TOKYO SPORTS DECISION DELAYED

The originally mentioned possible timetable to finalise sports on the programme for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo has been pushed back, with a final decision likely in August 2016 when the IOC convene for their Session at the Olympic Games in Brazil.

First the IOC will approve a set of criteria to be used in June, then in September Tokyo 2020 will submit its’ proposal for additional events. This will be evaluated by the IOC Co-ordination Committee, who will make recommendations to the IOC Executive Board.

WSF President N. Ramachandran has backed the recent announcement by the International Olympic Committee to delay the decision.

"The World Squash Federation fully supports the decision by Mr John Coates, Chairman of the IOC Co-ordination Committee, to increase the time needed to complete the evaluation of the possible sport/sports that may be included in Tokyo," he said.

Squash is ready

"We have made it clear in our presentations that, as a potential new candidate for inclusion, Squash is ready - but we also know that if our efforts over the years are eventually successful, the extra time will be nothing!

"It has been my privilege to meet the hosts of what will be an outstanding Games in Tokyo, so time is less important than the knowledge that the flame of hope is still burning for Squash."

It is well known that Tokyo are very keen to bring back baseball, a popular sport in Japan, following it being dropped from the programme after 2008, and we fervently hope that they will also wish to propose the ‘new’ sport of squash too!

President Meets Tokyo 2020 Games Organising Committee

WSF President N. Ramachandran has pressed the case for Squash recently in Tokyo in meetings with Mr Tsunekazu Takeda, President Japan Olympic Committee (pictured left with Mr Ramachandran), and Mr. Yoshiro Mori, President Tokyo Games Organising Committee (pictured below), together with other senior executives for the Tokyo Games.

President Ramachandran emphasised the ease of inclusion in respect of low cost, flexible venue, gender equality, and low additional athlete numbers. In addition to additional general benefits to the hosts and the Olympic Games in general, Ramachandran also highlighted that the sport is supremely athletic and played in 185 countries.

"I was grateful for this opportunity to meet Mr Mori and Mr Takeda, and to highlight how serious WSF is in its efforts for squash to be included in the Olympics as a medal sport," said Ramachandran from Tokyo. "We had a good reception with positive feedback.

"I was also able to reaffirm that every single top squash player would value competing in the Olympic Games higher than any other event, if we are chosen.

"To reinforce this message, I was able to present Mr Mori with a WSF flag signed by all the top women players competing in the recent Women’s World Team Championship," added the WSF President.
**BALKANS HOST WSF AMBASSADORS 2015**

The latest WSF Ambassador Programme will take in countries in Eastern Europe when Malaysia's world No.1 Nicol David and Spain's highest-ranked squash player of all-time Borja Golan lead the 2015 World Squash Federation initiative into Serbia, Romania and Croatia in May.

Launched four years ago, the inspired WSF international promotional initiative takes two leading squash players, together with an international coach and referee, into younger squash nations to help raise the sport's profile - through clinics, exhibition matches, refereeing and coaching seminars, and media presentations.

Nicol David, the record eight-time women's world champion who this month began her tenth year as world number one, is the sport's ultimate ambassador who has led all but one of previous WSF campaigns since 2011. Meanwhile Golan (pictured) will be making his debut as a WSF ambassador. Boasting a career-high No.5 world ranking, the 32-year-old from Santiago de Compostela is a 12-time Spanish champion.

Also joining the 2015 programme - visiting Belgrade, Bucharest and Zagreb from 20-25 May - will be WSF Referee Committee director Roy Gingell, from Wales, and Belgian and Dutch National coach Ronny Vlassaks, who will be running workshops in Bucharest.

George Constantinescu, President of the Romanian Squash Federation, said: "The WSF Ambassadors programme is an amazing event to help promote squash in Romania. Seeing the best in the world in squash and learning from them is the opportunity of a lifetime for Romanian players, coaches and referees."

**Hugely important**

"It is hugely important to us as a Federation, at the beginning of our journey, to be able to offer this for free, in an event of this calibre, to promote squash in Romania. Thank you WSF for this opportunity!"

The Federation's Secretary General Horia Naumescu added: "Even though we are a young Federation and we do not have a long history in squash, we see this wonderful sport growing every day. After several successful internal and international events organised by the Romanian Squash Federation, we are convinced that the WSF Ambassadors programme will help enormously in developing the sport in Romania. Our squash enthusiasts will have the chance to meet and see the greatest world players and coaches at work."

WSF Chief Executive Andrew Shelley, who will lead the group, explained further: "The Balkans are certainly an area where squash is a growth sport, and for us to have the opportunity to support this by meeting and interacting with players, officials and media in the countries is one that the whole group is excited about.

