

'LEGEND'-ARY EXPERIENCE

When Megan Hollander left the Netherlands to compete in the HULIC-DAIHATSU Japan Para-Badminton International 2017 hardly could she have imagined being on court with a badminton superstar.

However, that was the thrilling finale to the SU 5 athlete's experience in the Land of the Rising Sun as she partnered Taufik Hidayat in an exhibition match at the YONEX Legends' Vision World Tour 2017 in Tokyo in September.

The Indonesian icon – the Men's Singles gold medallist at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games – was among a star-studded line-up that took to the courts at Machida City Gymnasium after the finals of the para-badminton tournament, thus giving some para-athletes a rare opportunity to play with badminton's big guns, including Lin Dan (China), Lee Chong Wei (Malaysia), Lee Yong Dae (Korea) and Peter Gade (Denmark).



HIGHLIGHTS

NEW GEN ARRIVES (PAGES 4 & 5)

BWF TOASTS NEW OFFICE (PAGE 6)

KEY DATES

09-14 October	BWF World Junior Mixed Team Championships 2017 (BWF Major Event), Yogyakarta
10-15 October	Yonex Dutch Open (Grand Prix), Almere
16-22 October	BWF World Junior Championships 2017 (BWF Major Event), Yogyakarta
17-22 October	Danisa Denmark Open (World Superseries Premier), Odense
24-29 October	Yonex French Open (World Superseries), Paris
31 Oct – 05 Nov	Bitburger Open (Grand Prix Gold), Saarbrücken
07-12 November	Macau Open (Grand Prix Gold), Macau
14-19 November	TAHOE China Open (World Superseries Premier), Fuzhou
21-26 November	Yonex-Sunrise Hong Kong Open (World Superseries), Hong Kong
22-26 November	Scottish Open (Grand Prix), Glasgow
28 Nov – 03 Dec	Korea Masters (Grand Prix Gold), Gwangju City
13-17 December	Dubai World Superseries Finals (World Superseries Premier), Dubai

'SENIORS' FESTIVAL

Starting in 2019, the BWF World Senior Championships will assume a new format, with a multi-tiered senior festival of badminton being staged around the main tournament.

Badminton World Federation is seeking to capitalise on the accustomed social atmosphere around this tournament – in which hundreds of players aged +35 to +70 compete biennially – by adding other badminton events for “players at all levels to come and compete in and interact socially while following the World Senior Championships”, explained BWF Secretary General Thomas Lund.

“The World Seniors will be the centrepiece of the event but we see an opportunity to enhance the value of event and the overall experience.

“In September, we had 667 competitors at World Seniors in Kochi, India. Two years ago, there were 1302 players in Helsingborg, Sweden, and 899 in Ankara, Turkey, in 2013. Considering some of those players travel with family and friends who also play badminton, but maybe not at a high competitive level or not a competitive level at all, we want to offer those persons a chance to get on court too.

“So these other seniors will be able to play in the badminton festival alongside the top-level World Senior Championships and the badminton festival will have different levels according to players' abilities,” elaborated Lund.

The first new-look World Seniors will take place in either the Danish city of Kolding (Sydbank Arena) or Katowice in Poland (Spodek Sports and Entertainment Arena), both of which are bidding to stage the popular BWF

Major Event in two years' time. The potential hosts – Badminton Denmark and the Polish Badminton Association – have outlined their respective visions for the festival aspect of the event.

“The BWF Council will review the bids, including the proposals for the seniors festival, and make its determination at our Council meeting in Jamaica next month,” said Lund adding that hosts for the BWF Para-Badminton World Championships 2019 and BWF World Junior Championships 2019 will also be decided at the same time.

Over the last few years, World Seniors has become an appealing prospect for host cities with hundreds of players patronising hotels, restaurants and tourist attractions during their stay and using transportation services to traverse their environs; with some extending these trips into holidays.

“We look forward to seeing this concept develop and how host cities will tailor it in their unique ways. World Seniors is already very popular and we anticipate interest growing with the addition of the badminton festival,” added the BWF Secretary General.





Poul-Erik Høyer
BWF President

Dear Colleagues and Friends

Badminton has enjoyed a wonderful summer and we are gathering steam towards the end of 2017 with many interesting developments ahead of us.

However, before talking about the future, I wish to highlight some of the landmarks of the last three months. Most significantly, of course, was the announcement by the International Paralympic Committee that badminton will have 14 medal events for its debut in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

These events offer opportunities for wheelchair players (6 medal events), standing players (7 medal events) and short stature players (1 medal event for men) to qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. They will allow us to showcase the diversity and excitement of para-badminton to the benefit of both the sport and our athletes in different sport classes. BWF is committed to producing an inspiring para-badminton debut that adds value to the Tokyo 2020 Sports Programme.

