all times;
- ▶ Reading the game; and
- ▶ Anticipating problems.

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BWF Umpire Mohammed Nazib Ismail (BAN)



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What does “using your common sense” mean?

I have been asked by several of you to clarify what I mean by “using your common sense”.

To me, it means the ability to make a sensible decision without overreacting. It also means feeling what is

happening on your court and make a decision accordingly.

BWF Mentoring Programme

We are hoping to bring a different dimension to mentoring moving forward. Instead of having a particular mentor assigned to a particular BWF Umpire, we will list the current BWF Umpire Assessment Panel members

for the umpire to contact. Any BWF Umpire can contact any of the panel members for help or information to progress their umpiring skills. This new approach will help when members of the assessment panel change and the requisite reassignments.

Please take into account that it is a very challenging period of time at the moment for Suva

and Selena in the BWF Office with changing conditions and tournament calendar, technical officials not being able to get leave their respective country or having to self-isolate on their return home. The office receives hundreds of emails per day, so thank you in advance for your continued patience and understanding.

All the best for 2022!

BWF Umpire Assessors
Mike Walker (CAN) and
Carol Ui Fhearghail (IRL).

PARA BADMINTON - FIRST STEPS TOWARDS PARIS 2024



Umpires at the Uganda
Para badminton
International 2021.

By Torsten Berg, Member – BWF Para Badminton Commission

With the successful debut of Para badminton in the delayed Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games well behind us, it is the moment to look ahead.

There will not be much time to rest on our laurels, as IPC will surely soon ask for a proposal for the qualification regulations and other parameters for the competition in the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

We have already received the great news that we shall have 120 athletes in Paris: 60 male players and 60 women. They shall contest 16 events (14 in Tokyo 2020), adding SH6 and SL3 WS as well as SH6 XD, and dropping SL3 - SU5 WD.

With this increase in athletes and events, we expect to add an extra day of competition.



Moreover, the qualification system proposal, yet to be elaborated, can be somewhat simpler. Concerning technical officials, the team in Tokyo managed well, and we expect similar numbers for Paris 2024.

Other important steps are the revamped calendar showcasing a new World Circuit, the revised Para Badminton General Competition Regulations (PBGCR), and an upcoming

Para badminton Instructions to Technical Officials (PBITTO). In all three areas the steps taken by BWF lead to closer integration of Para badminton and badminton.

The tournament calendar for 2022 was published recently, and it is an exciting and promising prospect. There will be a series of World Circuit tournaments, now labelled like the BWF World Tour: Grade 2 - Levels 1, 2 and 3.

There will be no classification in Grade 2 Level 1 tournaments, which means that from a TO perspective, the tournament will run mostly as other badminton tournaments, and are intended for the well-established, competitive players.

Grade 2 Levels 2 and 3 tournaments will still have classification and here the new

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and less experienced players will get their start. Moreover, 2022 will see both World Championships in Tokyo in November and three Continental Championships, also in the latter part of the year. The first two World Circuit tournaments are in Spain in early March 2022.

With the revised PBGCR adopted in October 2020 by BWF Council, the revised structure and delivery of tournaments approaching Para badminton were introduced. They are based on an assumption of ever-increasing entries and more competitive players following the Paralympic inclusion and success.

A further step forward will be the PBITTO, now under production. It is the intention

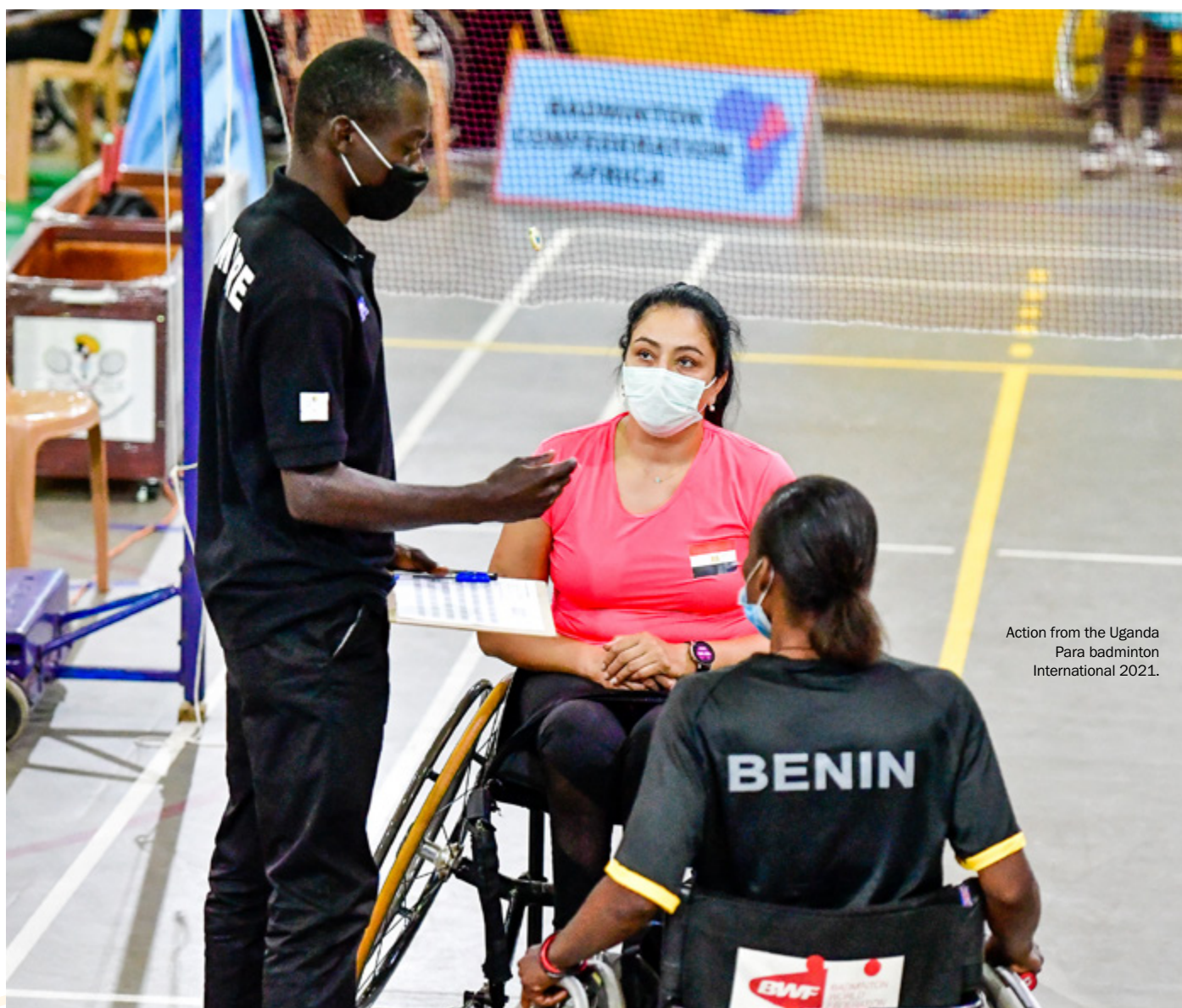
to present a proposal for a PBITTO to BWF Council in Spring 2022. Wherever possible, the PBITTO will mirror the general ITTO, but there will be distinct differences in the areas of refereeing and a whole new section will be elaborated concerning the duties of the Technical Delegate.