"The squash family is worldwide, and we relish the opportunity to spend a little time with these family members to not only support them, but learn more about their issues and avenues to support them."

The WSF Ambassador Programme first visited the Baltic country of Latvia in 2011, followed by a trip to the African countries of Malawi and Namibia, then Panama and Venezuela in 2013, before last year journeying to Papua New Guinea.

**NEW WORLD LONGEST MATCH RECORD**

24-year-old Leo Au, the World No.33 from Hong Kong, broke the record for the longest professional squash match ever recorded en-route to claiming the ninth PSA World Tour title of his career at the Holtrand Gas City Pro-Am 2015 in January in Canada. Au (pictured) lifted the trophy following a tough 85-minute battle against Malaysian Muhd Asyraf Azan, coming from 2-1 down to win 3-2, in a dramatic victory that came less than 24 hours after he won the longest match ever recorded - a mammoth 170-minute encounter (11-6, 4-11, 11-6, 7-11, 16-14) against Canadian Shawn Delierre, the World No.54, in the semi-finals.

**Jahangir's Record eclipsed**

It was a match that eclipsed the previous record set 32-years ago by legendary Pakistani six-time world champion Jahangir Khan, who took 166-minutes to get past Gamal Awad in the 1983 Chichester Festival 9-10, 9-5, 9-7, 9-2. Yes, in four games!

With the fifth game, which went to 16-14, lasting an incredible 78-minutes alone the victory saw Au, who stands at 5ft 4, complete a total of over 300-minutes on court during the four-day tournament, averaging 75-minutes-plus per day as he stormed to the title, earn his place in the annals of sporting history in the process.

"It was a tough week for me because I'm physically and mentally exhausted after the tournament," said Au. "I'm really happy to win this match against Shawn. In the fifth game neither of us ever had a big lead, it was 1-1, 2-2, 3-3 and always very tight.

"When we got to the tie-break I don't think anyone could tell who would win in that situation because both of us were tired and we were still pushing hard for each point. Fortunately, I managed to finish the match at 16-14!"
MALAYSIA STRIKE ASIAN JUNIOR DOUBLE GOLD

Malaysia produced an unexpected home double in the CIMB Foundation Asian Junior Team Squash Championships after striking gold in the biennial men's and women's events at the Bukit Jalil National Squash Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Success was predicted in the women's championship where the top seeds - bronze medallists in 2013 - overcame defending champions India in the semi-finals to face second seeds Hong Kong China, finalists for the fourth time in a row, in the final.

Top string Rachel Arnold put the favourites ahead - but an impressive performance by 14-year-old Hiu Lam Lui over 16-year-old Malaysian Sivasangari Subramanian saw Hong Kong draw level.

The decider was a tense see-saw affair which went the full distance. Ultimately it was 18-year-old Teh Min Jie who prevailed to beat Hong Kong's 16-year-old Ho Ka-Wing 11-8, 10-12, 4-11, 11-4, 11-9 and secure gold for Malaysia for the seventh time in the championship's history.

Malaysia were underdogs in the men's final where they faced favourites and defending champions Pakistan. But 17-year-old top string Eain Yow Ng battled for five games to overcome Tayyab Aslam, eventually beating the 18-year-old Pakistani 6-11, 13-11, 11-4, 3-11, 11-7.

It was the second seeds' third string who clinched victory for Malaysia when Darren Chan beat Muhammad Asim Khan 11-8, 12-10, 11-4 to deny Pakistan a fourth title since 2003.

RESULTS:

Men's semi-finals:

Final:
Eain Yow Ng bt Tayyab Aslam 6-11, 13-11, 11-4, 3-11, 11-7, Darren Chan bt Muhammad Asim Khan 11-8, 12-10, 11-4

Women's semi-finals:

Final:
Rachel Arnold bt Choi Uen Shan 11-9, 11-5, 11-9, Sivasangari Subramanian lost to Hiu Lam Lui 11-13, 5-11, 16-14, 11-13, Teh Min Jie bt Ho Ka-Wing 11-8, 10-12, 4-11, 11-4, 11-9

Final positions: 1 Malaysia, 2 Hong Kong China, 3 India & Singapore, 4 Republic of Korea, 5 Sri Lanka, 6 China, 7 Chinese Taipei

WSF RECOGNIZED BY IPC

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the global governing body of the Paralympic Movement, has included the World Squash Federation as one of its Recognised International Federations.

The vision of the IPC is to enable Paralympic athletes to achieve sporting excellence and inspire and excite the world - an area in which WSF has paid increasing attention.

