



BADMINTON
CONFEDERATION
AFRICA

THE BEACON

2ND EDITION



BY

BADMINTON CONFEDERATION AFRICA

BCA PRESIDENT



MICHEL BAU



Dear Members, Partners, and Friends of Badminton,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the second edition of *The Beacon*, our official newsletter dedicated to showcasing the work, achievements, and people who are driving the technical evolution of badminton in Africa.

This edition highlights one of our proudest accomplishments—the tremendous progress of BCA’s Technical Officials. From officiating at the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games to leading workshops and passing BWF assessments, our officials have proven that African excellence belongs at the highest levels of international sport.

The remarkable achievements of individuals such as Awatef Ghaloussi of Tunisia—recently certified as a BWF Umpire—and the continued success of Emmanuel Kgabotsile, Johan de Clerk, and others reflect the fruit of dedication, collaboration, and the solid structures we have put in place across the continent.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the BCA Technical Officials Commission, chaired by Mr. Diraj Gooneadry, for their tireless commitment to the growth of officiating across Africa. The teamwork and professionalism they demonstrate continue to be a model for our Confederation.

Let us remain inspired by the milestones achieved so far. With the support of our Member Associations and partners, I am confident we will continue to elevate African badminton to new heights—through integrity, inclusivity, and technical excellence.

Warm regards,

Michel Bau
President
Badminton Confederation Africa

BCA CEO



JEFF SHIGOLI

Dear Colleagues and Stakeholders,

Welcome to the second edition of The Beacon—a dedicated space to reflect, share, and celebrate the advancement of badminton through the lens of our most critical enablers: Technical Officials.

At BCA, we firmly believe that the future of badminton in Africa depends not only on developing players, but also on building a strong, knowledgeable, and respected corps of officials. Our strategy in 2024 has focused heavily on this objective. This edition illustrates the tangible results of our investments in training, assessment, and mentorship.

The BCA Technical Officials Commission has ensured that our officials are not only compliant with evolving global standards, but that they are also leaders within them.

We are especially proud of the growing presence of African officials in top-tier international events, including the BWF World Junior Championships, the World Senior Championships, and the HSBC World Tour. These appointments are more than just selections—they are affirmations that our strategic direction is working.

Looking ahead, we will continue to roll out targeted initiatives aimed at decentralising training, supporting certification pathways, and encouraging the next generation of male and female officials from across the continent. Our goal remains clear: to build a self-sustaining ecosystem of technical excellence that reflects the spirit and ambition of African badminton.

With appreciation,

Jeff Shigoli
Chief Executive Officer
Badminton Confederation Africa





RAJA ROCHDY

Dear Members and Technical Officials,

As we close the Olympic cycle for Paris 2024, it is time to reflect on the achievements of the past few years. Each event brought its own challenges but also presented opportunities to witness remarkable progress shaped by dedication, growth, and excellence. From local tournaments to the grand stage of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Africa's referees, umpires, and line judges have stepped forward with pride, ensuring the game is played with fairness, integrity, and professionalism.

This cycle has seen the rise of African technical officials, marked by significant milestones in training, mentorship, and gender representation. These achievements reflect the richness of our continent by not only participating but actively helping to shape the future of officiating in badminton with adaptability and resilience.

Moreover, the range of disciplines developed by the BWF (Badminton, Para badminton, and more recently AirBadminton) continues to open new doors for African technical officials to grow, diversify their experience, and contribute to the sport in dynamic and exciting environments.

Looking ahead, our goal for the next Olympic cycle is clear and ambitious: to train more technical officials, expand their exposure on the international stage, and keep nurturing talent through dynamic and relevant training and assessment opportunities. This momentum is especially crucial as we prepare to host a truly historic milestone; the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar in 2026, the first Olympic event ever to be held on African soil. It will be a proud and symbolic moment for Africa, and we are committed to ensuring that our technical officials are ready to shine.