I am also pleased that 90 para-badminton athletes will have the distinction of representing their respective countries in the para-sports spectacle which will mark another major milestone in badminton's history.

Now we know the overall number of para-badminton athletes for Tokyo 2020 and the medal events, we will turn our attention to the qualification process for the badminton competition. The qualification system for badminton for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games will be finalised by November 2017 and this will detail how players can qualify.

As para-badminton players look ahead, some of our other athletes are reflecting on their success at the TOTAL BWF World Championships 2017 in Glasgow in August. Again, amazing talent, resilience and explosive action were to the fore and this BWF Major Event was an incredible advertisement for our sport. From the wily endurance of China's Lin Dan, reaching his seventh Men's Singles final; to veteran stars like Liliyana Natsir (Indonesia) and Zhang Nan (China) each winning their fourth World Championships gold medal; to the breaths of fresh air that swept through Emirates Arena with victories in Men's Singles, Women's Singles and Women's Doubles for badminton's young sensations – Viktor Axelsen (Denmark), Nozomi Okuhara (Japan) and Chen Qingchen/Jia Yifan (China) respectively.

And what can I say about that epic 110-minute Women's Singles final!

In what unfolded like a dramatic movie, both Okuhara and Pusarla V Sindhu of India treated fans globally – and those of us lucky enough to be watching live – to an astounding display of athleticism, grit and endurance. One player may have won gold and the other, silver – but badminton was the biggest winner of all!

Since the World Championships, players have resumed battle on the MetLife BWF World Superseries tour and all eyes are on the Destination Dubai Rankings to see who will qualify for the year-end showpiece to be held in the iconic Middle Eastern city for the last time. Thanks to Dubai Sports Council as well as Falcon and Associates, we have had an amazing Superseries finale in Dubai for the last three seasons. We anticipate this year's will be just as good or even better as we bid farewell to the Dubai World Superseries Finals.

Looking ahead, we will soon announce some significant developments in badminton's exciting future, with details on the new tour, the tour finals and the title sponsor to be revealed. Stay tuned!

In closing, I wish to note that our sport continues to progress in several ways and gain further global prominence through those who serve it. In this regard, I wish to congratulate my colleague and BWF Council member, Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, on her election as a member of the International Olympic Committee.

As President of the Badminton Association of Thailand, she has been working for badminton in her homeland for some years and we look forward to her contribution at the BWF and IOC levels in years to come.

Finally, I wish to extend BWF's appreciation to all the dignitaries, corporate colleagues, media and friends of badminton who attended the reception at our new headquarters in Kuala Lumpur in August. It was a lovely evening and we were happy that you could join us at our modern and spacious office.

Also, thank you to all who worked on this project. It is a wonderful environment in which our staff can work comfortably to chart the road ahead for badminton.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Poul-Erik Høyer". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "P" and "H".

Poul-Erik Høyer

90 ATHLETES; 14 EVENTS FOR PARALYMPIC DEBUT

Badminton has been awarded 14 medal events for its debut in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

In addition, the International Paralympic Committee has disclosed that 90 para-badminton athletes will have the distinction of representing their respective countries in the para-sports spectacle which will mark another significant milestone in badminton's history.

"Having 14 medal events, across which to showcase the diversity and excitement of para-badminton, will benefit both the sport and our athletes in the different disciplines. BWF is committed to producing an inspiring para-badminton debut that adds value to the Tokyo 2020 Sports Programme.

"Now we know the overall number of para-badminton athletes for Tokyo 2020 and the medal events, we will turn our attention to the qualification process for the badminton competition," said BWF President Poul-Erik

Høyer, following the IPC's announcement in September of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic medal-event programme.

"I would like to thank the IPC for its cooperation with the BWF and for affording our athletes with impairments this golden opportunity to compete at the highest level. I know they are eagerly looking forward to it."

The Badminton Programme for Tokyo 2020 features singles, doubles and mixed-doubles with an emphasis on singles (10 medal events) to ensure a wider range of National Paralympic Committees can qualify athletes for badminton.

The 14 medal events offer opportunities for wheelchair players (6 medal events), standing players (7 medal events) and short stature players (1 medal event for men) to qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

The qualification system for badminton for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games will be finalised between September and November 2017 and this will detail how players can qualify. The IPC will publish the Qualification Guide in January 2018.

TOKYO 2020 PARALYMPIC GAMES - MEDAL EVENTS BADMINTON

Men's events (7)	Women's events (6)	Mixed events (1)
Singles WH1 Singles WH2 Singles SL3 Singles SL4 Singles SU5 Singles SS6 Doubles WH	Singles WH1 Singles WH2 Singles SL4 Singles SU5 Doubles WH Doubles SL/SU	Doubles SL/SU



Wie Ou and Hefang Cheng (right) of China.

DOUBLE-GOLD FOR FIVE

Five players won two titles each at the HULIC-DAIHATSU Japan Para-Badminton International 2017 that was held in Machida City from 7 to 10 September, 2017.