WSF President N Ramachandran commented: "I was delighted and grateful to hear that IPC have accorded us this status. Our Para-Squash Commission, under the Directorship of our German Federation's President Wolfgang Bauriedel (pictured), is already looking at ways in which we can encourage and enable anybody with an impairment to enjoy squash at all levels.

"This recognition for WSF will spur us on still further," added Ramachandran.

BOB CALLAHAN

Robert W. Callahan, the former Princeton men's squash coach, died recently at the age of fifty-nine from complications from brain cancer.

Callahan founded and ran the world's oldest squash summer camp and in 1998 directed the World Junior Men's, the first time a world championship had been played in the U.S. A graduate of Episcopal Academy and Princeton, Callahan worked at IBM for four years before returning to coach at his alma mater. Callahan was inducted into the U.S. Squash Hall of Fame in the Class of 2011. He leaves his wife, Kristen and five sons, all of whom played squash under him at Princeton.
SPIN INFORMATION

For players, all players who wish to play in all World Individual and Team Championships, Regional Events and World Junior Circuit events at all age levels will need to be registered. They will then be provided with their SPIN (Squash Personal Identification Number), which stays with them for life.

For individual events where national federations enter their players they will do so using the SPIN of the players. Similarly, in those events where players enter themselves e.g. World Masters, they will do so using their SPIN.

For team events of all ages competing in World and Regional Championships, Member Nations will enter their teams into the event using the on-line system. Squad and Team submissions would also be made on-line.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

Any player, irrespective of age, can register themselves - or their federation can do so on their behalf - by completing the on-line registration form. They should also let their national federation know that they are doing so.

The current SPIN registration fee - paid on-line - is a once only lifetime fee of GBP10.00 (not annual).

Notes: Half of all the fees paid by the players (or Member Nations on their behalf) is split equally between the five Regional Federations to help fund development initiatives.

Tournament Planner software is used to take entries for National Junior Opens, with players at U19 level able to claim World Junior ranking points.

WHERE DO PLAYERS REGISTER?

Simply go to www.worldsquash.org/spin

MEMBER NATION LOGIN

Separately, all WSF Member Nations have their login so that they can view all registrations from their country, enter WSF Championships and do so for WSF individual events.

COURT ACCREDITATION

CATEGORIES ADDED

The WSF Accreditation scheme ensures that centre operators know that they are buying courts of a good standard, and their users will be playing in the right conditions.

Full information on WSF Court Acceditation can be found at: http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/150206_WSFCREDITATION-INFORMATION-2015.pdf

For all World, Regional, PSA Tour, and Junior Circuit events using newly built courts, and expanding to other events run under the auspices of national federations, there is a requirement that they are WSF Registered as being Complete Court Accredited (CCA), meaning that all the main components are Accredited, and thus are appropriate for competitive use.

Details of this, are at:
http://www.worldsquash.org/ws/resources/accreditation/complete-court-accreditation-cca/scheme

Court Registration is at:

(Recognising that there will be occasions where the court owner does not wish all or some of the courts to be Registered where they are not intended for national and international competition, in these circumstances they can List these courts using the same form but without paying a fee. The List will not be published but will be on our database making it easy to upgrade in the future from ‘non-competition’ to ‘competition’ use if required).

BURNING QUESTION – THE ANSWER!

We have seen a chart of calorie burning two people sports, source unverified, that places squash well ahead in the charts.
Calories per hour:
1  SQUASH - 817
2  BOXING – 613
3  1-ON-1 BASKETBALL - 564
4  TENNIS – 545
5  BADMINTON - 307
That’s why you get so thirsty!

WSF EYEWEAR POSTERS

To help promote awareness of eye protection, don’t forget that the scalable-poster is available that can be downloaded by centres and placed on court doors, notice boards or in changing rooms.
It can be found at:
www.worldsquash.org/ws/resources/eyewear-poster
**URBAN CELEBRATION**

Alongside the Tournament of Champions event in New York the National Urban Squash + Education Association held their Urban Squash’s 20th Anniversary Celebration. Over 1,250 people, including students, alumni, staff, and supporters, participated in the three-day event, and a record $2 million was raised for urban squash. Attendees came from across USA as well as Canada, Colombia, England, Ireland, India, and Zimbabwe.

US First Lady Michelle Obama sent her congratulations from The White House. Speaking in a video that was shown to the more than 800 guests at Saturday night’s gala dinner in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, she recalled her 2012 visit to SquashSmarts in Philadelphia and saluted the students and alumni for their hard work and commitment to their education. “My husband and I are so proud of you, and we’re so grateful for the outstanding work of the urban squash movement and NUSEA,” the First Lady said.