This special edition is a tribute to these dedicated individuals, the unsung heroes who work tirelessly behind the scenes to uphold the rules and spirit of the sport. Through their stories, we celebrate not only the matches they have officiated, but also the passion, perseverance, and commitment that brought them here.

Join us as we look back on their journeys, honour their achievements, and look ahead to a bright and promising future for officiating in Africa.

Raja Rochdy



EVENTS, IT MANAGER AND HEAD OF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS



FAADIL SAYED



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As the Events & IT Manager and Head of Technical Officials at the Badminton Confederation Africa (BCA), it's a privilege to contribute to this second edition of The Beacon. Over the past year, we've seen the technical officials' community across Africa grow in both capacity and recognition-on court and behind the scenes. From planning international tournaments, managing livestream operations, to coordinating TO appointments and trainings, our efforts have been deeply collaborative.

One of my key responsibilities is to ensure that our TOs are not only appointed and equipped for duty, but also recognized for the vital role they play in shaping the quality and integrity of badminton events across the continent. In 2024 alone, we've supported a series of workshops, assessments, and placements that have opened doors for many to gain international experience-some even at the Olympic and Paralympic level.

It's encouraging to witness the continued dedication of our Referees, Umpires, and Line Judges. I remain committed to working closely with the TOC and our entire BCA community to ensure our technical framework keeps pace with the growing ambitions of African badminton.

Warm regards,

Faadil Sayed
Events, IT Manager and Head of Technical Officials
Badminton Confederation Africa

BCA TOC CHAIRPERSON



DIRAJ DEV GOONEADRY



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter 'The beacon'. I would like to thank all the members of the BCA TOC for their full support and collaboration in the publication of this online magazine namely Naomi Adeoyin Oyinloye (for leading this project), Karin Bester, Emmanuel Kgaboetsile and Salomon Nonvignon.

In 2024, two of our BWF Umpires and two of our BWF International Line Judges officiated at the Paris 2024 Olympics. In the same year, again two other BWF Umpires and two BWF International Line Judges officiated at the Paris 2024 Paralympics. This is a prestigious moment for all of them.

The BCA TOC has conducted many online workshops for all Technical Officials. The latest one was in April 2024 on the Seed Withdrawal Movement Regulation for our Continental Referees which will be implemented this year as from 1st of July in all Grade 3 Tournaments.

I am proud to say that one of our BCA Certificated Umpire, namely Awatef Ghalousi of Tunisia, has passed the BWF Umpire Assessment in 2024 and is now a BWF Umpire. Furthermore, Johan de Clerk of Republic of South Africa who is a Continental Referee has this year passed the Theory Examination for BWF Referees. I will congratulate both of them. Their hard work and sacrifice has finally paid off.

We are doing our level best to support all our Technical Officials. Recently most of the BCA Certificated Umpires have been invited to officiate at the BWF HSBC World Tour Super 300, BWF World Junior Championships and BWF World Senior Championships. This will enable them to gather more experience and confidence when they will go for BWF Assessment. Our Continental Referees have had the opportunity to officiate as a Deputy Referee in some of the BWF HSBC World Tour Super 300. Many of our BCA Accredited Umpires have officiated in many big tournaments in the Continent.

Let us continue to work hand in hand to motivate our TOs to perform to their best of their ability and I am sure in the coming years many of them will reap the fruits of success. I will here thank the BCA and its staff for their support during all these years. Our Commission will rely heavily on their help to raise the standard of officiating of our TOs in Africa.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Diraj Dev Gooneadry', is located at the bottom right of the page.

