



PRESS RELEASE

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BWF SUSPENDS FURTHER TOURNAMENTS IN MAY, JUNE AND JULY

The Badminton World Federation (BWF), in close consultation and consensus with the Host Member Associations and Continental Confederations, has taken the necessary step to suspend a number of HSBC BWF World Tour, BWF Tour and other BWF-sanctioned tournaments currently scheduled to take place in May, June and July.

Tournaments affected include three HSBC BWF World Tour events headlined by the BLIBLI Indonesia Open 2020 (Super 1000), plus a number of Grade 3, Junior and Para badminton competitions.

Suspended Tournaments

Grade 2 International Tournaments:

- CROWN GROUP Australian Open 2020 (2 - 7 June)
- TOYOTA Thailand Open 2020 (9 - 14 June)
- BLIBLI Indonesia Open 2020 (16 - 21 June)
- Russian Open 2020 (7 - 12 July)

Grade 3, Junior and Para Badminton Tournaments:

- LI-NING Denmark Challenge 2020 (7 - 10 May)
- FZ FORZA Slovenia International 2020 (13 - 16 May)
- YONEX Latvia International 2020 (28 - 31 May)
- CIPUTRA HANOI – YONEX SUNRISE Vietnam International Challenge 2020 (2 - 7 June)
- RSL Lithuanian International 2020 (4 - 7 June)
- Canada Para Badminton International 2020 (9 - 14 June)
- Russian International Junior White Nights 2020 (25 - 28 June)
- White Nights 2020 (1 - 5 July)
- All England Junior Badminton Championships 2020 (16 - 19 July)

The escalation of the COVID-19 pandemic globally has led all parties to confirm the suspension of these tournaments. The health, safety and wellbeing of all athletes, their entourage, officials and the greater badminton community remains the top priority.

Last week, BWF froze the World Rankings and World Junior Rankings until further notice, with ranking lists backdated to 17 March 2020. BWF will provide more clarity on the unfreezing of rankings once it is deemed safe to resume tournaments.

The BWF is also reviewing the impacts of the rescheduling of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games upon the Olympic and Paralympic qualification system. This review process is expected to take several weeks upon which BWF will make a further announcement.

Our thoughts and wishes are with everyone affected by this global pandemic and we encourage people to stay home and stay safe.

ENDS

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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 194 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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bwfbadminton>