Over the course of the three days, nearly 400 urban squashers from 15 cities competed in the Urban Team Nationals, which was jointly hosted by the University Club in Midtown Manhattan, StreetSquash in Harlem, and CitySquash in the Bronx.

The association was started in 2005 to share best practices and help form new squash groups, as well as run summer camps. Minneapolis, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Baltimore, New Haven and Newark are all represented, as are India and South Africa.

The Urban programme, managed by NUSEA Executive Director Tim Wyant, will give a number of them a step up that would not have been possible otherwise.

Collectively, association member organizations serve about 2,000 students a year, with 97 percent of them continuing their education after high school, said its chairman, William E. Simon Jr.

**NICOL DAVID MAKES HI STORY**

Malaysian Nicol David created a new world record for the length of time a squash player has topped the world rankings after marking her 106th month as world number one in the February World Rankings.

The 31-year-old from Penang, who first headed the WSA list in January 2006, overtook the 105-month record set in February 1993 by Susan Devoy, the four-time World Champion and eight-time British Open champion from New Zealand.

David’s phenomenal achievement is the latest milestone in a glittering career which has included a record eight World Championship titles, two Commonwealth Games gold medals and four (quadrennial) Asian Games gold medals. This month also sees Datuk David extend her unbroken reign at the top of the world rankings to 103 months since August 2006 - 45 months ahead of her nearest rival, Dame Devoy!

The record was saluted at last month’s JP Morgan Tournament of Champions in New York, where Tournament Chairman John Nimick and Associate Director Beth Rasin presented David with a congratulatory poster signed by the rest of the world’s top players.

"Nicol’s accomplishments place her among the greatest athletes in history, and she has certainly elevated our sport," said Nimick (pictured above with David and Rasin) as he identified other No.1 record holders, including golfer Tiger Woods (138 months), 400 metre hurdler Edwin Moses (132 months); snooker's Stephen Hendry (108 months) and tennis player Steffi Graf (94 months). "Nicol's passion for the game and her desire to always be the best she can be inspires us all."

David herself was characteristically modest: "Being number one is something you have to earn every day," said the Malaysian superstar. "For me, it is really about playing the tournaments. Everything else is a bonus."
Funding assistance by the Commonwealth Games Federation (GCF) has helped to provide a long term and sustainable benefit to playing standards and overall development of squash in the Oceania Region’s smaller countries. The Oceania Squash Federation (OSF), supported by WSF, started a programme via initial sessions recently on Fiji, with a follow-up programme to review progress and complete accreditations.

The funding to be used to undertake a coach education development program targeting potential squash coaches in Fiji and beyond, educating, training and mentoring them in their coaching pathway.

**Three venues**

The initial programme was conducted in three separate locations within Fiji – Lautoka and Suva on the main island Vitu Levu, and Savusavu, on Vanua Levi; and was led by leading Australian Coach, Marc Forster.

Several layers of coaching programmes were offered including a junior programme, coaching courses for novice/beginner coaches as well as coaches who are currently working with players but have no formal accreditation.

**23 sessions**

A total of 23 sessions were held over 8 days covering Basic Principles and Junior Coaching, the OzSquash Programme, adult coaching and elite coaching.

Ravi Singh (President, Squash Fiji) commented:

’Squash Fiji would like to firstly thank the Commonwealth Games Federation, World Squash Federation and especially the Oceania Squash Federation for providing this most valuable programme to Fiji.

It has been highly beneficial. Coaches and players have learnt a lot of both theory and practical implementation of skills, technique and other finer aspects of the squash game.

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**AN INSPECTOR RECALLS**

Chris Herridge, Director of the WSF Technical Committee told Dominic Bliss about the courts he has inspected - both good and bad - in his 25 years with the WSF in Squash Player Magazine. Here’s an extract:

Chris Herridge *(pictured)* knows the world’s greatest squash courts like the back of his hand, arguably better than professional players. As director of the Technical Committee of the World Squash Federation, part of his job is to inspect squash court components and tournament courts, ensuring they pass stringent quality controls before they are accredited for play.

Over the 25 years he has been working for the WSF, Herridge has surveyed some beautiful facilities: the court beneath the Giza pyramids ("the most impressive setting without any question," he says), Boston’s Symphony Hall, New York City’s Grand Central Terminal, the Curve shopping mall in Malaysia.

He has also inspected some real shockers.....


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**WSF APPROVED BALLS**

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**Photographs:**

Many with thanks from SquashSite.co.uk and squashpics.com
WSF COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME GOES LIVE

The WSF Coach Education Programme, the WSF initiative which heralds the start of a worldwide unified and standardised coaching structure for Squash, has been launched with the opening of WSF Level 1 coach candidate registration.