The tournament achieved distinction as the biggest-ever para-badminton event with 182 players from 28 countries competing in 22 categories. It was also the first international para-badminton tournament in Japan. The hosts had the biggest team with 36 athletes, followed by India with 19.

Malaysia's Cheah Liek Hou, Korea's Kim Jung Jun, China's Cheng Hefang, England's Jack Shephard and Thailand's Sujirat Pookkham were the most successful players with two titles each.

Top seed Cheah won the Men's Singles SU 5 beating Japan's Tetsuo Ura 21-10 21-8 and then returned for the Men's Doubles SU 5 with Hairol Fozzi Saaba to hold off 3-4 seeds Kim Gi Yeon/Shin Kyung Hwan (Korea) 21-16 13-21 21-10.

China's Cheng Hefang and Thailand's Sujirat Pookkham were double title winners among the women.

Cheng won the Women's Singles SL 4 category beating Thailand's Chanida Srinavakul 21-7 21-3 before partnering Ou Wie in Mixed Doubles SL 3 – SU 5 to beat France's Lucas Mazur/Faustine Noel 13-21 21-18 21-13.

Jack Shephard and Krysten Coombs faced off in the Men's Singles SS 6 final which was the closest contest of finals day. After Shephard triumphed 18-21 23-21 23-21, the two Englishmen combined for the Doubles SS 6 final which they won comfortably.

Sujirat Pookkham and Amnour Wetwithan were triumphant in Women's Doubles WH 1 – WH 2 over Germany's Valeska Knoblauch/Elke Rongen, 21-10 21-6. Pookkham then took the court for the Women's Singles WH 1 finale and surprised top seed Karin Suter-Erath (Switzerland) 21-13 21-9.



SPOTLIGHT ON SWISS STAR

Karin Suter-Erath has just about seen and achieved it all in para-badminton but the veteran wheelchair athlete revelled in the delight of a new experience recently – her first BWF Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year title.

The 47-year-old, who beat three other nominees for the 2016 top honour, received

her award at the TOTAL BWF World Championships 2017 in Glasgow, Scotland, in August.

Having been unable to attend the prize ceremony in Dubai last December, the Swiss player was presented with the Player of the Year accolade on finals day by BWF Vice President – Oceania, Geraldine Brown.

NEW GEN ARRIVES

Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum was the backdrop for a lavish welcome dinner for the TOTAL BWF World Championships 2017.

The standout feature of the TOTAL BWF World Championships 2017 was the triumph of the younger generation of stars.

Viktor Axelsen's victory (1) in the Men's Singles final over Lin Dan illustrated this vividly. Lin, the five-time champion from China, hasn't lost a World final since 2005, but Axelsen didn't let history weigh him down. The young Dane was ready for the big occasion and he powered past the Chinese great in straight games.

An even more one-sided victory over reigning champion Chen Long (China) in the semi-finals was an indicator of how far the 23-year-old Axelsen has come in his relentless quest to be the best.

Women's Doubles featured two champions who promise to be around for a long time: Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan. The two 20-year-olds beat a Japanese pair who have had a meteoric rise in 2017 – Yuki Fukushima and Sayaka Hirota – in an 83-minute battle.

If Men's Singles saw the passing of the baton, Women's Singles was a sensational display between two different types of players. Japan's Nozomi Okuhara and India's Pusarla V Sindhu

put on a showpiece for the ages (2). In what turned out to be the longest-ever Women's Singles match, the final had everything that a connoisseur could ask for: skill, speed, gymnastic displays of athleticism, and sheer tenacity. After both slugged it out for 110 minutes, Okuhara emerged as Japan's first-ever Women's Singles World champion. The result also meant that China's drought in the discipline since 2013 continued.

Men's Doubles had surprise finalists – China's Liu Cheng/Zhang Nan and Indonesia's Mohammad Ahsan/Rian Agung Saputro – neither of whom had made a World Superseries final as a pair (3). Powered by Zhang Nan's instinctive ability to adapt brilliantly to different partners, it was the Chinese pair that came good in the shortest final of the day. Zhang won his fourth World title – his first in Men's Doubles. With the exception of 2013, the Chinese great has a gold medal from every World and Olympic event since 2011.

After Men's Singles, it was another generational battle in Mixed Doubles as Olympic gold medallists Tontowi Ahmad/Liliyana Natsir (Indonesia) faced Zheng Siwei/Chen Qingchen (China). Natsir's great control at the net was once again demonstrated in ample measure, allowing Ahmad the freedom to play his attacking game. In 56 minutes, Natsir had her fourth World title and Ahmad his second.

The finals capped what had been a riveting week. Right from the first day, matches were closely fought and suspense hung in the air. On the second day, came the stunning upset of four-time finalist Lee Chong Wei – the Malaysian crashing out in the opening round to Frenchman Brice Leverdez (6).