Diraj Dev GOONEADRY - Chair, BCA TOC

★ BCA TOs Commission Members ★

Diraj Dev Gooneadry
Chairman



Karin Bester
Deputy Chairman / BCA Referees Development Officer



Emmanuel Kgaboetsile
Member / In charge of BCA Umpires Development



Salomon Cossi Nonvignon
Secretary / In charge of BCA TOOs Communications



Naomi Adeoyin Oyinloye
Member / Newsletter & In charge - Line Judges Development



The BCA Technical Officials (TOs) Commission for the term 2024–2027 is composed of experienced and dedicated individuals from across the continent. This dynamic team is tasked with driving the development, education, and promotion of technical officials within Africa. Through strategic initiatives, training programs, and regulatory guidance, the Commission plays a vital role in upholding officiating standards and supporting the growth of badminton across the region.



Referees' Assessors

Mr Diraj Dev Gooneadry

Head/Chair



Mrs Karin Bester



Umpires' Assessors

Mr Diraj Dev Gooneadry

Head/Chair



Mr. Jessen Mahadoo



Mr Emmanuel Kgaboetsile



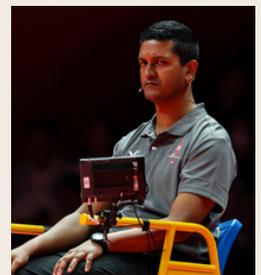
Ms Harriet Semugabi



Mr Faadil Sayed



Mr Yassan Sairally





HARRIET SEMUGABI SHINES AT BCA'S AFRICA WOMEN IN SPORTS 2024 AWARDS

We congratulate Ms Harriet Semugabi (UGA) on her award as the BCA woman in Badminton 2023. We specially recognise her unwavering support for the development of Badminton within and outside of Africa. Within Africa, she has served as umpire, referee, assessor, and member of the To's Commission displaying her skills, expertise, passion and leadership in badminton. We also recognise her immense contribution in becoming a role model worthy of emulation among women in African badminton and we hope this award will motivate other aspiring women to become exceptional in their different roles in the future. Out of the many several prestigious achievements, Harriet officiated in Commonwealth Games Australia 2006, Glasgow 2014, Birmingham 2022. Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. World Championships Guangzhou 2013, Jakarta 2015, Huelva 2021. World Tour Championships 2022 in Odense. And many other several international tournaments.

INTRODUCING BWF UMPIRE AWATEF GHALOUSSI

We at BCA TOs Commission are happy to introduce to its members that Mrs Awatef Ghaloussi of Tunisia has just been promoted to a BWF umpire status. She received her certification during the Egypt Para Badminton International 2025. In her words, good mental, theoretical and practical preparations are keys to a successful assessment. She was of the opinion that hard work, diligence, understanding of the badminton laws, ITTOs, other materials and their correct application is paramount to becoming a good umpire. She concluded by hoping that other aspiring BCA TOs will emulate and learn from BWF TOs and she wishes them the very best in their career pursuits.



TECHNICAL OFFICIALS DEVELOPMENT

2024 has been a successful and exciting year for technical officials in Africa. From the All Africa seniors championships in Egypt to the African Games in Ghana and then, the Paris 2024 Olympics, Paralympics and the All Africa U-19 Championships. Speaking on his experience at the Paris 2024 Paralympics, BWF umpire Emmanuel Kgaboetsile from Botswana noted that although the players were physically challenged, the level of play and competition was at its peak, he noted the friendly nature of players, the high level of organization, fan experience and a wholesome experience during the tournament.