Tutor training across the continents began earlier this year, leading to a number of coaches becoming certified to deliver WSF courses. Meanwhile registration for candidate WSF Level 2 and 3 comes on stream later.

The courses will include agreed core-content and delivery methods to ensure that standards are uniform and qualifications achieved are recognised not only in the coach's own nation but worldwide too. Course registration will begin on 1st April.

"An expansion of the number of coaches who can help development of the sport generally and support elite encouragement is invaluable," said WSF President N Ramachandran. "We are achieving this via a robust, modern, uniform and transportable worldwide coaching system."

Charged with coordinating the Programme on behalf of the WSF Development and Coaching Committee, Michael Khan explained: "Through the Member Federations linked to the WSF Regional Course Managers, we look forward not only to providing a high standard unified structure that benefits well-established nations who already administer excellent courses, but also support for those nations which are thirsting for help too."

Here are the details of how the Programme operates.

In Summary
WSF, in conjunction with our regions and member nations, now offer a unified and standardised coaching structure that provides:

1. Courses delivered by nations in conjunction with / by regions at all levels which all include agreed core-content and delivery method so that standards are uniform and qualifications achieved are recognised not only in their own nation but worldwide too.
2. Higher standards where Certified courses are not already used.
3. An expansion in the number of coaches who can help development of the sport generally and support elite performance.
4. Improved quality and general availability of training materials.
5. Via Tutor Certification ensuring that a full syllabus is effectively delivered.
6. Provide a WSF worldwide directory of Certified coaches and Tutors.

Overall, WSF standardising and leading in conjunction with our regions gives squash a robust, modern, uniform and transportable worldwide coaching system.

The Current Position
1. The WSF Coaching Committee has finalised materials for Level 1 courses and Tutor guides.
2. The Committee is now moving onto Levels 2 and 3.

The Start
Coach Registration will open on Monday 2nd March and Courses can begin to Register on Wednesday 1st April.

The Management (CEPC)
Michael Khan manages the WSF Coach Education Programme (CEP) in conjunction with the WSF Office in his role as Coach Education Programme Coordinator (CEPC).

He reports to the Director of the WSF Development and Coaching Committee, and will liaise with the Course Managers appointed by each Region (Regional Course Manager - RCM), together with the National Course Manager (NCM) for all nations who participate.

The General Information
In outline, anybody wishing to take a WSF Certified coaching course would need to Register themselves online as a Coach Candidate to enable their RCM to input their status as a WSF Level 1 Coach if they pass.

Anybody registering themselves as a Coach Candidate would have no designation or public listing. Only when they pass an Certified Course to become a Certified Level 1 Coach (Level 2 and Level 3 will be introduced later), or become a Certified Tutor will their name appear on the Directory of WSF Certified Coaches and Tutors on the WSF website.

The RCM automatically uploads course results so that names are listed on the WSF Directory (country, name, year), and a certificate will automatically be generated and emailed to the person, featuring their name, the level, date passed, the name of their country along with regional and WSF logos.

The Registration process
Courses
RCMs will register all Certified courses in their region - using the Coach Registration numbers of all Candidates and Tutors to populate the details.

(Only courses that are authorised by Regions can be Certified, using their RCM login into the CEP Online System).

WSF does not charge a fee for course registration and nations / regions set their own course attendance fees and retain all income.

Coach status (see below) would be updated by the RCM with the qualification they have passed.

The means of updating the status of candidates would only be via their courses so courses would have to be Certified - using Registration numbers of Candidates & Tutors - before taking place.

Note:
Nations may run courses that are Recognised rather than WSF Certified if they wish. This would mean that the course content has been approved by CEP, but is not being delivered by WSF Certified Tutors.

In these cases RCMs will be able to add qualification details into the text section of the Coach profile of successful candidates, but this will not be publicly visible nor be WSF Directory listed. (It can be used as EPL - Evidence of Prior Learning, in the case of a person wishing to take a WSF course).

Individuals
All candidates and Tutors will need a SPIN to which they input their status as a WSF Level 1 Coach if they pass. Anybody registering themselves as a Coach Candidate online as a Coach Candidate to enable their RCM to populate the details.

Note:
Nations may run courses that are Recognised rather than WSF Certified if they wish. This would mean that the course content has been approved by CEP, but is not being delivered by WSF Certified Tutors.

In these cases RCMs will be able to add qualification details into the text section of the Coach profile of successful candidates, but this will not be publicly visible nor be WSF Directory listed. (It can be used as EPL - Evidence of Prior Learning, in the case of a person wishing to take a WSF course).