FINALS RESULTS

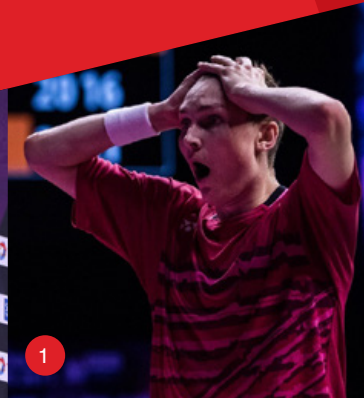
MS: Viktor Axelsen (DEN) bt Lin Dan (CHN) 22-20 21-16

WS: Nozomi Okuhara (JPN) bt Pusarla V Sindhu (IND) 21-19 20-22 22-20

MD: Liu Cheng/Zhang Nan (CHN) bt Mohammad Ahsan/Rian Agung Saputro (INA) 21-10 21-17

WD: Chen Qingchen/Jia Yifan (CHN) bt Yuki Fukushima/Sayaka Hirota (JPN) 21-18 17-21 21-15

XD: Tontowi Ahmad/Liliyana Natsir (INA) bt Zheng Siwei/Chen Qingchen (CHN) 15-21 21-16 21-15



Continues on Page 5

Continued from Page 4

In Women's Singles, among the headline-grabbers was the World Junior champion, Chen Yufei, who scythed her way through the draw. The young Chinese took down top seed Akane Yamaguchi and 2013 World champion Ratchanok Intanon (Thailand) on her way to the semi-finals.

Scotland had plenty to rejoice about as home-grown star Kirsty Gilmour (4) played inspiringly to oust sixth seed He Bingjiao (China) and reach the quarter-finals, before falling to India's Saina Nehwal in a lengthy battle.

Men's Doubles top seeds Li Junhui/Liu Yuchen (China) were shown the door early. So were Rio Olympics silver medallists, Goh V Shem/Tan Wee Kiong (Malaysia), outplayed by upcoming Kim Dukyoung/Chung Eui Seok (5)

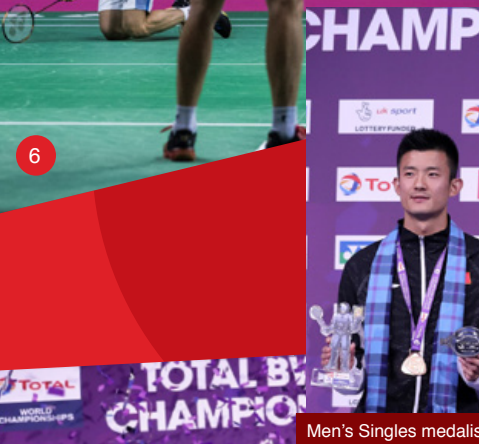
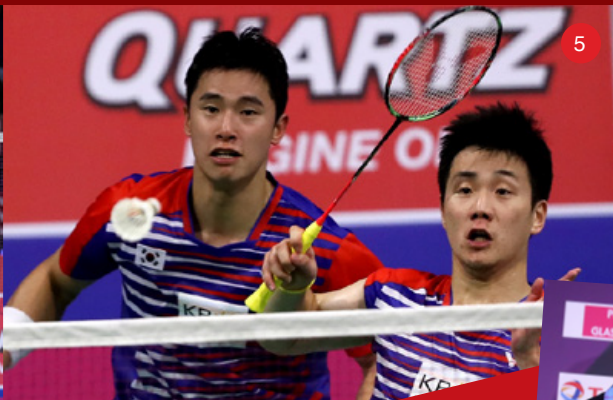
in the second round. The Koreans then beat Rio 2016 bronze medallists, Marcus Ellis/Chris Langridge (England), to reach the quarter-finals.

Japan now boast a formidable line-up in Women's Doubles. Two pairs – Misaki Matsutomo/Ayaka Takahashi and Fukushima/Hirota – made the semi-finals and were nearly joined by a third, Shiho Tanaka/Koharu Yonemoto, who lost their quarter-final to Denmark's Christinna Pedersen/Kamilla Rytter Juhl by the tightest of margins.

Lee Chun Hei/Chau Hoi Wah were the giant-killers in Mixed Doubles, felling second seeds Lu Kai/Huang Yaqiong (China) in the quarter-finals to win Hong Kong's first-ever doubles medal at a World Championships.



BWF Secretary General Thomas Lund and BADMINTONScotland Chief Executive Anne Smillie at the pre-tournament press conference.



Men's Singles medalists



Women's Singles medalists



Mixed Doubles medalists



Women's Doubles medalists

BWF TOASTS NEW OFFICE

Malaysian Government and sports officials were among those who attended a reception, held by the Badminton World Federation, to celebrate the opening of its new headquarters.

