

BWF Sport Science Research Grant 2023/24



The BWF Sport Science Research Grant is designed to support research institutions and individual academia to conduct badminton related sport science research projects.

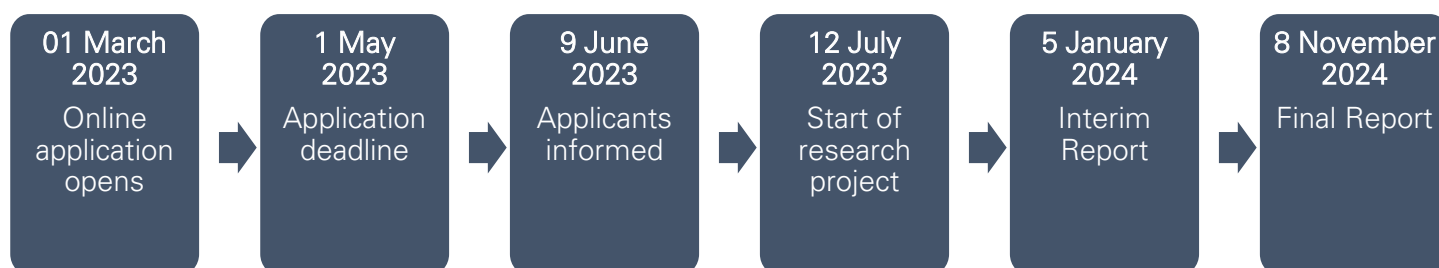
Programme overview

The BWF Sport Science Research Grant programme aims to meet the objectives sets out by the BWF Sport Science and Medical Research Commission:

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 on performance and safety at the international level - for coaches and players.

The grant is for anyone working on, or already holding, a Masters or higher who is analysing Badminton from a variety of academic disciplines. Once completed, the research will be shared with the BWF Member Associations and the global badminton community. Grant applicants must submit a recommendation letter preferably from a BWF Member Association to ensure that the project is undertaken in line with contemporary issues and has the highest practical value possible.

Timeline



Research Areas

The BWF Sport Science and Medical Research Commission has identified the following key research areas and questions for the 2023/24 cycle.

Key Research Area 1: Badminton Performance

- What are the physical performance characteristics in badminton and the differences between gender and disciplines?
- What are the performance determinants in badminton and the differences between gender and disciplines?
- What are the physical capacity of elite players and the difference in aerobic/anaerobic capacities between genders and disciplines?

Key Research Area 2: Physical Activity & Well Being

- What are the key physical and social benefits of playing badminton recreationally and competitively?
- What are the differences of key physical and social benefits of playing badminton and Airbadminton?
- What are the physical and social benefits of playing badminton recreationally for youth/older adults?
- What are the physical and social benefits of playing Airbadminton recreationally for youth/older adults?

Key Research Area 3: Injury Prevention & Medical

- What can the badminton community do better to reduce injury and enhance performance?
- What are the risk factors that contributes to injuries in youth elite and elite badminton players between genders?

Key Research Area 4: Para badminton / Inclusive badminton

- What is the optimal wheelchair set-up (seating position, wheel camber, anti-tip, tyre type/pressure) to maximise movement efficiency and force/power output for Para badminton athletes?
- What are the key principles and guidelines for working within different training zones for Para badminton sport classes, to ensure optimal training and replication of match environment?
- What are key Physical testing protocols for each Para badminton sport class?
- What are the principles of physical training for each Para badminton sport classes?
- What are the physical, health and social benefits of “Unified” badminton with Special Olympics athletes?



Requirements

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- be enrolled as a postgraduate student at a university or equivalent institution and currently preparing a postgraduate dissertation/thesis; or
- have obtained a postgraduate degree and currently hold a research position at a university or equivalent institution; or
- be a researcher (with or without doctorate), whose academic research work is documented and established at a research institution; and
- have a letter or recommendation preferably from a BWF Member Association.

Individual vs Institutional application

Grant applications may be received either from an individual or institutional researchers who all need to fulfil the eligibility requirements.

For Institutional applications, the lead researcher, i.e. main applicant, will held responsible for the proper conduct of the research, as well as the obligations arising from these regulations

Language of the Research Project

Research application and research projects are accepted only in **ENGLISH**.



Application Process and Supporting Documents

Applications for the grants must follow the process describe below. Only complete and valid (where all requirements are fulfilled) applications will be taken into considerations.

Online Application

All applications must be submitted via the Online Application Form available at <https://development.bwfbadminton.com/sport-science/bwf-research/research-grants-application>

All mandatory fields must be completed. Partial or incomplete applications will not be considered. No changes to the application will be possible once the application has been completed and submitted.

