



BADMINTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

(Affiliated to the Badminton World Federation and Badminton Asia Confederation)

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Date: 31st December 2022

The Hony. Secretaries
All Affiliated Associations / Units of BAI

Subject: Prohibition on Unauthorised Badminton Tournaments/ Leagues

Dear All,

It has been brought to our attention, from time to time, that certain organisations are conducting/ planning to conduct badminton tournaments/ leagues without authorisation from BAI. To this end, correspondences were sent by BAI previously on 14th November 2018, 26th February 2019 and 13th November 2022 to all the Affiliated Units to prevent participation of registered players, coaches, technical and support staff in such unauthorised tournaments (copies enclosed).

As you are aware, BAI maintains and protects general conduct of Badminton sport in India, particularly with reference to the Rules and Regulations for conduct of the games under aegis of the Badminton World Federation and Badminton Asia regularly. BAI as a parent body of India, also coordinates inter-state activities in respect of Badminton sport in all ways including holding of inter-state tournaments, organising and recognizing of championships, tournaments for its registered players, registered through its Affiliated Units.

Clause 21 of the Memorandum of BAI strictly prohibits its registered players, coaches, technical staff and support staff from participating in any unauthorised tournaments/leagues as thus:

"Registered Players/ Coaches/ Technical Staff shall be entitled to take part in any Registered BAI tournament or take benefit of Coaching etc. once his/ her name is registered by BAI or its Affiliated Units. For Registration the year being reckoned shall be from 1st January to 31st December. No Player/ Coach/ Technical Staff shall register himself/ herself with another Association or Organisation with similar aims and objects.

A Registered Player/ Coach/ Technical Staff/ Support Staff shall not participate in any Tournaments which is not approved by BAI or its Affiliated units. Approved Tournaments will mean Tournaments approved by BAI routed through Affiliated Units and Tournaments approved by Affiliated Units routed through its Districts.

BAI shall have jurisdiction over a Player/ Coach/ Technical Staff/ Support Staff within jurisdiction of an unit of BAI. A Player/ Coach/ Technical Staff/ Support Staff under the aegis of an unit of BAI shall deemed ipso facto to submit to the jurisdiction of BAI.



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A Player will not indulge in any Age fraud or falsification of any documents. A breach shall automatically call for suspension by the respective Committee."

As you are also aware, BAI and all its affiliated associations/ units have to abide by the BAI Memorandum. It is therefore responsibility of all the affiliated associations/ units to prevent dilution of BAI's Memorandum.

As you are also aware, participation of the registered players in unauthorised tournaments have no bearing upon their rankings for selection in international and national tournaments. On the other hand, if the players participate in unauthorised tournaments, they risk absence from authorised leagues/tournaments which in turn will adversely impact their national and international rankings. They may even lose their BAI IDs and consequently, get debarred from playing registered tournaments/leagues.

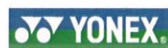
As you are also aware, the Badminton World Federation's Anti- Doping Regulations prohibits players etc. from associating with support persons who are not subjected to any Anti-Doping Organisation and have been convicted or found in a criminal, disciplinary or professional proceeding to have engaged in conduct which would have constituted a violation of anti-doping rules. As the unauthorised tournaments in India operate outside the ambit of international and national regulatory framework, BAI does not have knowledge of the disqualifying status of the support persons in such unauthorised tournaments. This means that by participating in unauthorised tournaments, the registered players, coaches, technical and support staff may risk their careers for possible violations of Anti- Doping Regulations which can lead to suspension and even ban.

As you are aware, the possible implications of unauthorised tournaments/ leagues on careers of registered players, coaches may be far reaching, and it will ultimately reflect poorly upon India's representation at the international stage.

To this end, please advise all your registered players, coaches, technical and support staff not to participate in any unauthorised tournaments/ leagues and that any breach will result in immediate deactivation of their BAI IDs.



Sanjay Mishra
Secretary General



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