Timed to coincide with the draw ceremony for the TOTAL BWF World Championships 2017, the function took place on the evening of Wednesday 9 August at Naza Tower in KLCC into which BWF moved in late June.

Welcoming dignitaries and guests, BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer noted the move "was mainly to extend our office space and facilities to accommodate new staff who will help us to meet the increasing demands of our sport".

"Badminton is one of the fastest-growing sports globally – evidenced by the spike in television viewership, social-media traffic, broadcast reach and sponsor interest," he said.

Høyer also thanked all who have been instrumental in helping BWF since it relocated to Malaysia from England in 2005.

"We have really appreciated the cooperation and support we have received from the Malaysian Government and various sports bodies, including the Badminton Association of Malaysia and Badminton Asia."



BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer shows off the heritage wall in the BWF foyer which traces the history of badminton and badminton's international federation.



BWF Secretary General Thomas Lund (right) and BWF Chief Operating Officer Stuart Borrie are pictured with Senior Design Manager at SW1 Solutions, Afey Zakaria, who conceptualised the design for the BWF's new office.



Guests enjoying themselves – and the culinary fare – at the reception.



Top Malaysian sports officials, including Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) President, Tan Sri Tunku Imran (left); Badminton Association of Malaysia President, Datuk Seri Norza Zakaria (second left) and OCM Secretary General, Datuk Low Beng Choo (right) attended the reception. Also pictured is BWF Referee Dennis Li (red jacket).



IOC ELECTS LEESWADTRAKUL

BWF Council Member, Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, was among eight persons elected to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in September.

Leeswadtrakul, who is President of the Badminton Association of Thailand, was elected as an Individual Member at the IOC Session in Lima, Peru.

She joins BWF President Poul-Erik Høyer and BWF Vice-President – Africa, Dagmawit Girmay Berhane, as a member of the organisation which spearheads the Olympic Movement.

YOUTHFUL ENERGY PREVAILS

Having completed two-thirds of the MetLife BWF World Superseries season, it's apparent that a new chapter in badminton has unfolded.

This is most obvious in Men's Singles, but the other categories too are witnessing something similar.

Six of the eight Superseries titles were won by the younger generation. Only two – the Yonex All England and the Celcom Axiata Malaysia Open – remained in the hands of the older generation of legends (Malaysia's Lee Chong Wei and China's Lin Dan respectively). Of the six, two were first-time Superseries finalists – India's Sai Praneeth at the OUE Singapore Open and Indonesia's Anthony Ginting at the Victor Korea Open. Denmark's Viktor Axelsen and India's Kidambi Srikanth split the other four titles.

Axelsen's Daihatsu Yonex Japan Open campaign was particularly significant, for the newly-crowned World champion was in the spotlight. His victory over reigning champion Lee Chong Wei – following his World Championships triumph over Chen Long and Lin Dan – was an emphatic statement that the Dane is now firmly ensconced on the throne.

A number of retirements of veteran doubles players over the past few months saw the emergence of young stars. India's Marcus Fernaldi Gideon/Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo have been the most successful of this crop, winning four titles this season – in England, India, Malaysia and Japan. China's Li Junhui/Liu Yuchen and Japan's Takeshi Kamura/Keigo Sonoda triumphed in Indonesia and Australia respectively. Only one older pair bucked the trend – Denmark's Mathias Boe/Carsten Mogensen, with victories in Singapore and Korea, showing they're still up there with the best.

Women's Doubles has unfolded similarly, with Denmark's Christinna Pedersen/Kamilla Rytter Juhl showing remarkable resilience to make three finals, of which they won one – the OUE Singapore Open.

Japan were the dominant team overall, with four wins – emerging pairs Shiho Tanaka/Koharu Yonemoto and Yuki Fukushima/Sayaka Hirota followed in the footsteps of their seniors Misaki Matsutomo/Ayaka Takahashi – while Korea's Chang Ye Na/Lee So Hee and China's Chen Qingchen/Jia Yifan and Huang Yaqiong/Yu Xiaohan picked up one title each.

Mixed Doubles saw a change in the script after the early season dominance of China's Lu Kai/Huang Yaqiong and Zheng Siwei/Chen Qingchen. Indonesia's Praveen Jordan/Debby Susanto won the Korea Open – their first Superseries crown in over a year, while China's Wang Yiliu/Huang Dongping came out of the shadows of their more established compatriots by winning the Japan Open.

The one exception to the pattern of generational shift was Women's Singles, in which the phenomenon started a few years ago. This year, Tai Tzu Ying (Chinese Taipei) was on a roll, winning three Superseries (England, Malaysia, Singapore). Pusarla V Sindhu consolidated on the gains she made last year, winning titles at home and in Korea, while Japan's Sayaka Sato was the surprise winner in Indonesia. Nozomi Okuhara prepared well for the World Championships by winning the Crown Group Australian Open. Olympic champion Carolina Marin (Spain) rediscovered her winning ways by beating He Bingjiao (China) at the Japan Open.

