

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB175**

**(Question Serial No. 1984)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has removed the estimated number of squash courts in the Estimates for the main reason that most of the squash courts in the sports centres managed by the Department have been converted into multi-purpose rooms. Please provide the following information:

- (1) the usage of the squash courts in each of the sports centres in the territory shown in the table below.

Sports centre	Total number of squash courts	Number of squash courts which may be used as multi-purpose rooms	Usage rate (%)	Usage rate for squash activities (%)
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>				
<b>Kowloon</b>				
<b>New Territories</b>				

- (2) Is it expected that all squash courts will be used as multi-purpose rooms since the Department has stopped providing the estimated number of squash courts from this year?
- (3) Does the Department think that the low usage rates of squash courts are related to the low effectiveness of its measures to promote the sport of squash?

Asked by: Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai (Member Question No. 27)

Reply:

- (1) As at 1 January 2016, there were 212 squash courts inside the sports centres managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). Among them, 191 (90.1%) courts allowed multi-purpose use, including 154 courts which could be used for squash and other activities. The usage rates of these 212 courts in 2015 are set out at the Annex. The LCSD does not have breakdown on the usage rate for squash activities only.
- (2) & (3) The LCSD opens up those squash courts with persistently low usage for multi-purpose use with a view to ensuring optimal utilisation of valuable resources, enhancing flexibility in usage and meeting the changing community demand for sports facilities.

In the meantime, the LCSD will continue to implement a series of measures to promote the sports of squash. Schools, subvented non-government organisations, national sports association and district sports associations are allowed for free use of squash courts during non-peak hours. Moverover, people with disabilities can enjoy concessionary rates in the use of courts at all times while citizens aged 60 or above and students can enjoy concessionary rate for the use of squash courts during non-peak hours. In addition, the LCSD will continue to organise large-scale promotional activities such as the Sport For All Day, as well as fun days, training courses and competitions, to promote the use of squash courts. Promotional materials will be distributed to schools and local organisations to encourage them to use the facilities.

## Usage of squash courts in sports centres in 2015

Sports centre	Total number of squash courts	Number of squash courts that allow for multi-purposes*	Usage rate (%)
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>			
Aberdeen Sports Centre	1	1	59%
Ap Lei Chau Sports Centre	3	3	43%
Chai Wan Sports Centre	3	3	78%
Harbour Road Sports Centre	7	3	34%
Java Road Sports Centre	5	2	62%
Lockhart Road Sports Centre	2	2	51%
Quarry Bay Sports Centre	2	2	86%
Sai Wan Ho Sports Centre	3	1	60%
Shek Tong Tsui Sports Centre	3	3	64%
Sheung Wan Sports Centre	5	5	69%
Smithfield Sports Centre	5	5	60%
Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Sports Centre	4	4	65%
Wong Nai Chung Sports Centre	2	2	69%
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>59%</i>
<b>Kowloon</b>			
Boundary Street Sports Centre	4	4	88%
Choi Hung Road Sports Centre	4	4	62%
Chuk Yuen Sports Centre	3	3	61%
Fa Yuen Street Sports Centre	7	6	77%
Fat Kwong Street Sports Centre	3	2	42%
Hiu Kwong Street Sports Centre	3	2	53%
Hung Hom Municipal Services Building Sports Centre	3	3	71%
Kai Tak East Sports Centre	2	2	55%
Kowloon Bay Sports Centre	3	2	46%
Kowloon City Sports Centre	3	2	49%
Kowloon Park Sports Centre	3	3	61%
Kwun Chung Sports Centre	8	8	69%
Lai Chi Kok Park Sports Centre	3	3	92%
Lam Tin South Sports Centre	6	6	62%
Lei Yue Mun Sports Centre	2	2	51%
Pei Ho Street Sports Centre	9	9	74%

Sports centre	Total number of squash courts	Number of squash courts that allow for multi-purposes*	Usage rate (%)
Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre	4	4	65%
Po On Road Sports Centre	4	4	81%
Shui Wo Street Sports Centre	3	3	61%
Shun Lee Tsuen Sports Centre	2	2	55%
To Kwa Wan Sports Centre	2	2	82%
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>67%</i>
<b>New Territories</b>			
Cheung Fat Sports Centre	4	4	62%
Fu Heng Sports Centre	3	3	75%
Heng On Sports Centre	3	3	70%
Hin Keng Sports Centre	2	2	78%
Lai King Sports Centre	3	3	68%
Leung Tin Sports Centre	3	2	60%
Long Ping Sports Centre	2	2	70%
Lung Sum Avenue Sports Centre	3	3	71%
Mei Lam Sports Centre	2	2	86%
Mui Wo Sports Centre	2	2	34%
North Kwai Chung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Centre	3	3	59%
Peng Chau Sports Centre	2	2	30%
Po Lam Sports Centre	3	3	71%
Praya Street Sports Centre	2	2	44%
Tai Hing Sports Centre	3	2	64%
Tai Po Sports Centre	3	3	69%
Tai Wo Hau Sports Centre	3	3	87%
Tai Wo Sports Centre	3	3	85%
The Jockey Club Tuen Mun Butterfly Beach Sports Centre	3	3	75%
Tin Shui Wai Sports Centre	3	2	63%
Tseung Kwan O Sports Centre	3	2	55%
Tsing Yi Sports Centre	4	3	61%
Tsuen King Circuit Sports Centre	2	2	86%
Tsuen Wan West Sports Centre	3	3	82%
Tsui Lam Sports Centre	3	3	37%
Wai Tsuen Sports Centre	3	3	86%
Wo Hing Sports Centre	3	3	71%
Yau Oi Sports Centre	3	2	69%

<b>Sports centre</b>	<b>Total number of squash courts</b>	<b>Number of squash courts that allow for multi-purposes*</b>	<b>Usage rate (%)</b>
Yeung Uk Road Sports Centre	4	3	76%
Yuen Wo Road Sports Centre	3	3	81%
<i>Sub-total</i>	86	79	68%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>212<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>191</b>	<b>66%</b>

\* Among the courts for multi-purpose use, there are 154 squash courts allowed for squash use and other uses.

# The figures do not include 82 squash courts in 13 LCSD venues which are not provided within sports centres.

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