

27 February 2017

RE: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - BWF ATHLETES COMMISSION ELECTIONS

Dear Member Associations

We are seeking nominations for the elections for the BWF **Athletes' Commission**. Please pass this information on to your players.

There are three (3) positions becoming available. These positions are for members whose term is expiring this year - **Yuhan Tan** (BEL), **Greysia Polii** (INA), **Hans-Kristian Vittinghus** (DEN).

The three newly elected members will have a four year term (2017 – 2021) on the Athletes' Commission and they will join the current members - **Koen Ridder** (NED), **Tang Yuanting** (CHN) and **Shintaro Ikeda** (JPN), whose term expires in 2019 (see the profiles of Commission members [linked here](#)).

REPRESENTATION / NOMINATIONS

Nominations can be made by active badminton players or a Member Association.

Please note that under the regulations, "no two elected members of the Athletes' Commission shall come from the same BWF Member Association". So that means that no nominations can be received from the Netherlands, China and Japan as there are already members of the Commission from those Member Associations.

Please use the nomination form – this can be downloaded from the BWF website ([linked here](#)).

ELECTIONS

Elections will take place by email from 26 April to 24 May 2017. Those players at the TOTAL BWF Sudirman Cup can also vote in person at the competition venue on Wednesday 24 May 2017.

After the elections, the new Commission will meet and select a Chair. This person will become a BWF Council Member.

Being an Athlete Commission member requires time. Please see below for a guide as to the kinds of tasks they are involved in and how much time commitment is required.

AIM OF THE COMMISSION

The Athletes' Commission is a peer elected body and is the link between the players' and the BWF.

Our aim is to ensure that athlete's opinions are heard at the highest level of governance in the BWF. We aim to involve ourselves in relevant work to facilitate the positive development of the player's experience and the sport as a whole.

ELECTION PROCESS 2017

- **27 March 2017 – Deadline for Nominations** – Nominations for election to the Athletes Commission must be made in writing using the Nomination Form and sent to Patricia Wong p.wong@bwfbadminton.org
- **10 April 2017 – Confirmation of Candidates** – the list of candidates will be sent by email to Member Associations, badminton players and the candidates themselves. The list of candidates will also be published on the BWF website.
- **26 April – 24 May 2017** (2000 Gold Coast Time) **Voting by Email**. Use only the official Voting Form. Send this to elections@bwfbadminton.org
- **24 May 2017 – Voting in Person** - players at the TOTAL BWF Sudirman Cup can vote in person at the Competition Venue from 09:00 to 20:00 (8.00 PM local time).

Once voting is complete the female and male player with the highest number of votes will automatically be elected to the Commission. The final position will go to the player (male or female) with the next highest number of votes.

I would like to encourage all players and Member Associations to consider putting forward a candidate for this election.

Being a member of the Commission is a rewarding experience and an opportunity to be actively involved in improving the lives and experiences of the professional players. It will also be an excellent learning experience for the successful candidate.

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If you have any questions about the election process or would like further information on the role of Commission members and the scope of duties, please do not hesitate to contact me directly on y.tan@bwfbadminton.org

Please find below some key clauses from the Guidelines for Council / Executive Board Procedures (including Committees and Commissions) which highlight the regulations on Athlete Commission elections.

I look forward to seeing the nominations for the elections for our new Athletes' Commission members.

