

23 May 2012

Press Release

## **PBA 10<sup>TH</sup> PENANG (MALAYSIAN) JUNIOR OPEN 2012**

PENANG, Wed: Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) is once again sponsoring the 10th Penang International Squash Championship 2012 which is now known as ***PBA 10<sup>th</sup> Penang Malaysian Junior Open 2012, to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at the Nicol David International Squash Centre (NDISC), Bukit Dumbar, Penang.***

This year's tournament has which will showcase the talents of 504 young players of which 225 are foreign players and another 279 are local players, and 120 officials have confirmed their involvement this year. Foreign countries taking part are:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Australia    | ( 29 participants )                                      |
| 2. New Zealand  | ( 43 participants )                                      |
| 3. Singapore    | ( 115 participants )                                     |
| 4. India        | ( 62 participants )                                      |
| 5. Hong Kong    | ( First Time with 13 participants )                      |
| 6. Indonesia    | ( 4 participants )                                       |
| 7. Japan        | ( 3 participants )                                       |
| 8. Pakistan     | ( 11 participants )                                      |
| 9. South Africa | ( Returning after 2 years absence<br>– 23 participants ) |
| 10. Sri Lanka   | ( 2 participants )                                       |
| 11. Iran        | ( 8 participants )                                       |

In general, we have increased about 40% participants from foreign countries and around 55% from local participants who comes from all states and also include team from Bukit Jalil Sports School and Squash Rackets Association of Malaysia (SRAM).

The players will be competing in **5 age groups for boys and girls** :

– Under-11, Under-13, Under-15, Under-17 and Under-19.

PBAPP General Manager Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa said the primary reason for the sponsorship is to promote sports excellence and sports tourism in Penang. It is also aimed at promoting the development of junior players to play international event locally.

“We want to support the development and popularity of this sport. Dato’ Nicol David and squash have helped to pinpoint Penang and Malaysia on the world map. Therefore, PBAPP’s RM75,000 sponsorship helps the State Government’s vision to put Penang as an international city for sports and tourism.”

The tournament is organized by Squash Racket Association of Penang (SRAP) and sanctioned by SRAM, supported by Penang State Government and Majlis Sukan Negeri Pulau Pinang. It is part of the ASF Asian Junior Series Gold Event and also for the first time a WSF Tier 2 World Junior Circuit and Ranking Program.

This is the fifth consecutive year that PBAPP has stepped up as main sponsor. PBAPP owns the land on which the NDISC is located. The centre was built in 1987 and PBAPP has been leasing the land for a nominal fee to promote excellence in squash, specifically for the benefit of young Penang players.

Besides PBAPP, Nestle and Dunlop are also co-sponsoring the tournament. The Official hotel is Cititel.

*(Ends)*

Tentative Program PBA 10<sup>TH</sup> PENANG (MALAYSIAN) JUNIOR OPEN 2012

3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2012 -	Arrival of participants
4 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 -	Round 1
5 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 -	Round 2 & 3
6 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 -	Quarter Finals
7 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 -	Semi Finals
-	Official Dinner @ Cititel
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 -	Finals ( Prizes presentation around 5pm @ NDISC

Official draws should be ready by next week, pending on the seeding to be certified by ASF by this week.