Individuals
All candidates and Tutors will need a SPIN to which they have added an additional Coach Registration in order to be registered for a course as their number would be transferred across from the database to identify them, similarly to player event entry.
(A person who already has a SPIN will be able to add their Coach status, using their existing number and payment of additional fees, as required).

**Coach Education Programme Panel (CEPP)**
The WSF Development & Coaching Committee will initiate a CEPP who will determine course Registration / Accreditation, EPL and other general specialist decisions required, in conjunction with the CEPC.

CEPP will also determine policy on acceptable recognition / EPL / current designations in respect to giving Levels to coaches / Tutors where this is uncertain during the initial transition period.

**Categories and Fees**
The Coach Registration categories are as follows:
(Note: Only categories 1,2,5,6 will be available initially)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Candidate</td>
<td>5 Level 1 National Tutor</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Level 1 Coach</td>
<td>6 Level 1 WSF Tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Level 2 Coach</td>
<td>7 Level 2 WSF Tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Level 3 Coach</td>
<td>8 Level 3 WSF Tutor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fees**:  
Candidate £15  
Level 1 Coach - No additional payment  
Level 2 Coach - £25 additional payment*  
Level 3 Coach - £50 additional payment*  
*This payment is made in advance of the course as only those at the correct level can attend a course (so there will be no post-course payment, and anybody who fails would be able to re-take the course within the three year period that their payment has covered).

There is no additional payment for Tutor qualifications.

All Coach Registrations lapse after three years if no qualification is secured. If a Level 1 qualification is achieved during the three year period the Coach Registration is subject to renewal after three years of the date of qualification. Where a coach achieves a higher level then these also have three year periods from the date of upgrade and are subject to additional fees, together with the completion of required evidence of activity / refreshers.

Only Regions would be able to upgrade coaches from Candidate to Certified Coach at all levels. Similarly, Regions would be able to appoint and upgrade Tutors at all levels, but Level 3 would be subject to CEPP approval.

**Regional Course Managers (RCMs)**
The outline role and responsibility of RCMs, who are nominated by their Regional Coaching Committee, is to liaise with CEPC and NCMs and be generally responsible for supporting the CEPC and WSF office to implement agreed policies within their region in conjunction with NCMs.

They will coordinate the introduction and ongoing management of the coaching levels and coach / course registration in the region through the online system, assess RPL (Recognition of prior learning) for candidates coming from another CoachED programme, organise regional Level 1 and Level 2 tutor courses (with help of CEPC if necessary) and nominate WSF Level 1 and Level 2 Tutors from the region and endorsing participants for WSF Level 3 Tutor Training.

**National Course Managers (NCMs)**
The outline role and responsibility of NCMs, who are nominated by their National Coaching Committee is to liaise primarily with their RCM and CEPC as needed, and to be generally responsible for implementing agreed policies within their country in conjunction with their RCM and CEPC.

They will organize facilities for courses to be run in their country, provide the RCM with a complete list of participants for courses, ensure that all the participants have a Coach Registration and provide evidence of coach activity.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**
Please contact Michael Khan, the CEPC appointed by the WSF Development and Coaching Committee to coordinate the Programme, at office@mkhan.at with a copy to S.Maniam, Director of the WSF Development and Coaching, at maniamsq@gmail.com.

For a printable version:  
TUTOR TRAINING STARTS

14 coach tutors from Europe, Asia and Pan-America met in Prague in January for a three day refresher course to kick-start the development of updated tutors.

The new WSF Level 1 syllabus which will be used worldwide in future, replacing the older regional versions, was presented to the group.

Organized by Pavel Sladecek at the Hector Club, the intense programme was felt to be a great start to tutor development.

Next up will be a Pan American session which will take place in Guatemala - held between 20 – 24 April.

ELIAS & GOHAR EXTEND WORLD JUNIOR RANKING REIGNS

Diego Elias and Nouran Gohar - from Peru and Egypt, respectively - extend their reigns at the top of the February WSF World Junior Rankings.

Elias, 18, from Lima, made history in August last year by winning the WSF Men's World Junior Individual Championship in Namibia without dropping a game - thereby becoming Peru’s first ever world squash champion. Last month, he went on to confirm his status as the world’s best junior by winning the British Junior U19 Open title for the first time.

Pakistan’s Tayyab Aslam holds on to second place in the men’s list, with Hong Kong’s Tsun Hei Yuen, the 2014 Hong Kong Junior Open and Dutch Junior Open champion, at No3.