- Opening date for applications: 1st March
- Closing date for applications: 1st May
- Communication of results: by 9th June

Supporting Documents

Grant applicants will be requested to provide the following supporting documents for the evaluation process upon submission of the application:

- a) **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**
if more than one researcher, CVs for each member required. *(PDF)*
- b) **Endorsement Letter**
From Academic Institution, Research Centre or BWF Member Association *(PDF)*
- c) **Budget**
Detailed budget breakdown *(Excel)*
- d) **Budget Justification**
Detailed budget justification *(Words)*

Budget

The amount of funding awarded can change from year to year. Grants typically may be awarded up to USD 8,000 per research project. However, the Evaluation Panel will decide on the final amount of the grants awarded for each selected application depending on the circumstances of the research and the feasibility of the budget requested.

Researchers are requested to submit a budget justification to explain and justify the expenses outlined in the proposed budget for the evaluation process. The researcher should accurately reflect the costs of the proposed research project.

Grant recipients are requested to provide an expenditure report upon completion of the research project and may be requested to provide necessary invoices.

The BWF Sport Science Research Grants intend to cover the following direct costs:

- Rental of necessary technical equipment and devices, duly justified;
- Purchase of necessary minor technical equipment and devices, duly justified;
- Investigator allowance to compensate for the time and personal expenses associating to the research, duly justified;
- Domestic travel, exclusively for the purpose of conducting the research
- Fees required for the conduct of the research (e.g. Translation cost, cost of data collection, etc.)
- Fees paid to research subjects, such as modest incentives for participation, where ethics clearance has been obtained.

Kindly note that the BWF does not provide grant solely to cover equipment cost or investigator allowance.

The following cost will **NOT** be supported through the grant:

- Salaries / replacement teaching cost
- Taxes
- Tuition Fees
- International travel (unless it is agreed with the BWF)
- Expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the grant
- Writing/publication expenses (e.g. participation in academic conferences)
- Living expenses
- Contingency funds
- Miscellaneous expenses
- Fees paid for external consultant or vendor

Assessment Criteria and Process

Assessment Criteria

Only complete applications fulfilling all the required criteria will be reviewed and evaluated by the Evaluation Panel. In evaluating applications for grants, the following criteria shall apply:

- a) Strategic Value** – meet the strategic value of BWF and benefits the global badminton community;
- b) Scientific Value** – high quality scientific value with clear design and methodology;
- c) Feasibility** – the practicality of the research (ethics, budget, operation, time, etc.)
- d) Immediate Impact** – the potential practical implications and applied aspect (clinical / training / performance)
- e) Sustainability** – the implementation and dissemination plan of the research

Evaluation Panel

A panel academic and badminton experts will evaluate the grant applications. The evaluation panel shall be made up of:

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

The panel recommends the list of awardees and research focuses to the Sport 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.

Agreement, Funding and Reporting

Agreement

A Research Grants Agreement will be signed, between the BWF and the grant recipient – individual or institution - which covers the following areas:

- a) Focus of Research
- b) Research question(s)
- c) Methodology
- d) Expected outcomes / findings and its applicability to badminton
- e) KPIs against stages of the project
- f) Allocation of grant / part of grant against KPIs or stages
- g) Confidentiality and communication
- h) Publication rights

Successful applicants will typically be given up to 2-months to finalise the agreement.

Funding Schedule

The grant typically will be paid in two (2) payments. The first payment (60%) will be paid upon both parties have signed the agreement and the second payment (40%) will be paid following the evaluation and approval of the interim or final report, approval of the expenditures, and submission of all deliverables.

For multi year project, the grant typically will be paid in three (3) payments. The first payment (60%) will be paid upon both parties have signed the agreement and equal payments (20% each) for the subsequent two payments will be paid following the evaluation and approval of the interim and final report, approval of the expenditures, and submission of all deliverables.

Reporting

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

Researchers awarded grants by the BWF will have fourteen months to produce the following deliverables:

- a) **Final report** (approx. 20 pages); and
- b) **Abstract** (2 pages / approx. 600 words); and
- c) **Poster Presentation** (where the project experience is explained in a short and graphical way).
- d) **Expenditure report**

A detailed reporting guideline will be provided upon the signing of the agreement.

Publication

BWF has teamed up with the International Journal of Racket Sport Science ([link](#)) to promote academic research on badminton.

A number of selected high-impact projects will also be considered for publication on the International Journal of Racket Sport Science.

Contact

For more information about the BWF Sport Science Research Grant programme and assistance on the research grants application process, please contact us at sportscience@bwf.sport.

