

## Badminton Regulation Changes – 8 November 2025

(Yellow – added text, Red – Text to be deleted)

### Section 2.5 Table of Offences and Penalties

*Rationale: To clarify from when the penalty would apply.*

#### **PLAYERS WITHDRAWAL FEES**

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Incidence of Fees / Penalties</b>	<b>Amount of Fees / Penalty</b>
<u>Breach of GCR (Section 5.1) Clause 13.7 – ‘No show’ in an event in a tournament</u>	For first incident (per Player / Pair)	US\$ 500
	And every subsequent incident (calendar year)	US\$ 1000
<u>Breach of Players Code of Conduct (Section 2.2.4) Clauses 3.2.4 and 3.2.5 – Failure to comply with clothing regulations GCR 20 to 24 by a player in an individual tournament</u>	For every incident (per Player / Pair)	US\$ 250
Withdrawal of 10 or more players from any one tournament after the withdrawal deadline	For every incident	US\$ 1,000

## **Section 4.1.1 Instructions to Technical Officials (ITTO)**

### **3 INSTRUCTIONS TO REFEREES**

*Rationale: To clarify the current procedure.*

3.5.16 Any equipment (rackets / drinks etc) that is required to be passed to players during a match (except intervals as described in Law 16.2) must be given to the Referee and not passed directly to players.

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*Rationale: To clarify procedure if a new coach or physio wishes to join players on court during an interval when there are already two coaches present.*

3.5.17 The maximum number of coaches allowed courtside is two per each side (ITTO 5.4.13, 5.6.7, 5.6.11). If a new coach or a team physio/doctor wishes to join their player(s) on court during an interval, and two coaches are already present on that side, one of the existing coaches must leave the court and its immediate surroundings before a new team official is permitted to come onto court.

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*Rationale: To clarify procedure and cut down on delays where Doctors are called unnecessarily on court.*

3.6.1.1 When called by the Umpire in case of injury or illness, the Referee shall immediately go on court. The Referee shall first speak to the Umpire to be informed of the relevant facts and, if required, call the Tournament Doctor (who should be waiting courtside) shall immediately go on court. The Referee shall first speak to the Umpire to be informed of the relevant facts and to should remind the Umpire to time the delay due to the injury.

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*Rationale: To give guidance to Referees and clarify procedure.*

3.6.1.9 In giving guidance to Umpires in briefings and when called on to court the Referee shall encourage Umpires to exercise flexibility in consideration of players leaving and returning back to the court during an interval (Law 16.5.2) on account of acute sickness or sanitary needs.

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## 5 INSTRUCTIONS TO UMPIRES

*Rationale: The instruction regarding when an IRS decision ends the game is not complete and not consistent with the instructions in 5.38.7.1 and 5.8.8.1 where the IRS decision end the game.*

5.8.3.3 If there is no LJ or the LJ was unsighted and the IRS decision ends the game, the Umpire shall call: "IN" or "OUT", as appropriate, then call "GAME" followed by the appropriate call as in Instructions 5.6.2, 5.6.3 or 5.6.5.

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*Rationale: To minimise delay of play and to clarify the procedure.*

5.9.1.8 During a match, play shall not be delayed because of external issues (e.g. camera flashes) unless the Umpire / Referee determines this is necessary. Players stopping play because of this may incur penalties for delay of play.

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*Rationale: To give guidance to Umpires and to clarify the procedure.*

5.10.10 The Umpire in consultation with the Referee shall exercise flexibility in consideration of players leaving and returning back to the court during an interval (Law 16.5.2) on account of acute sickness or sanitary needs.

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*Rationale: To clarify the procedure and safety of players.*

5.14.2 For a blood flowing injury, the game should be delayed until the bleeding stops, the wound is suitably dressed, or the Referee advises the Umpire otherwise. Any blood on court – even if dried – should be cleaned up as soon as possible by FOP or local medical staff.

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*Rationale: To clarify the procedure.*

5.10.11 Ensure that changing of shirts by players on-court is undertaken during an interval (Law 16.2) only.

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*Rationale: To clarify the regulation.*

5.15.1 A player's electronic and communication devices ringing on the court or its immediate surroundings or being used on the court by the player for communication during a match shall be considered to be an offence under Law 16.6.4 and shall be dealt with as appropriate under Law 16.7.