As various young champions establish themselves in each category, the race to the Dubai World Superseries Finals has become more intriguing than ever.

NOTE: Track the MetLife BWF World Superseries standings on the tour site: www.bwfworldsuperseries.com



MetLife
BWF WORLD
SUPERSERIES



Viktor Axelsen of Denmark continued his fine form in Japan.



Indonesia's Men's Doubles heroes, Marcus Fernaldi Gideon (left) and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo with their coach Herry Iman Pierngadi.



Pusarla V Sindhu of India (right) beat Japan's Nozomi Okuhara in Korea.



Wang Yiliu (right) and Huang Dongping of China.



Misaki Matsutomo (left) and Ayaka Takahashi of Japan.



COACHES FOCUS ON RESEARCH

Participants, presenters and organisers at the BWF World Coaching Conference in Glasgow, Scotland.



Xu Huaiwen (left) gets some assistance from Hong Kong Women's Singles player, Yip Pui Yin, in an on-court session.

The latest edition of the BWF World Coaching Conference took place on the sidelines of the TOTAL BWF World Championships 2017 in August.

Ninety coaches from 29 countries attended the two-day forum at Scotstoun's National Badminton Academy in Glasgow. The conference featured seven speakers: Kenneth Larsen, John Neal, Tan Kim Her, Xu Huaiwen, Pi Hongyan, Stewart Kerr and Ian Wright.

The 25-26 August event combined theory sessions with on-court examples. Hong Kong player, Yip Pui Yin, graciously assisted in the Women's Singles demonstrations delivered by Xu and Pi. In addition, Loughborough University and Leeds Beckett University presented their respective sport-science research projects which were funded by BWF.

"Rather than looking into purely badminton – as most of the coaches know badminton – we looked at some research that has been going on and that we've been funding; to give the coaches a broader knowledge and some underpinning to what they are doing.

"We got a good network of expert coaches and former players and we brought in some sport scientists with different ideas to get the coaches to think about what they do on a day-to-day basis, and to give them new ideas to try," explained BWF Development Director Ian Wright, adding that "a lot of emphasis was put on the mental side of the sport".

The conference further underlined the international federation's commitment to developing coaches globally and future BWF World Coaching Conferences are in the works.

SHUTTLE TIME UPDATE

Since its 100th implementation in Panama last year, the BWF's grassroots programme Shuttle Time has continued its global expansion with more member associations embracing the development initiative.

Among those which have started Shuttle Time in the past year are Zimbabwe (Africa), India (Asia), Sweden (Europe), Samoa (Oceania) and Suriname (Pan Am).

In total, there are now 119 Shuttle Time implementations: Africa (22); Asia (29); Europe (34); Oceania (12); and Pan Am (22). Shuttle Time resources are available in 17 languages, with Bengali, Nepalese, Swedish and Tadjik versions in production.

In related news, Shuttle Time will be presented as a model of best practice at the TAFISA World Congress in November in Seoul, South Korea. TAFISA is the Association for International Sport for All.



Samoa is one of the latest member associations to embrace Shuttle Time.



Children in Uganda enjoying Shuttle Time.



Shuttle Time in Slovenia.



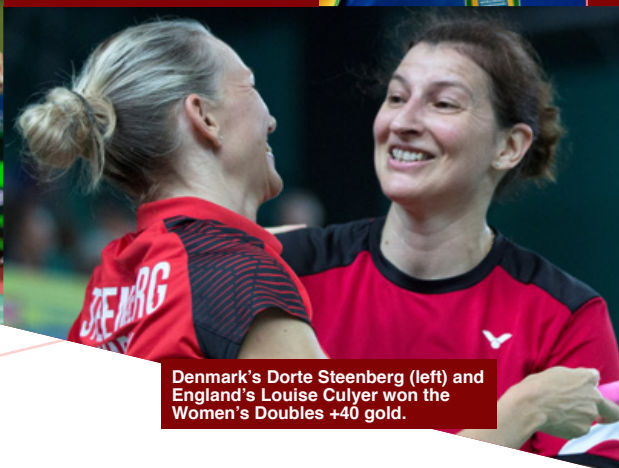
Germany's Heidi Bender won a triple crown in the +55 age category.



Akira Hirota and Shinjiro Matsuda of Japan emerged champions in the Men's Doubles +70.



Sanave Thomas (foreground) and Rupesh Kumar wave to fans after winning India's lone gold in the Men's Doubles +35 category.



Denmark's Dorte Steenberg (left) and England's Louise Culyer won the Women's Doubles +40 gold.



Elvira Richter of Germany reigned in the Women's Singles +70 final.

GOLD RUSH FOR BENDER

Heidi Bender was the most successful player at the Manorama BWF World Senior Championships 2017, returning home with three gold medals.