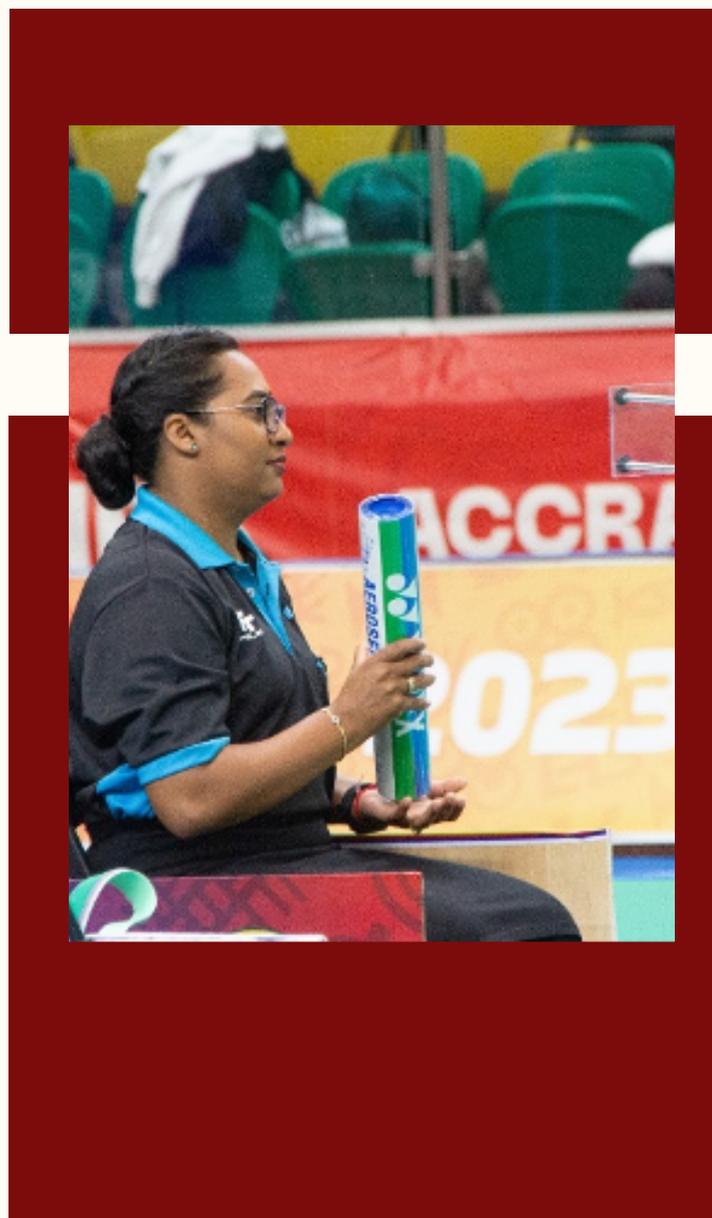


AFRICAN GAMES ACCRA 2024



The Borteyman Sports complex in Ghana, a four-court indoor sports hall played host to African nations participating in Badminton individual events between 7th and 10th March 2024.

Technical officials across Africa were on deck to ensure the event was a success. A refresher workshop was conducted by Mr Diraj Gooneadry (referee) before the commencement of the tournament in order to keep technical officials up to date on the laws and rules of engagement while also encouraging team work. He was ably assisted by Mrs Karin Bester (deputy referee) and overall, the championship was a success. We look forward to more developments among our technical officials by the next edition of African Games in 2027.





ALL AFRICAL U-15, U-19, SCHOOLS AND AIRBADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS



We have witnessed improvements and growth of Airbadminton in Africa through its inclusion in various African championships, under age and schools championships were not left out. In 2023, Airbadminton was included in the All Africa Beach Games in Hammamet, Tunisia and our TOs have been an integral part of these growth and popularity.



The 2025 All Africa AirBadminton Championships were successfully held in Ghana. This prestigious event also served as a qualifier for the AirBadminton World Cup, which will take place later this year in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). We look forward to seeing continued growth and popularity of our beloved AirBadminton across the African continent and beyond.



In May 2024, BCA's TOs commission organized an online workshop for its members on the use of the new tournament software which was facilitated by Mrs Karin Bester (RSA) a BWF Referee. The workshop which was spread over 3 Thursdays (9th, 16th and 23rd) and it was attended by BCA referees, National referees, National match control personnel and other interested members of the BCA TOs community.



Mr Salomon Nonvignon (BEN), Mrs Josephine Kafuko(ZAM) and Dr. Ahmed Reda participated in the Special Olympics Badminton Referee/Technical delegates training and unified sport delegates. The training was held at Khalifa University, Abu Dhabi, UAE between 8th-12th May, 2024. The workshop was aimed at developing technical officials and delegates in the organization and effective delivery of Special Olympics badminton competition in a safe, fair, consistent and professional manner at various regional and international levels of the sport.