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## 7 INSTRUCTIONS TO SERVICE JUDGES

*Rationale: To move hand signal for 9.1.2 from 7.2 to 7.4 (correct place).*

### 7.4 Law 9.1.2

"On completion of the backward movement of the server's racket head, any delay in the start of service (Law 9.2) shall be considered to be an undue delay;"

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**Rationale: To clarify the procedure.**

7.7 Where an Instant Review System is in operation, the Service Judge shall check that any challenge is administered correctly by the Umpire, and advise the Umpire before the next rally commences if this is not the case - **if necessary, standing up and crossing the court to the Umpire to ensure the correction.**

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**Rationale: To clarify the procedure.**

7.8 The Service Judge shall back up the Umpire and assist the Umpire as required. The Service Judge shall alert the Umpire immediately upon noticing a potential mistake committed by the Umpire - **if necessary, standing up and crossing the court to the Umpire to ensure the correction.**

## **Section 4.1.5      Vocabulary**

*Rationale: According to ITTO 5.17.8.1, if a player is faulted during the interval, the umpire calls '[score], [name of player], [faulted]'. 'Faulted' is currently not in vocabulary.*

3.10 ".....[name of player], faulted"

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*Rationale: Vocabulary for if a player used their communication device (as opposed to mobile phone).*

5.29 'You used your communication device'

## **Section 5.1. General Competitions Regulations**

### **5 JURISDICTION, PLAYER ENTRY REGISTRATION AND PENALTY**

*Rationale: To provide a more practical framework aligned with the regulation's original intent and clarifies to which players it applies.*

#### **5.7.4 Return to Competition**

Players who wish to return to competition after deregistration shall:

5.7.4.1 Notice through the Member shall be given to the BWF ([technicalevents@bwf.sport](mailto:technicalevents@bwf.sport)) for Players who, at any time in the past five years, were in the Top 200 of the World Ranking in any discipline. Such notice shall be given three months in advance to the BWF.

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*Rationale: To allow Continental Confederations to play Junior and Individual Continental Championships concurrently.*

7.7.3.1 Continental Individual / Junior Individual Championship and Continental Mixed Team / Junior Mixed Team Championship;

7.7.3.2 Continental Individual / Junior Individual Championships and Continental Men's and Women's Team Championship;

7.7.3.3 Continental Mixed Team / Junior Mixed Team Championship and Continental Men's and Women's Team Championship; and

7.7.3.4 Continental Junior Individual and Continental Junior Team Championships

7.7.3.5 Continental Individual Championship and Junior Individual Championship

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### **11 THE DRAW**

*Rationale: Ensures that any withdrawals that happen during the Team Managers Meeting but after the seeding movement procedure has been completed do not result in a redraw for that specific event.*

11.3.1 Moving entries in the main draw to fill positions of seeds who withdraw prior to the end of the team managers' meeting. This applies to the main draw only. Once the Seed Withdrawal Movement procedure has been completed in an event, the Seed Withdrawal Movement procedure will not be used again in that event.

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*Rationale: Supports what is currently being done by the system in the case of having two players/pairs with the same ranking but seeded in two different seeding groups.*

11.6.1 If two entries have the same ranking, their seeding will be determined by drawing lots.

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*Rationale: This situation occurs where there are multiple players entered with no World Ranking points.*

11.7.5 After seeding the draw (Qualifying or Main) based on the World Ranking and Adjusted and Notional Rankings as specified in Section 5.3.3.4 of the BWF Statutes and

there are vacancies in seeded positions, these shall be filled using the order shown in the M & Q until such vacancies are filled.

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**Rationale:** Correction required to threshold number of entries for seeding.

11.8.1 A maximum of 32 seeds if there are 1289 or more entries;

A maximum of 16 seeds if there are 64 to 1278 entries;

A maximum of eight seeds if there are 32 to 63 entries;

A maximum of four seeds if there are 16 to 31 entries;

Two seeds if there are less than 16 entries.