Yours sincerely

Yuhan Tan
Chair - Athletes' Commission

Excerpts from Guidelines for Council / Executive Board Procedures (including Committees and Commissions)

9. ATHLETES COMMISSION

- 9.1 An Athletes Commission will be formed comprising six members elected by a players' body formally recognised by Council for the purpose of representing the players. No two elected members of the Athletes' Commission shall come from the same BWF Member Association. Any Badminton player serving on the IOC Athletes Commission or other such Athletes' body can seek Council's approval to be included in the Athletes Commission. Such a player cannot be appointed Chair of the Athletes Commission.
- 9.2 To be eligible for election to the Athletes Commission a person must
- be at least 18 years of age and must not have been sanctioned for a doping offence during his or her sports career; and
 - be an active player, identified by presence on the World Ranking List at the time of his or her election, or
 - have participated in the latest Olympic Games Badminton competition;
- or
- such other criteria as may be agreed with Council prior to an election.
- 9.3 The six Athletes Commission Members are elected the following way
- 9.3.1 Three persons are elected for a four year term by the active players at the time of an election before the end of the second quarter in the year after the Summer Olympic Games.
- 9.3.2 Three other persons elected for a four year term by the active players at the time of an election before the end of the second quarter in the year before the Summer Olympic Games.
- 9.3.3 In each election at least one male and one female Commission Member must be elected.
- 9.3.4 The process for election must be approved by the BWF President prior to the election and shall follow the following process:
- The date, venue and process of the election must be announced by the Chair of the Athletes Commission no later than twelve (12) weeks before the election. The announcement of the date and venue will be sent to all Members, published on the BWF website and sent to players e-mail addresses (if available).
 - Nominations for election to the Athletes Commission must be made in writing by an active player and sent directly to the Secretary General so as to reach the Federation not later than eight (8) weeks before the election date.
 - Eligible nomination will be sent to all Members, published on the BWF website and sent to players e-mail addresses (if available) latest six (6) weeks before the election date.

- Votes for the election may be cast in person at the competition venue on the announced date of the elections or by email.
 - Voting by email shall commence one calendar month before the date of the elections at the competition venue and shall end at the close of the polling station on the election day.
 - Those eligible to cast a vote must:
 - Be at least 19 years of age on the day they cast their vote.
 - Be in good standing with their Member Association.
 - Not serving a period of ineligibility with the BWF.
 - Be An active player as defined by:
 - ✓ Being on the top 200 of the first BWF World Ranking List published after the date the elections is called;
 - ✓ Or have competed in the most recent BWF World Championships or Olympic Games or the most recent World Team Championships for – the Uber Cup, the Thomas Cup, or the Sudirman Cup.
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Guidelines - Time Commitment for Athlete Commission Members

Ordinary Member

- **Athlete Commission meetings in person:** 2 times per year, 2-3 hours in length (1 day, 2 nights and usually organised at major tournaments).
- **Skype meetings:** approximately 10 per year (sometimes more depending on the level of work).
- **Responding to emails:** approximately 1 hour per week (maximum, usually less).

Vice Chair

- **Athlete Commission meetings in person:** 2 times per year, 2-3 hours in length (1 day, 2 nights and usually organised at major tournaments).
- **Skype meetings:** approximately 10 per year (sometimes more depending on the level of work).
- **Writing up minutes of meetings:** after every “in person” meeting and Skype meeting.
- **Responding to emails:** approximately 1-2 hours per week (maximum, usually less but the Chair and Vice Chair may discuss meeting agenda and wider topics that require further time commitments than that of the ordinary members)

Chair (also a BWF Council Member)

- **Attend BWF Council meetings:** 3 times per year, 5-6 days of meetings (usually organised at major tournaments).
 - **Preparation of reports and presentations for BWF Council meetings:** 3 times per year, 5-6 hours (maximum) prior to each series of meetings.
 - **Reading of meeting papers ahead of BWF Council meetings:** 3 times per year, 5-6 hours prior to each series of meetings.
 - **AC In person meetings:** 2 times per year, 2-3 hours in length (1 day, 2 nights and usually organised at major tournaments).
 - **AC Skype meetings:** approximately 10 per year (sometimes more depending on the level of work).
 - **Preparation of agenda for AC meetings:** 1-2 hours (maximum).
 - **Responding to emails:** approximately 2-3 hours per week (maximum, usually less).
 - **Skype meetings with BWF Council members:** 1-2 hours per month (maximum).
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