

World Senior Championships (20-26 September 2015)

The world Senior Championships was held in Helsingborg, Sweden, about an hour with train from Copenhagen airport. Small city near the sea with nice buildings and a few places to visit such as its harbour.

My trip was comfortable, flight from Barcelona to Zurich and then to Copenhagen, except delays on the way back to Barcelona from Zurich.

We were provided with train tickets from the airport to Helsingborg which we also could use those tickets to use the public transport free of charge in Helsingborg.

The hotel was a hotel apartment and we shared with other umpires, my roommate was a lady from China.

The hall was in 5 minutes walking distance to our hotel. There were two halls during the first four days, as the 55 plus and higher were played in a hall with 5 courts. The main hall had nine courts and a practice hall with five courts next to it.

For the whole tournament we had two or three except the finals which we had six line judges, many international and some local students who were volunteers and some of them have never seen a badminton court before. It was easy working with match control and referees team. Our referee was Pencho Stoyanov from Bulgaria and four Deputy Referees were Girish Nattu from India, Eric Lissillour from France, Gretha Prinsloo from South Africa and the local referee was Daniel Sahlberg.

The referee was being assessed for his BWF certification level. And there was an assessment for Danish umpires during the first four days. They all passed their assessment.

The tournament ran very smoothly and we finished every day on schedule. Everyone had a shift off during the first six days and on the final day we worked in two shifts.

In total we were forty five umpires from different countries and continents.

The tournament had a good level, many players who were champions in the past which was fun to umpire and to watch. Everyone was happy with the organization and planning.

The organiser provided us with lunch and dinner in the hall which was either a sandwich or a salad; we had our breakfast in the hotel. We also received daily allowance for nine days.

We all were invited to a dinner on the last day after the finals in a typical Swedish restaurant.

I had sixty five duties including an Umpire and a service judging in the finals.

Regards

Sara Shahhosseini