See draw structures in the Technical Diagrams and Tables (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.8), Table 1-6.

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## 14 WITHDRAWAL FEES

**Rationale:** Allows for better consistency of withdrawal deadlines for all tournaments across the world. Currently BWF is using the local time where the tournament is played as WDN deadline.

14.1.2 Any withdrawal after 23:59 hours BWF Headquarters time (+08.00 GMT) on the Monday immediately preceding the draw for any reason whatsoever, renders the Member concerned liable to a withdrawal fee, due to the inconvenience caused by the withdrawal, of:

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**Rationale:** To clarify from when the penalty is effective

14.1.3 Where there is a withdrawal of 10 or more Players by one Member after the withdrawal deadline in any given Tournament the penalty as specified in the Table of Offences and Penalties (BWF Statutes, Section 2.5) shall apply. The BWF Disciplinary Committee will consider whether any additional penalty to that listed in Regulation 31 (Penalties) is applicable.

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## 15 PROMOTIONS AND REDRAWS

**Rationale:** Regulation cross-referencing.

15.1 In Grade 1, 2 and 3 Tournaments except Tournaments with nationally restricted entries, no alterations are permitted to the draw after the draw has been made, except redraws as in Regulation 15.3 or promotions as in Regulation 13 or Seed Withdrawal Movement as in 11.3.

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## 23 LETTERING ON PLAYERS' AND COACHES' CLOTHING

**Rationale:** To clarify the regulation.

23.2.1 Lettering shall be in capital letters in the Roman alphabet (except as in Regulation 23.6.2), and in one single colour contrasting with that of the shirt unless the back of the shirt has two distinctly different coloured panels, in which case two different

colours should be used to provide contrast.

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*Rationale: Currently some players have registered a '.' as their last names. Some shirts only have an 'initial' and a '.'.*

23.3 Any name of a Player appearing on the back of the shirt must be in accordance with the Summary Sheet for GCR 21 & 23 (BWF Statutes, Section 5.3.7). On Player clothing the Player's name, if used, shall be identical with the name registered as the Last Name (or an abbreviation thereof) in the BWF Player database, and if desired, the initial(s) of the name(s) registered as the First Name in the BWF Player database. Last Name is defined as the family name, surname or similar name under the respective naming protocol of the Member country. Registration of last name must consist of at least two letters and must be in the roman alphabet.

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## **24 ADVERTISING ON PLAYERS' AND COACHES' CLOTHING**

*Rationale: To clarify how to measure an advertisement if it is on a block of colour to enable to the logo to be seen.*

24.2.1 A maximum of one advertisement may appear on each of the following locations; left sleeve, right sleeve, left shoulder, right shoulder, left collar, right collar, right chest, left chest and centre chest. The shoulder is defined as the visible part of the shoulder on the front of the shirt. There must be no more than five advertisements in total and National flags or emblems for the purpose of this regulation count as advertisements. Each advertisement, including National flags or emblems, must be 20 square centimetres or less. The advertisement may be on a contrasting colour which is not considered part of the advertisement unless it is part of a known logo.

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## **25 CLOTHING REGULATIONS FOR UMPIRES WHERE A UNIFORM HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED**

*Rationale: To ensure consistency of presentation of Umpires.*

25.1.1 If the tournament organiser provides a polo shirt, it is recommended that this should include a pocket.

25.2.1 The umpires are to bring their own uniform: consisting of black pants or skirt, a black collared shirt with pocket, black socks, and black shoes.

25.2.1.1 For men: black formal trousers below the ankle, black polo shirt with a collar, black plain socks above the ankle, and black formal shoes; and

25.2.1.2 For women: black formal skirt or black formal trousers below the ankle, black polo shirt with collar, black plain socks above the ankle or black tights, and black formal low or block heeled shoes.

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## **Section 5.2 Tournament Regulations**

### **Section 5.2.1. Major Events Tournament Regulations Table**

#### **10.3 BWF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*Rationale: To maximise entries in the World Championships.*

##### **Seeding and Draw**

For any vacancy arising from Seed Withdrawal Movement, Clause 3.2.24 of Section 5.3.3 will come into effect. Any vacancy arising thereafter in any draw will be filled from the reserve list, providing the total number of players / pairs from any one Member in one event does not exceed four.