The German won the Women's Singles +55 event beating England's Sue Sheen. She returned to the court for the Mixed Doubles +55 final with Indonesia's Bobby Ertanto. The top seeds defeated Thailand's Bovornovadep Devakula and Juthatip Banjongsilp, 21-15 21-8.

Bender's third victory was in the Women's Doubles +55 with Denmark's Birte Bach Steffensen. It was another short affair as the pair powered past Japan's Miyoko Sato/Kuniko Yamamoto 21-12 21-15.

The championships, held in the south Indian city of Kochi from 11 to 17 August 2017, saw

663 players from 39 countries competing in 40 events (eight age categories), with more than 800 matches taking place during the week-long tournament.

Nine players – Dorte Steenberg (Denmark); Christine Crossley, Jim Garrett and Betty Bartlett (England); Bobby Ertanto (Indonesia); Stanislav Pukhov, Maria Koloskova and Olga Arkhangelskaya (Russia); and Pornroj Banditpisut (Thailand) – won two gold medals each.

The closest matches of the 40 finals were the Men's Singles +60 and Women's Doubles +70. In the Men's Singles +60 final, top seed Dan Travers (Scotland) overcame a stubborn challenge from Sri Lankan second seed Arnold Dendeng, saving three match points in a 31-minute thriller: 13-21 21-16

26-24. The Women's Doubles +70 final was similarly hotly contested between Japan's Sumiko Ishikawa/Satoko Nakamura and England's Beryl Goodall/Mary Jenner. The Japanese duo recovered from 17-19 and saved two match points before converting their third opportunity: 21-10 19-21 25-23.

Stanislav Pukhov took home the Men's Singles +35 crown with a straight-games win over Thailand's Naruenart Chuaymak, while Olga Arkhangelskaya won the Women's Singles in the same age category, beating Maria Koloskova in an all-Russian final.

The only Indians to win a title were Rupesh Kumar/Sanave Thomas in the Men's Doubles +35 category to the delight of home fans.

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WORLD SENIORS FINALS - RESULTS

Age Group +35

MS 35: Stanislav Pukhov (Russia) bt Naruenart Chuaymak (Thailand) 21-13 21-19
WS 35: Olga Arkhangelskaya (Russia) bt Maria Koloskova (Russia) 21-16 21-16
MD 35: Rupesh Kumar/Sanave Thomas (India) bt JBS Vidyadhar/V Diyu (India) 21-12 17-21 7-9 Retd
WD 35: Olga Arkhangelskaya/Maria Koloskova (Russia) bt Rie Matsumoto/Noriko Sanada (Japan) 21-18 21-10
XD 35: Stanislav Pukhov/ Maria Koloskova (Russia) bt Felix Hoffmann/Claudia Vogelgsang (Germany) 21-11 21-12

Age Group +40

MS 40: Hosemari Fujimoto (Japan) bt KA Aneesh (India) 21-4 21-9
WS 40: Claudia Vogelgsang (Germany) bt Renu Chandrika Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka) 16-21 21-10 21-14
MD 40: Phongthep Imkaew/Worapoj Somchariya (Thailand) bt Kok Cheong Kah/Chee Meng Lum (Malaysia) 22-20 21-16
WD 40: Louise Culyer (England)/Dorte Steenberg (Denmark) bt Olga Bryant (England)/ Olga Kuznetsova (Russia) 21-12 21-14
XD 40: Carsten Loesch/Dorte Steenberg (Denmark) bt Carl Jennings/Joanne Muggeridge (England) 21-17 21-16

Age Group +45

MS 45: Chang Jun Wu (Chinese Taipei) bt Carsten Loesch (Denmark) 21-10 21-16
WS 45: Csilla Gondane Forian (Hungary) bt Dorota Grzejdak (Poland) 21-12 21-11
MD 45: Chatchai Boonmee/Wittaya Panomchai (Thailand) bt Srikant Bakshi/Navdeep Singh (India) 21-18 21-15
WD 45: Tracey Middleton/Joanne Muggeridge (England) bt Tanja Eberl/Marika Wippich (Germany) 21-8 21-12

XD 45: Nick Ponting/Julie Bradbury (England) bt Patrik Bjorkler (Sweden)/Csilla Gondane Forian (Hungary) 21-18 21-14

Age Group +50

MS 50: Karoon Kasayapanan (Thailand) bt Narong Vanichitsarakul (Thailand) 21-12 21-15
WS 50: Zhou Xin (Hong Kong) bt Tanja Eberl (Germany) 21-16 18-21 21-18
MD 50: Bobby Ertanto (Indonesia)/Wei Ping Ting (Malaysia) bt Graham Henderson/Mark Topping (Ireland) 21-17 16-21 21-13
WD 50: Betty Blair/Debora Miller (England) bt Ye Wang (Germany)/Zhou Xin (Hong Kong) 21-15 21-9
XD 50: Alexander Tandun/Rosiana Tendean (Indonesia) bt Mark Topping (Ireland)/Debora Miller (England) 19-21 21-12 21-14