We are delighted to inform that Mr. Emmanuel Kabotsile(BOT) and Mr. Yassan Sairally(MRI) participated in the workshop organized by BWF for Continental Confederation Assessors which took place in Changzhou, China between 16-19 September 2024. Chair, BWF referee assessment panel, Ms. Gretha Prinsloo (RSA) was also present at the workshop. The workshop was geared towards a unified Continental TOs development which entails the use of 360 approach in the preparation of Continental umpire candidates for BWF certification and how the assessors can further improve engagements with other stakeholders' during assessments. Considering the experience gained during this workshop, we look forward to seeing more BCA candidates excelling in BWF assessments in coming years.





Technical Officials



<u>BWF REFEREE ASSESSOR</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Gretha Prinsloo (Chair-person)	F	SOUTH AFRICA
<u>BWF REFEREES</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Diraj Gooneadry	M	MAURITIUS
Karin Bester	F	SOUTH AFRICA
<u>BWF UMPIRES</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Emmanuel Kgaboetsile	M	BOTSWANA
Faadil Sayed	M	MAURITIUS
Satiawan Mahadoo	M	MAURITIUS
Yassan Sairally	M	MAURITIUS
Awatef Ghaloussi	F	TUNISIA
Harriet Semugabi	F	UGANDA
<u>BWF LINE JUDGES</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Honorine Vitohou	F	BENIN
Salomon Nonvignon	M	BENIN
Modigela Gagothata	M	BOTSWANA
Sheba Seponono	F	BOTSWANA
Rebecca Morfaw	F	CAMEROUN
Ahmed Mashaal	M	EGYPT
Manarelislam Ali	F	EGYPT
Didier Claude	M	MAURITIUS
Sachin Kinnoo	M	MAURITIUS
Megan Plaatjies	F	SOUTH AFRICA
<u>BCA REFEREES</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Emmanuel Kgaboetsile	M	BOTSWANA
Jessen Mahadoo	M	MAURITIUS
Deidre Horn	F	SOUTH AFRICA
Emmie Wiggins	F	SOUTH AFRICA
Johan De Clerk	M	SOUTH AFRICA
Harriet Semugabi	F	UGANDA

Technical Officials



<u>BCA CERTIFICATED UMPIRES</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Chawki Amarni	M	ALGERIA
Djamel Boucheffa	M	ALGERIA
Gopolang Mengkwe	F	BOTSWANA
Naomi Adeoyin Oyinloye	F	NIGERIA
Janine Kotze	F	SOUTH AFRICA
Chungu Daniel	M	ZAMBIA
<u>BCA ACCREDITED UMPIRES</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
Anis Aouanouk	M	ALGERIA
Bignon Bede	M	BENIN
Salomon Nonvignon	M	BENIN
Connie Motsholapheko	F	BOTSWANA
Mmerekhi Nkgowe	M	BOTSWANA
Sheba Seponono	F	BOTSWANA
Ahmad Mashaal	M	EGYPT
Manar Elislam Ali Awadallah	F	EGYPT
Sara Gamal	F	EGYPT
Toqa Yousef	F	EGYPT
Gabriel Atseku	M	GHANA
Didier Claude	M	MAURITIUS
Khoshila Ramsamy	F	MAURITIUS
Reena Sobha	F	MAURITIUS
Sachin Kinnoo	M	MAURITIUS
Sandip Beeharry	M	MAURITIUS
Shailendra Chuttoo	M	MAURITIUS
Oluwatosin Solademi	F	NIGERIA
Christophe Chenut	M	REUNION
Juandre Booyse	M	SOUTH AFRICA
Corne Van Der Merwe	M	SOUTH AFRICA
Megan Plaatjies	F	SOUTH AFRICA
Adlani Ben Nour	M	TUNISIA
Richard Munyoro	M	UGANDA
Josephine Kafuko	F	ZAMBIA
Rumbidzai Ruwende	F	ZIMBABWE

NEW/UPDATED REGULATIONS



- Clause 9.1.1 Neither side shall cause undue delay to the delivery of the service once the server and receiver are ready for the service. This includes and not limited to:

§ Players once in a position to serve or receive, any excessive delay whether it is a player holding their hand up indicating they are not ready, standing in a ready position to serve and doing nothing or the side-to-side motion is termed undue delay.