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##### **BWF World Championships Point 14 Substitution**

*Rationale: This change is to be in line with current practice of ensuring that a full entry size is achieved for all events in the BWF World Championships during the draw ceremony, ensuring that maximum opportunities are given to eligible players/pairs to participate in the BWF World Championships.*

After the closing date for entries until **the Sunday** prior to the draw date, a player who has entered may be unable to take part through illness, injury, or other unavoidable cause. That player's place in singles and / or doubles will be taken by the next eligible player / pair as per Section 5.3.9 of the BWF Statutes.

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#### **15 ORDER OF PLAY**

*Rationale: In one tie where a player is selected to play Singles and Doubles and this is the only conflict, no current Order of Play allows for more than one match rest between matches. The below allows for a three-match rest for this scenario.*

The following are permissible orders of play:

- Men's Doubles, Women's Singles, Men's Singles, Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles
  - Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles
  - Mixed Doubles, Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Singles, Women's Doubles
  - Mixed Doubles, Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles
  - Mixed Doubles, Women's Singles, Men's Singles, Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles
  - Women's Singles, Men's Singles, Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles, Mixed Doubles
  - Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles, Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Mixed Doubles
  - Men's Singles, Mixed Doubles, Women's Singles, Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles
  - Women's Singles, Mixed Doubles, Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles
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##### **World Men's and Women's Team Championships, World Team Championships, World Junior Team Championships 1.4: Definition (Runners-up)**

*Rationale: This change is in line with current practice of presenting silver medals to runner-up team and bronze medals to losing semifinalists teams and consequently, there is no bronze medals play-off ties.*

World Men's and Women's Team Championships (Thomas and Uber Cup Finals)	World Team Championships (Sudirman Cup Finals)	World Junior Team Championships (Suhandinata Cup)
N.A		
Runner-up team shall be presented with silver medals and losing semi-finalists teams with bronze medals. All such medals shall be suitably inscribed.		

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## **World Senior Championships**

### **10.3 SEEDING AND DRAW**

*Rationale: To clarify the current practice through additional regulations,*

If group play followed by knock out (i.e. 6-16 entries):

- In the group play, the first and second ranked entries from the Member are drawn by lot into separate groups.
- Entries in the same group do not play against each other in the first round of the knock out stage.

- Draws for the knock out stage will be conducted after the completion of the group play stage

#### **The draw for the knock out stage**

For age group events with two Groups:

- Winner of Group A shall be placed at position 1
- Winner of Group B shall be placed at position 4
- 2<sup>nd</sup> position of Group A shall be placed at position 3
- 2<sup>nd</sup> position of Group B shall be placed at position 2

For age group event with four groups:

- Winner of group A shall be placed at position 1
- Winner of group B shall be placed at position 8
- Winner of group C & D shall be drawn by lot into position 3 or 6

The remaining player/pair shall be drawn by lot into the remaining position of 2,4,5 and 7 on the basis that player/pair in the same group in the group stage do not play against each other in the first round of the knockout stage.

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## **Section 5.2.2 BWF World Tour Regulations**

### **6.5 SEEDING**

*Rationale: To clarify that eight seeds is only possible in men's singles for Grade 2 levels 4-6 if a draw size of 32.*

6.5.2 There shall be up to four seeds according to the GCR in each of the qualifying draws, except the men's singles qualifying draw for Grade 2 – Levels 4-5 6 - (if a draw size of 32), and **Grade 2 – Level 6 Tournaments** which shall have up to eight seeds.

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## **8 BWF WORLD TOUR FINALS**

*Rationale: To clarify from which ranking a wildcard is determined eligible.*

8.2.4 Section 8.2.4 BWF will grant an invitation to reigning World Champions in a non Olympic year, and to the reigning Olympic Champions in the Olympic year, if they do not qualify as of right via the BWF World **Tour** Ranking list, are in the top 20 of the World Tour Rankings on the date of invitation by BWF, and subject to clause 8.2.4 below (maximum Players / pairs from one Member). Where BWF grant such an invitation the number of Player / pairs in the Event will not exceed eight (8).

