

Request for Proposal

Badminton Sports Science Research Grants

Badminton Research Grants 2017 / 2018

To support research and the goals of the Sports Science Commission (see below), the Development & Sport for All Committee has budgeted US\$ 70,000 for post graduate research grants for 2017 / 2018. These will be distributed to institutions / individuals based on the process and criteria details below.

This document details the following:

- The background to the Research Grants
- The process of application
- Criteria for evaluation of proposals
- Time frames
- Reporting obligations of the successful grant applications

Background to Grants

The BWF has a Sports Science Commission which has three key goals (see the BWF Corporate website for more information):

1. *Encourage and widen interest and investment in applied research in Badminton.*
2. *Improve the level and quantity of scientific material available to players, coaches and badminton practitioners.*
3. *Contribute towards the increased knowledge of performance and safety at the international level – of coaches and players.*

Research is one key area of focus for the Commission – the scope of this is to:

4. *Provide expert advice to the BWF on innovation and potential impacts on changes to the game.*
5. *Assist with the development of a research network of sports universities, institutions and individuals.*
6. *Identify underdeveloped areas of knowledge and establish projects to improve this.*
7. *Develop criteria and processes to assess potential BWF funded research projects.*
8. *Identify possible external funding sources for research in Badminton / related areas.*

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Sports Science Research Grants

The BWF provides the opportunity for research institutions and individual academics to apply for research grants to assist in the funding of applied sports science research in badminton. In this year's funding, BWF are particular interest in research connected to the health benefits of badminton and injury prevention.

Grant applications may come from institutions or individual academics conducting research in any of the following areas relevant and specifically applicable to badminton:

- Physiology
- Biomechanics
- Sports psychology
- Performance analysis
- Match analysis
- High performance pathways
- Sports Anthropometry
- Sports injuries / injury prevention
- Or other areas as agreed by the Sports Science Commission.

Summary - Application Process & Deadlines

The application and implementation process shall follow these steps:

08 June 2017	Advertising the Opportunity	Wide distribution through members / universities.
04 August 2017	Deadline for Proposals	Applications must be on the official application form and emailed to BWF office.
04 August - 1 September 2017	Evaluation / Selection	Recommendations of evaluation panel sent to the BWF Sports Science Commission for final approval.
07 September 2017	Applicants informed	Sample MOU / agreement sent with the letter.
14 September 2017	Agreement signed	Both parties.
29 September 2017	Grant funding released	
23 February 2018	Progress Report 1	Against agreed areas of reporting.
22 June 2018	Progress report 2	Against agreed areas of reporting.

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Assessment Criteria for Proposals

In evaluating applications for grants, the following criteria shall apply:

1. **Relevance** - The research question is relevant and specifically applicable to badminton and the context of badminton;
2. **Outcomes** - The outcomes benefit badminton players, coaches or entourage members;
3. **Originality** - The focus of the research is a new area of research for badminton or adds value to existing research in badminton.
4. **Quality** - The research proposal has a high quality of design and methodology.
5. **Mechanistic Insight** - The researcher has an existing interest in the sport and what is current and relevant for badminton.
6. **Immediate Impact** - The research has as an applied aspect - clinical or training / performance.

Evaluation Panel / Process of Selection

A panel will evaluate the applications for research grants for each round of applications / grants. Each evaluation panel shall be made up of:

- The chair of the Development and Sport for All Committee or delegated member of the Committee
- Two members of the BWF Sports Science Commission
- The BWF Director of Development

The panel recommends the list of awardees and research focuses to the Sports Science Commission who will confirm the awarding of the grants. Panel members should not have any relationship with applying institutions or connected individuals which could be deemed as a conflict of interest.

Monitoring and Reporting on Research Grants

An MOU / agreement will be signed, between the BWF and the grant awardee - individual academic or institution - which covers the following areas:

1. Focus of Research
2. Research question(s)
3. Methodology
4. Expected outcomes / findings and its applicability to badminton
5. KPIs against stages of the project
6. Allocation of grant / part of grant against KPIs or stages
7. Confidentiality and communication
8. Publication rights

A member of the Sports Science Commission will monitor progress against the research plan of each project.

The awardee shall be responsible for providing two reports against key stages / KPIs of the research project.