Gohar tops the women’s list which features fellow Egyptians in the next three places. The 17-year-old from Cairo was runner-up in the 2014 World Junior Championship - but, in this year's British Junior U19 Open, beat third-placed Salma Hany Ibrahim in the semis before overcoming the new list’s No.4 Mariam Metwally to win the title for the first time.

Habiba Mohamed, the WSF World Junior Individual champion, aged just 15, holds onto second place.

The WSF World Junior Rankings - based on the under-19 age grouping - are issued quarterly, based on results achieved in WSF World Junior Circuit events, national senior opens, regional championships and WSF World Junior Individual Championships.

(Gohar and Elias are pictured having won the British Junior Open U19 titles)

Men’s Top 10:

1 Diego Elias (Peru) 175.00
2 Tayyab Aslam (Pakistan) 101.67
3 Yuen Tsun Hei (Hong Kong) 92.67
4 Kush Kumar (India) 81.33
5 Auguste Dussourd (France) 76.00
6 Omar El Atmas (Egypt) 72.67
7 Jami Aijanen (Finland) 56.67
8 Lau Tsz Kwan (Hong Kong) 51.00
9 Michael Craig (Ireland) 50.00
10 Mohammad Syafiq Kamal (Malaysia) 49.33

Women’s Top 10:

1 Nouran Gohar (Egypt) 200.00
2 Habiba Mohamed (Egypt) 126.67
3 Salma Hany Ibrahim (Egypt) 120.00
4 Mariam Metwally (Egypt) 79.33
5 Nele Gilis (Belgium) 75.00
6 Tinne Gilis (Belgium) 66.67
7 Elspeth Young (Scotland) 65.00
8 Marie Stephan (France) 65.00
9 Sabrina Sobhy (USA) 53.33
10 Choi Uen Shan (Hong Kong) 51.00

WSF WORLD JUNIOR CIRCUIT: March/ April 15

March
02 - 03 Qatar Junior Open
06 - 08 Slovenian Junior Open
13 - 15 German Junior Open
20 - 22 Luxembourg Junior Open
28 - 31 European Individual

April
03 - 06 Australian Junior Open
10 - 12 Croatian Junior Open
10 - 12 New Zealand Junior Open
17 - 19 Norwegian Junior Open
17 - 19 Oceania Junior Open
RÖSNER BECOMES HIGHEST RANKED GERMAN EVER

German Simon Rösner has become the highest ranked German squash player of all time overtaking previous incumbent Hansi Wiens after moving up to a career high World No.9 in the March PSA World Rankings. The imposing man from Paderborn has reached the quarter-final or better in seven of his last eight PSA World Tour events, breaking into the top ten for the first time in November 2014, and his consistency has seen him rewarded with further progression as he continues to build towards the top five.

Rösner’s progression means Egyptian Omar Mosaad moves up to occupy the World No.10 position, with Spaniard Borja Golan dropping out, to ensure heavy Egyptian presence atop the rankings – with five of the top ten players hailing from the region.

Elsewhere in the top 20 South African Stephen have moved up to a career high World No.15 while Max Lee also moves up one place to No.16, equalling his best ever ranking, with Australian Cameron Pilley the only other man to move up this month.

Egypt’s Mohamed Elshorbagy maintain his hold on the World No.1 ranking for a fifth consecutive month, a position he’ll be hoping to strengthen at the on-going PSA Wold Series, 2015 Windy City Open presented by Guggenheim Partners and EquiTrust Life Insurance.

Men’s Rankings March 2015 – Top 20

1. Mohamed Elshorbagy EGY 1474.500
2. Gregory Gaultier FRA 1229.000
3. Nick Matthew ENG 954.000
4. Ramy Ashour EGY 728.000
5. Amr Shabana EGY 666.500
6. Miguel Angel Rodriguez COL 624.500
7. Tarek Momen EGY 526.000
8. Peter Barker ENG 511.500
9. Simon Rösner GER 471.500
10. Omar Mosaad EGY 457.000
11. Borja Golan ESP 442.273
12. Mathieu Castagnet FRA 408.500
13. James Willstrop ENG 377.000
14. Marwan Elshorbagy EGY 348.500
15. Stephen Coppinger RSA 346.818
16. Max Lee HKG 328.000
17. Daryl Selby ENG 322.500
18. Cameron Pilley AUS 286.818
19. Nicolas Mueller SUI 280.000
20. Karim Abdel Gawad EGY 275.000

SERME, PALLIKAL & PERRY RISE IN MARCH RANKINGS

While Malaysia’s Nicol David extends her reign as the women’s world number one, France’s Camille Serme, India’s Dipika Pallikal and England’s Sarah-Jane Perry all celebrate upward movements in the March Women’s World Squash Rankings published by the WSA.