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### 5.3.2. Time Lines for Tournaments

#### GRADE 1 – INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENTS

*Rationale: On the first Friday of May, BWF will already have decided whether or not to use the BWF Wild Card and will have informed the relevant Member on this. Hence, we only need to publish once on the third Thursday of May together with all pairs that are eligible in Phase 2.*

Wednesday Friday immediately after the World Ranking eligibility date to determine eligibility of players to enter	Wednesday Friday	BWF	Information to all Members of the Players / pairs (phase 1) that are eligible to enter (3.2.19)
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Third Thursday of May	Thursday	BWF	Information to all Members of the Players/pairs and BWF and Host Member wild card entries that are eligible to enter (phase 2) (3.2.22)
Second Thursday of May	Thursday	BWF	BWF to publish wild card entries, if applicable (3.2.15)

*Rationale: Updating cross-referencing and minor change to timeline.*

First Monday of June	Monday	BWF	Confirmation to the players from reserve list (3.2.2524)
Fourth Thursday of May	Thursday	BWF	Deadline for Members to confirm whether or not eligible Players / Pairs ( <b>phase 2</b> ) will enter and the players / pairs in the reserve list will participate if a vacancy arises in a draw (3.2.2423)
Third Thursday of May	Thursday	BWF	BWF to publish reserve list of Players / pairs in order of preference in case of withdrawals to fill vacancies in draw(s) (3.2.2322)
Third Thursday of May	Thursday	BWF	Information to all Members of the Players/pairs that are eligible to enter

			<b>(phase 2)</b> (3.2.2221)
Second Thursday of May	Thursday	BWF	Deadline for Members to confirm whether or not eligible Players / pairs <b>(phase 1)</b> will enter (3.2.2120)
Wednesday Friday immediately after the World Ranking eligibility date to determine eligibility of players to enter	Wednesday Friday	BWF	Information to all Members of the Players / pairs (phase 1) that are eligible to enter (3.2.1918)

### **Section 5.3.3.1 World Ranking System**

#### **4 POINTS SYSTEM**

**Rationale:** To align with GCR 30.

4.2.4 had a walkover in the first round and gave a walkover in the second round – they receive second round loser’s points.

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**Rationale:** To clarify what happens if there is a withdrawal: the winning pair who is awarded a walkover win is not then disadvantaged because of the SWM process.

4.2.5 If a draw position which contained a player/pair in the initial draw is left empty after a change as described in BWF Statutes, Section 5.1; General Competition Regulations - Clause 11.3, the remaining player/pair is considered to have a bye.

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#### **7 TEAM TOURNAMENTS (CHAMPIONSHIPS) POINT CALCULATION / CONTINENTAL MULTI-SPORTS GAMES TEAM TOURNAMENTS (CHAMPIONSHIPS)**

**Rationale:** To clarify current regulated calculations.

##### **Players / Pairs with World Ranking Points**

7.2.1 If a Player / pair win a match, they get their average World Ranking points (calculation of average is shown below) plus the sum of the total ranking World Ranking points/Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points of their opponent(s) divided by 100.

$$\text{Winner Average World Ranking points} + \frac{\text{Opponent's World Ranking/Notional ranking/Adjusted ranking points}}{100}$$

7.2.2 If a Player / pair lose a match, they get their average World Ranking points (calculation of average is shown below).

##### **Pairs with Notional Ranking Points**

7.2.3 If a pair with Notional ranking points win a match, they get their Notional ranking points divided by 10, plus the sum of the total World Ranking points/Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points of their opponents divided by 100.

$$\frac{\text{Winner Notional ranking points}}{10} + \frac{\text{Opponent's World Ranking/Notional ranking/Adjusted ranking points}}{100}$$

7.2.4 If a pair with Notional ranking points lose a match, they get their Notional ranking points divided by 10.

*Rationale (7.2.5 and 7.2.6): This is a change of the calculation as the purpose of "Adjusted Ranking" is to estimate how many points a pair would have had if they had played the optimal number of tournaments, which is 10. Therefore, their adjusted "average" must be divided by 10 and not by five, six or seven.*

