

## **Badminton Rocked With Wei Doping Ban**

Malaysian badminton ace Lee Chong Wei may never realize his long-cherished dream of becoming the Olympic and World champion after he was suspended in a [doping scandal](#) that has rocked the sport.

Lee, the world no. 1, is temporarily barred from competition by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) after he tested positive to the banned anti-inflammatory [Dexamethasone](#). Lee now faces the risk of an eventual suspension of up to two years.

The 32-year-old remarked if he is suspended for a long time, it will affect his chances of becoming a world champion next year and also win the Olympic gold medal in 2016. Lee has never been able to win either of the sport's two major prizes despite topping the badminton rankings for years and reaching five world and Olympic finals. The World No. 1 International Badminton Player remarked it has always been his dream to win both titles and it is also the reason why he took up the sport.

It was recently announced by the [BWF](#) that Lee was suspended due to an apparent anti-doping regulation violation. The world-governing body imposed the suspension because of an Adverse Analytical Finding of a sample taken at the BWF World Championships in August. The Badminton World Federation has referred the matter to the BWF Doping Hearing Panel and the Chair of the Panel will set the date, time, and location of the hearing to find out whether or not Lee has committed an anti-doping regulation violation.

After the doping news broke out, Lee Chong Wei withdrew from Hong Kong Open where he was the defending champion. The world number one was in the initial entry list but his number one seed position was replaced by Chen Long of China, the world number two, for the US\$350,000 tournament at Hong Kong Coliseum from November 18-23. Hong Kong team head coach Tim He Yiming remarked of his absence that Lee's absence is a big shock. He added Lee is always well received in Hong Kong and is a household name, not only because of his skills, but also his pleasant attitude as a gentleman and a player and went on to add that we know little about the alleged doping case and, hopefully, it can be cleared sooner and not later.

Lee is the most successful Malaysian Olympian in history. He was a silver medalist in both the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games. Lee Chong Wei was ranked first worldwide for 199 consecutive weeks from 21 August 2008 to 14 June 2012 and is the only Malaysian shuttler to hold the number one ranking for more than a year.

Lee's badminton potential rose dramatically after he was discovered by Misbun Sidek, a Malaysian former badminton player who was rated among world's leading men's singles players of the 1980s. Lee was appointed as UNICEF Malaysia's National Ambassador in February 2009 and his silver medal effort in the 2008 Olympic Games was a reason behind with a Darjah Setia Pangkuan Negeri (DSPN) that carried the title Dato' by Governor of Penang, Tun Abdul Rahman Abbas on 30 August 2008.