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Badminton World Federation

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World Junior Team Championships

Ladies and Gentlemen,

depending on the seeding and results of this year World Junior Team Championships I would like to present our analysis of final rankings depending on the composition of teams in stage 1 (group stage). We acknowledge the seeding for the World Junior Team Championships was done by BWF regarding the strength of teams and there is no doubt about the seeding 1 to 8.

We also acknowledge the spirit of BWF to play as most team matches as possible, because a lot of teams have to travel around the world to take part in the World Junior Team Championships. This should be done in future again!

The common sense is to get a final ranking, which nearly shows the real strength of all teams. We also acknowledge that special things can happen which interfere a good ranking in the end. But this special things will only happen in a very few cases, so the final ranking will be real up to a minimum of 80 - 90 %.

To reach this target, which is a good target, the draw should follow some more rules than in the past. This year and in previous years only teams expected to end 1 to 8 had been seeded. All other teams had been done in the draw by random. Because of this procedure this year we had the situation to have some of strongest teams finally ranked 1 to 8 and 9 to 16 to play in group Z in stage 1, for example China (final ranking 1), Japan (5), England (9) and Hongkong (14).

To show the analysis of group consumption and the possible ranking for these teams after playing stage 1 please see the attachment. As you can see, all teams seeded (China seed 1, Japan seed 5/8) and drawn to group Z reached the best possible ranking in the end, except Hongkong. That means, China has to play rank 1 to 4 and ended at 1; Japan had to play 5 - 8 and ended at 5, England had to play 9 - 12 and ended at 9,

Hongkong (the only exception) had to play 13 - 16 and ended at 14, Russia had to play 17 - 20 and ended at 17, Chinese Taipei had to play 21 - 23 and ended at 21 and Germany had to play 24 - 25 and ended at 24.

It is very important to compare the results of teams group Z with the results of all other teams in group W, X and Y. You can see the analysis on the right side of the attachment, especially watching the green and red cells. It is very clear and for everybody recognizable group W, especially sub-group W 2 and group Y, especially Y 2, are looking a lot weaker than for example sub-group Z 1 and Z 2.

Another point is, the European Team Champion 2007, which is England, was drawn in the same sub-group than China, and European no. 4 ranked Russia was also drawn in this sub-group. That means two of the strongest European teams (England as no. 1) and (Russia as no. 4) have to play in the same sub-group and they also have to play China.

To show the gap between results of European Junior Team Championships and World Junior Team Championships please see the following comparison:

Association	European Junior Team Championships 2007	World Junior Team Championships 2007
England	1	9
The Netherlands	2	13
Russia	3	17
Germany	5	24
Scotland	6	10
Czech Republic	7	20
Bulgaria	12	11
Turkey	14	15

We also want to try to give a proposal to solve these problems. The main target is to get a good ranking in the end, really depending on the strength of teams and not only on luck or bad luck regarding the draw. Therefore we would like to present the following proposal:

1. The seeding for teams 1 - 8 should be done without any change.
2. Normally the World Junior Team Championships are played with 4 groups, in total with 8 sub-groups. BWF should make different pots for the next coming teams, that means teams expected a ranking 9 to 16 should be done in pot 1, teams expected ranking on 17 - 24 or all other teams should be done in a different pot (pot 2).
3. After placing all seeded teams in sub-groups, all teams from pot 1 should be drawn in 8 sub-groups, that finally each sub-group has one seeded team 1 to 8 and 1 team from pot 1.
4. After that all other teams should be drawn in 8 sub-groups, that finally each sub-group has one seeded team 1 to 8, 1 team from pot 1 and 1 team from pot 2, in total 24 teams.
5. If there are more than 24 teams the remaining teams should be drawn in sub-groups, regarding any additional rule.

6. It is a very good idea of BWF to get in contact with the continental confederations for seeding the individual events. We really appreciate that. It will also be a very good idea to do the same for the team event to get an actual ranking from the continental confederation, considering that for seeding 1 to 8 and for selection teams for pot 1 (teams expected ranking 9 - 16).
7. This procedure is to avoid, teams from pot 1 (these are expected teams to rank 9 - 16 in the end) have to play each other in any sub-group.
8. Using this procedure will present a more fair draw because the sub-groups will be more similar than in the past. This will also be important and more fair for the play-off matches at the end of stage 1 and the final for the places 1 - 4, 5 - 8, 9 - 12 etc..

Dividing teams in different pots is also used for example by FIFA for the FIFA-World -Cup and also for other top events all over the world.

Finally we really appreciate to get many matches playing World Junior Championships. But we also appreciate to get a really good ranking in the end which shows the real strength of teams.

Therefore we kindly ask Badminton World Federation to get in discussion to change the regulations or to expand the regulations with these features.

Kind regards



Karl-Heinz Kerst  
President



Thomas Lohwieser  
Team Manager Under 19