### **Pairs with Adjusted Ranking Points**

7.2.5 If a pair with Adjusted ranking points wins a match, they get their Adjusted ranking points **divided by 10**, plus **the sum of** the total World Ranking points/Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points of their opponents divided by 100.

$$\frac{\text{Winner Adjusted ranking points}}{10} + \frac{\text{Opponent's World Ranking/Notional ranking/Adjusted ranking points}}{100}$$

7.2.6 If a pair with Adjusted ranking points lose a match, they get their Adjusted ranking points divided by **10**. **five for pairs who have played between one and five tournaments, or divided by the number of tournaments played in, if six or seven.**

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*Rationale: To clarify current regulated calculations.*

7.2.7 If a Player / pair win a match, but they do not have any World Ranking points / Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points and their opponent(s) have World ranking points / Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points, they get the **average total** World ranking points / Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points of their opponent(s) divided by 100.

7.2.9 If a Player / pair lose a match, but they do not have any World Ranking points/Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points, **and their opponent(s) also do not have any World Ranking points/Notional ranking points/Adjusted ranking points,** they win no points.

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*Rationale: This is to clarify that the points for FISU University Games Individual Championships are calculated as per the Team Tournament calculation.*

**7.1.2 Points for the FISU University Games Individual Championships are calculated as specified in clause 7.2.**

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*Rationale: The current regulation does not cover the following situations and which ranking is to be used if:*

- **A team tournament is played over one week number only;**
- **There are no Sundays in the tournament;**
- **The team tournament starts on Sunday of week x and finishes on week x +1; and**
- **If the team tournament is played over 2/3 full weeks.**



7.4 Where a Team Tournament takes place over multiple week numbers, For a Team Tournament, the World Ranking points are calculated using the World Ranking week minus one from the final Sunday day of the tournament.

## **Section 5.3.3.2 World Junior Ranking System**

### **4 POINTS SYSTEM**

*Rationale: To align with JTR 22.1.*

4.2.4 had a walkover in the first round and gave a walkover in the second round – they receive second round loser's points.

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*Rationale: To align with what happens if there is a WDN: the winning pair who is awarded a walkover win is not then disadvantaged because of a SUB process.*

4.2.5 If a draw position which contained a player/pair in the initial draw is left empty after a change as described in BWF Statutes, section 5.2.3: Junior Tournament Regulations – Clause 7.3, the remaining player/pair is considered to have a bye.

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### **8 CRITERIA FOR WORLD JUNIOR RANKING POINTS**

*Rationale: To clarify that team competitions and FISU individual (for which points are calculated as team tournament) are not included in the BWF Junior Rankings.*

#### 8.1 Criteria for World Junior Ranking Tournaments

Tournaments (excluding tournaments where points are calculated as Team Tournaments) concluded within 52-week period complying with the following criteria shall be included in the World Junior Ranking:

## **Section 5.3.6. Player Commitment Regulations**

### **4 PLAYER INJURY – MEDICAL EXEMPTION AND PROTECTED RANKING**

*Rationale: To clarify that players can also use Protected Ranking for Grade 2 level 6 tournaments.*

4.2.5 upon return have the right to enter into **Grade 2 Levels 1-6 BWF World Tour** Tournaments with the protected ranking points for the same amount of time as they have been absent, subject to a maximum of six months. The protected ranking will not count towards seeding or for any other Tournaments outside the BWF World Tour Tournaments; and



**Section 5.3.9. Eligibility and Processing of Entries for World Championships**

**3 ELIGIBILITY SYSTEM**

*Rationale: This is to clarify that a Member can have up to three eligible players if ranked 1 to 24 and two eligible players if ranked 1 to 150.*

3.2.3 Players / pairs ranked in the World Ranking list for each Event will be considered in turn and are eligible to enter unless a total of Players / pairs, as stated in the table below, from any one Member would thereby be exceeded in that Event.

<b>Players / pairs ranked on the Eligibility Date</b>	<b>Total number of Players / pairs from any one Member in that Event shall not exceed</b>
1 to 8	4
1 9 to 24	3
1 25 to 150	2