Serme, the seven-time French national champion from Creteil, rises a single place to No.6 after recording quarter-final berths in last month’s Cleveland Classic in Ohio and January’s Tournament of Champions in New York.

Pallikal enjoyed a fine February on the WSA World Tour in Canada – winning the Winnipeg Winter Club Open and reaching the final, against expectations, of the Granite Open in Toronto. The 23-year-old from Chennai moves up two places to No.11.

Perry, the surprise winner of the British National Championship title last month, maintained her successful run on the WSA Tour by taking the Granite Open crown - from the position of fourth seed. The 24-year-old from Kenilworth returns to a career-equalling-high world No.14.

Meanwhile Raneem El Welily (Egypt), Laura Massaro (England), Nour El Sherbini (Egypt) and Alison Waters (England) hold onto positions two to five, respectively, in the March WSA list.

Women’s Rankings March 2015 – Top 20

1. Nicol David MAS 3,446
2. Raneem El Welily EGY 2,700
3. Laura Massaro ENG 2,190
4. Nour El Sherbini EGY 1,548
5. Alison Waters ENG 1,468
6. Camille Serme FRA 1,158
7. Nour El Tayeb EGY 1,134
8. Low Wee Wern MAS 1,091
9. Omneya Abdel Kawy EGY 981
10. Amanda Sobhy USA 810
11. Dipika Pallikal IND 690
12. Annie Au HKG 656
13. Rachael Grinham AUS 624
14. Sarah-Jane Perry ENG 614
15. Madeline Perry IRL 583
16. Emma Beddoes ENG 555
17. Jenny Duncalf ENG 537
18. Nouran Gohar EGY 528
19. Sarah Kippax ENG 520
20. Nicolette Fernandes GUY 481
CERTIFIED EYEWEAR BRANDS 2015

The following brands have passed national safety standards and, having applied for WSF Certified listing, are the only brands permitted for use in WSF, Regional and many national junior events.

When buying new products, look for the WSF Certified Tested logo. Brands that become certified will be added to the WSF website and featured in Instant Updates.

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As it is 100 years old this year

...Squash Canada has unveiled a heritage logo. Squash Canada celebrated its centennial on 15th February and the organization has plans for a number of activities throughout the year including during the Canadian Squash Championship April 29–May 3, 2015 at the National Squash Academy in Toronto.

The Ultimate Nicol David profile

...has been written by James Zug for Squash Magazine. Read it at http://issuu.com/jayprince/docs/nicol_david_feature_18.3/1?e=9888612/11293752

PSA Retain Perform

...in a move that will see PERFORM stream over 300 matches from the PSA World Tour to bookmakers around the world via its Watch&Bet service until the end of 2017, PSA have extended their contract with digital sports content group PERFORM

European Masters

...ESF have produced their first, excellent, Masters Newsletter. See it at: http://www.europeansquash.com/news/93056/Masters-Newsletter

British Open Prize Equality

...is on the way with the commitment by Dr Assem Allam to extend the sponsorship of the British Open in Hull for a further three years, including the goal to provide prize-money parity by 2017.

"I am very happy to support the Allam British Open for a further three years," said Dr Allam at the signing. "This event is truly a 'national treasure' and it is fantastic that this three-year deal will take us to 2017 when Hull will take the spotlight as the UK City of Culture."

The deal will also guarantee equal prize money for the women's event by 2017. Dr Allam, who has raised prize money for the women's event year-on-year since 2012, promises to match the total women's prize fund with the men's.

Often referred to as the 'Wimbledon of Squash', the Allam British Open will be held at the Airco Arena in Hull between 11-17 May 2015.

SNIPPETS

Peter Wright .....was officially recognised in the Australia Day Honours. The President of Australian Masters Squash received an OAM "for service to the sport of squash through a range of executive roles".

The Squash Canada Centennial logo was unveiled in January.
Tour Growth in Oceania

...is evidenced by new broadcast deals with Sky New Zealand and Fox Australia to coincide with the return of the Australian Open in Melbourne, enlarged prize fund at the New Zealand Classic and an additional nine Tour events in Australia and three in New Zealand.

And Broadcast in USA

...PSA have announced a long-term partnership with US Broadcaster Tennis Channel who will become the exclusive North American broadcast partner of the PSA, and show close to 170 hours of top-tier squash competition on the network and its digital subscription service, Tennis Channel Plus, in the upcoming year.

Durban will be confirmed

...the host city for the Commonwealth Games 2022, subject to approval. The South African city on the Indian Ocean coast will follow on from Gold Coast, Australia, who are hosting the Games in 2018.