Finally, with the new calendar the process of integration in the area of BWF Referees and BWF Para badminton Referees will move ahead. The BWF SP and a few other BWF Referees without previous experience in this area and having expressed the interest to learn about Para badminton will, according to the plans, familiarize themselves with Para badminton in 2022. Subsequently, they are planned to serve as deputy referees in a Para tournament before running a Para badminton tournament. For the current BWF Para

badminton Referees who are not qualified to serve in the general BWF World Tour, there will be individual programmes, depending on their experience and age. They will all continue to serve in the new World Circuit, where appropriate, and those already familiar with refereeing both World Tour and Para tournaments will of course continue to do so.

We look forward to an exciting year for Para badminton and for the technical officials that will serve the new World Circuit and other major Para tournaments. Hopefully the plans and the programme will hold, in spite of any further impacts of COVID-19, including travel restrictions.

With this wish, may I send you my season's greetings, wishing everyone a happy and successful 2022.



Action from the Uganda Para badminton International 2021.

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JEAN-GUY POITRAS

Jean-Guy Poitras receiving his BWF Lifetime Achievement Award from BWF President Poul-Erik Hoyer.



By Torsten Berg, Member – BWF Referee Assessment Panel

In 2019, BWF honoured Jean-Guy Poitras (CAN) with the BWF Lifetime Achievement Award for his 'significant and lifetime contribution towards the advancement and promotion of the sport worldwide'. This was indeed very well deserved as few have contributed so much and in so many ways to the progress of badminton in his country, his continent, and in the world.

However, his greatest achievements were as an international technical official, working in particular for BWF and the Pan Am Badminton Confederation (PABC),

and this is why we shall remember him and his achievements in this article.

Professor, Dr. Jean-Guy Poitras spent his professional career at the University of Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, as a professor of the Education, Kinesiology and Recreation Department at the Edmundston Campus, where he also taught, organised and coached badminton for many years. His outstanding career as a local, national and BWF Umpire is the reason why we shall remember him among BWF Technical Officials.

Jean-Guy Poitras retired in 2018 after a career that spanned more than 40 years as an international technical official. He

was an outstanding umpire. His time in the chair spanned from umpiring the very first match in the first PABC Championships in 1977 in his home of Moncton, umpiring three Commonwealth Games and serving in the medal matches in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, retiring as a BWF Umpire in 2003. For his exemplary service as a BWF and PABC Umpire, he received the BWF Meritorious Service Award dedicated to technical officials in 2008.

However, Jean-Guy did much more for badminton and BWF during, and in particular, after stepping down from the umpire's

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Jean-Guy Poitras and BWF TOs at the Dubai World Superseries Finals 2015.



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chair. His most important contribution to the progress of his peers came after retiring from international umpiring. He was a BWF Umpire Assessor, serving from 2003 to 2016, chairing the BWF Umpire Assessment Panel during most of this period, from 2004 to 2016.

In this capacity he can take much credit for

the current high standard of BWF Umpires and for the education system developed during his tenure. Representing PABC Technical Officials (Chair of PABC TOC from 2002 - 2017), he served with great distinction in the BWF Technical Official Commission from 2010 to 2017, supporting his continent and that of the BWF Umpire Assessment Panel. With his experience and his talent for finding solutions and proposing ideas for how to make progress

for umpires and referees, he was effectively serving as an unofficial deputy chair.

With his experience as a teacher and organiser, Jean-Guy educated a generation of Pan American umpires, often together with Charlotte Ackerman of USA. His students in Pan America as well as worldwide will always remember Jean-Guy Poitras as their great teacher and mentor.

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS WHO RETIRED IN 2021

Referees

- ▶ Ewald Cejnek (AUT)
- ▶ Jen Ponambalum (MRI)

Umpires

- ▶ Teo Kian Joo (MAS)
- ▶ Christian Johannessen (DEN)
- ▶ Ivanka Pokorni (CRO)
- ▶ Kelly Hoare (AUS)

Thank you very much for all your contributions in support of BWF.