Age Group +55

MS 55: Pornroj Banditpisut (Thailand) bt Basant Kumar Soni 21-10 21-6
WS 55: Heidi Bender (Germany) bt Sue Sheen (England) 21-8 21-8
MD 55: Pornroj Banditpisut/Nattapol Sanlekanun (Thailand) bt Eric Plane/Roger Taylor (England) 21-5 21-17
WD 55: Birte Bach Steffensen/Heidi Bender (Germany) bt Miyoko Sato/Kuniko Yamamoto (Japan) 21-12 21-15
XD 55: Bobby Ertanto (Indonesia)/Heidi Bender (Germany) bt Bovornovadev Devakula/Juthatip Banjongsilp (Thailand) 21-15 21-8

Age Group +60

MS 60: Dan Travers (Scotland) bt Arnold Dendeng (Sri Lanka) 13-21 21-16 26-24
WS 60: Christine M Crossley (England) bt Christine Black (Scotland) 21-11 21-7

MD 60: Sergey Bushuev/Vladimir Koloskov (Russia) bt Tariq Farooq (Austria)/Karsten Meier (Denmark) 21-15 19-21 21-17
WD 60: Sugako Morita/Sayoko Takebayashi (Japan) bt Christine Black (Scotland)/Christine M Crossley (England) 22-24 21-18 21-14
XD 60: Ian M Purton/Christine M Crossley (England) bt Dan Travers/Christine Black (Scotland) 21-15 5-3 Retd

Age Group +65

MS 65: Johan Croukamp (South Africa) bt Henry Paynter (Canada) 21-15 21-11
WS 65: Betty Bartlett (England) bt Siew Har Hong (Canada) 21-16 21-15
MD 65: Peter Emptage/Graham Holt (England) bt Somrak Arnamwat/Chaiwat Hanthanom (Thailand) 21-15 21-14
WD 65: Betty Bartlett/Eileen M Carley (England) bt Haruko Asakoshi/Yasuko Kataito (Japan) 21-10 21-16
XD 65: Henry Paynter/Siew Har Hong (Canada) bt Christian Hansen/Gitte Attle Rasmussen (Denmark) 18-21 21-19 21-17

Age Group +70

MS 70: Jim Garrett (England) bt Yoshio Terasaki (Japan) 21-11 21-4
WS 70: Elvira Richter (Germany) bt Sumiko Kaneko (Japan) 21-15 20-22 21-10
MD 70: Akira Hirota/Shinjiro Matsuda (Japan) bt Jim Garrett/Ray Sharp (England) 21-10 21-19
WD 70: Sumiko Ishikawa/Satoko Nakamura (Japan) bt Beryl Goodall/Mary Jenner (England) 22-20 21-15
XD 70: Jim Garrett/Susan Awcock (England) bt Masaki Furuhashi/Sumiko Kaneko (Japan) 22-20 21-15

BWF SALUTES TOM BACHER

Badminton World Federation mourns the passing of one of the sport's iconic personalities and BWF Honorary Life Vice-President, Tom Bacher.

The 75-year-old, who passed away on 4 October in his native Denmark, served badminton nationally, continentally and internationally as an administrator following a distinguished career as a player, coach, selector, team manager and umpire.

Bacher was elected to the International Badminton Federation (IBF) Council in 1979 and spent the next 24 years serving the IBF in various roles including Executive Board Member (1982-1992), Vice President (1987-2003), Deputy Chair of Council (1987-1995 and 2002-2003) and Vice President (2000 – 2003). Tom received the Herbert Scheele Trophy for outstanding and exceptional contribution to badminton in 2008 and became a BWF Honorary Life Vice-President in 2009.

He contributed particularly to business side of the sport, serving from 1982 to 1992 as Chairman of the Open Badminton Committee, which initiated and developed the international prize-money events. The reform of the Thomas and Uber Cup in 1982, which greatly improved the attraction of the event and created the financial basis of the federation for a decade was the brainchild of a small working group with Bacher, Arthur Jones and Roger Johansson meeting in Bacher's garden one weekend. The establishment and growth of the World Grand Prix – now remodelled into the BWF World Superseries – was another major contribution from Bacher and his committee.

"Tom Bacher has made an invaluable contribution to badminton's global development as a business and a sustainable financial entity. His visionary service and leadership have been to the benefit of generations of players who now make a living from badminton," said BWF President Poul-Erik Hoyer.

"Beyond this, his overall desire to see our sport progress on all levels, led Tom to give freely of his time and experience. Badminton is fortunate to have had him and we will always remember him fondly and how much he has given to our sport. He has left an outstanding legacy."



Tom Bacher