§ Umpires may call server or receiver's fault for these types of undue delays while using their best judgements.

- Clause 9.1.5 In a correct service, the server's racket shall initially hit the base of the shuttle;

"the server shall release the shuttle without adding spin, and the server's racket shall initially hit the base of the shuttle"

TABLE OF OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- Section 2.5 - A penalty of \$500 is now applicable to breaches of the Players Code of Conduct
- Clause 3.2.6. When a player retires in a match when entering the match knowing he/she is already injured.

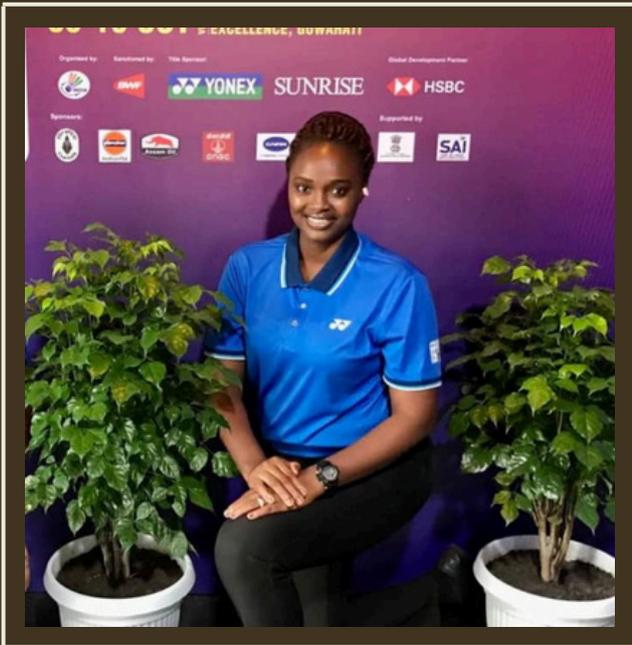
INSTRUCTION TO TECHNICAL OFFICIALS Section 4.1.1. (INSTRUCTIONS TO PARA BADMINTON TECHNICAL OFFICIALS Section 4.1.1.1)

- Medical Emergency Intervention: The tournament doctor is now allowed to enter the court without the direction of the referee in cases of suspected cardiac arrest or suspected concussion with blackout.
- Elimination of Cold spray allowance during a match: The allowance of one cold spray per player per match, provided by the Tournament Doctor (TD), has been eliminated. TD will provide cold spray to players during intervals only. During intervals, players can apply cold spray to themselves or by a team medical staff member.



EDITORIAL SUMMARY

NAOMI OYINLOYE



We appreciate everyone who have contributed and taken their time to go through “THE BEACON V2”. The good works of our Technical officials and TOs Commission in making this dream a reality is highly commendable.

As we are already in another Olympic cycle we hope to witness more growth in numbers and promotion in ranks within our technical officials circle. We hope to see more high level officiating during the African Youth Games (AYG) later in 2025 and for the first time in history, an African country, Senegal, will be hosting the IV Summer Youth Olympics Games (YOG) tagged “Dakar 2026” we are optimistic that our TOs will gain more experience at these high level tournaments and will be inspired to aim higher in their chosen career paths.

Thank you once again for your time and see you in the next edition of “THE BEACON”

Best Regards

Naomi Oyinloye
BCA TOs commission member

THANK
YOU



VERY
MUCH

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