

Minutes of 2nd Meeting of Community Sports Committee

Date: 18 February 2004

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Home Affairs Department, 30/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present

Mr CHAU How-chen, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Mr John FAN Kam-ping, BBS, JP (Vice-Chairman)

Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing

Mr CHAN Tung, BBS, JP

Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming, MH

Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah

Dr York CHOW Yat-ngok, SBS, MBE, JP

Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing, MH

Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, MH

Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun, MH

Mr PUI Kwan-kay, MH

Mr SUEN Kai-cheong, MH, JP

Mr TONG Wai-lun, MH

Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung

Mr WONG King-cheung, JP

Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung

Dr LEUNG Mee-lee

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Department Representatives In Regular Attendance

Mr LEUNG Shiu-keung	Education and Manpower Bureau
Dr CHAN Wai-man	Department of Health
Mr CHAN Wah	Social Welfare Department
Mr Eddie POON	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Frankie LUI Kin-fun, JP	Home Affairs Department
Mr Johnny WOO, BBS, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Kui-yin
Mr Norman CHAN Shui-tim
Ms CHAU Chuen-heung, MH, JP
Mr Cowen B C CHIU

In Attendance

Ms Lolly CHIU, JP	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Alan SIU, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Miranda Yeap (Secretary)	Home Affairs Bureau
Ms YEUNG Yee-wa	Home Affairs Bureau

I. Confirmation of Minutes of 1st Meeting and Notes of Meeting of Brainstorming Session of Community Sports Committee

The minutes of the 1st Meeting and the revised notes of the meeting of the Brainstorming Session of the Community Sports Committee were confirmed without amendments.

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II. Matters Arising

A. Terms of Reference of Community Sports Committee

2. In regard to the revision of the terms of reference of the Community Sports Committee (the Committee), Dr LEUNG Mee-lee relayed the views of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC) that “the provision and the improvement of sports facilities” should be included in the terms of reference as item 8 because the sports facilities in Hong Kong should be the Committee’s concern. Dr LEUNG explained that in view of the hosting of 2009 East Asian Games in Hong Kong, the Committee should advise the government on the provision and the improvement of the existing sports facilities although the Brainstorming Session had only concentrated on the ways to promote community sports programmes with the recreational facilities of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and other government departments.

3. Since the Major Sports Events Committee (MSEC) had been set up to discuss all matters pertaining to the East Asian Games, Mr Kenneth TSUI queried if it would be appropriate to involve sports facilities in the terms of reference of the Committee. In response, Dr LEUNG said that for the sake of cost effectiveness, some of the sports facilities to be provided or upgraded for the East Asian Games would be open for community/public use and they should reasonably be the Committee’s concern.

4. Ms Lolly CHIU added that while all matters pertaining to the East

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Asian Games should be subject to discussion and comment at the MSEC, the form of community participation and support to the East Asian Games could be discussed in the Committee. As to Dr LEUNG's suggestion, apart from planning strategies for promoting the community sports programmes, the Committee should also give due regard to the provision, use and maintenance of all sports facilities as they were basic community facilities. It would be definitely appropriate to involve them in the Committee's terms of reference. Mr Johnny WOO also agreed to put the community sports facilities under the Committee's terms of reference.

5. Considering sports facilities as crucial to promotion of community sports programmes, Mr WONG King-cheung, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung and Mr Kenny CHOW supported Dr LEUNG's suggestion. The Vice-Chairman proposed that the content of item 8 in the terms of reference be "the provision of territory-wide and community sports facilities and the improvement of the existing facilities". The Chairman asked the The Secretariat to revise the terms of reference accordingly for members' reference.

6. Dr LEUNG Mee-lee asked whether the funds mentioned in item 7 of the terms of reference included the funds for the National Sports Associations (NSAs). Mr Johnny WOO explained that it included all the funds for the NSAs to promote the development of the community sports except those for elite sports training.

(B) Brainstorming Session

7. The Chairman said that there was intensive discussion during the

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Brainstorming Session on 8 December 2003, in which members put forward many valuable suggestions. LCSD would follow up their suggestions. If necessary, similar sessions would be held in the future.

III. Planning Strategies for the Development of Community Sports Programmes of Leisure and Cultural Services Department

(CSC Paper 1/2004)

8. The Chairman invited Mr Johnny WOO, Assistant Director of LCSD to briefly present the paper CSC 1/2004, and asked members to comment on the planning strategies for the development of community sports programmes of the LCSD.

9. Mr Kenny CHOW suggested that there should be co-ordination between the LCSD and other sports institutes and organisations in running programmes under the Young Athlete Training Scheme as well as sports competitions so as to avoid wastage of resources. Mr Johnny WOO clarified that the Young Athlete Training Scheme under the LCSD and the talent identification programme under the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) were different in nature. The talent identification programme was to identify and train up talented students, while the Young Athlete Training Scheme was to refer youths with sports potential who joined the community sports programme to the NSAs for training. Besides, the inter-corporation competition was hosted by a few major business corporations, while the Corporate Games organised by the LCSD covered 200 or more corporate participants. Both differed in terms of target participants and sport events.

10. Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing said that the District Sports Associations

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(DSAs) focused on the development of various sports programmes and it played a major role in promotion of the community sports programmes. But the paper neglected the significance of the DSAs and failed to specify the funding support to the DSAs in organising the inter-district competitions. Mr Johnny WOO explained that as mentioned in paragraph 4 of the paper, the LCSD would co-organise some programmes with the DSAs to enhance social solidarity. As for inter-district programmes, the LCSD would like to co-organise such programmes with the District Councils and the DSAs under the District Sports Training Scheme. The competitions held by the New Territories Sports Association in the New Territories could be taken into deliberation with a view to promoting the inter-district programmes and enhancing the connection and solidarity of the districts. As there were limited resources for DSAs to organise their programmes, Mrs CHAN hoped that the LCSD would inform the DSAs of the full year provision for the inter-district programmes as soon as possible so that they would plan for the full year sports programmes.

11. Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung proposed inviting the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) to jointly organise the Young Athlete Training Scheme so that the Scheme would tie in with the student's schedule for sports, examination and lessons, thereby increasing the number of participants. Mr Johnny WOO supported this proposal, hoping that there would be a smooth development in the Young Athlete Training Scheme following the hand-in-hand development of the School Sports Programmes and the school promotional programmes; and that the Committee would help co-ordinate the roles of the schools, the community and the NSAs. Mr LEUNG Shiu-keung welcomed this initiative and said that from the education viewpoint, he fully supported those students with outstanding

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sports achievements to develop their talents by joining the Scheme. He also hoped that with good co-ordination, the training programmes would be pulled off by schools.

12. Mr WONG King-cheung remarked that more facilities were required in the districts to facilitate public participation under the Young Athlete Training Scheme. He also stressed that there should be a series of policies to facilitate training of talented youths to become outstanding athletes. Mr Johnny WOO said that a series of training programmes had been offered to talented youths. Taking football training as an example, he said that participants of the Young Athlete Training Scheme could join the District Football Teams and become members of Team C and even the Hong Kong National Squad through promotion. As for youths whose talent had been identified by NSAs, they could join the youth squad and even the Hong Kong National Squad. Mr Kenneth TSUI and Mr TONG Wai-lun said that the Hong Kong Tennis Association and the Hong Kong Badminton Association were co-organising the “through-train” training programme with the LCSD in order to identify and train up potential athletes for admission to the Hong Kong National Squad. Both parties were working in good harmony and demonstrating a remarkable achievement.

13. Mr Francis CHAU proposed that the community sports programmes should target on the participants of the Master Games and the senior citizens and that the Social Welfare Department could co-organise the programmes to encourage the senior citizens and the disabled to do exercise. As for the promotion of sports culture, the government could arouse the interest of the community by organising more spectator sports

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events and take sports promotion to another level by offering training for elementary coaches or referees. In order to encourage the community to do more exercise, the authorities concerned could consider issuing certificates to those regular attendees. Due to the stringent financial situation, the District Councils should allocate more resources to sports while reducing the expenses on other activities such as tours. In this regard, LCSD could issue a guideline to the District Councils for reference. Mr Johnny WOO thanked Mr CHAU for his suggestion and said that LCSD would later on brief the District Councils on the change and strategy of sports policy as well as apply for more funding for development of the community sports. He added that the “Healthy Exercise for All” Campaign jointly organised by the LCSD and the Health Department proved to be very successful in encouraging the community to do more exercise for maintaining their health.

14. Mr Benedict LEE said that some participants of the district sports competitions were so active that they had deprived the others’ entry opportunity. Mr Johnny WOO admitted that such case was unavoidable as those residing, studying or working in the district were eligible for entering the district sports competitions. However, the revised regulations of the inter-district competitions had accorded priority to the locals for entry whilst those from other districts would be allowed to use the remaining quotas.

15. Mr Kenny CHOW remarked that the promotion of sports should target on those lacking in exercise and that there should be full co-operation and co-ordination among the organisations, NSAs and departments in actively promoting the community sports programmes. Mr Alan SIU said

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that apart from promoting “Healthy Exercise for All” programmes in all levels, LCSD had been collaborating with the Department of Health and the EMB in raising the public awareness of the benefit of sports to good health and attracting public participation by introducing an award scheme. Members could continue to offer advice on this item for reference.

16. The Chairman thanked members for giving their opinions on this item, and asked the Secretariat to refer the views collected to the LCSD for consideration.

IV. Establishment of Student Sport Activities Co-ordinating Sub-Committee (SSCSC)

(CSC Paper 2/2004)

17. The Chairman invited Mr Johnny WOO, Assistant Director of LCSD to present the paper, and asked Mr LEUNG Shiu-keung to give a briefing on the way forward of the EMB in promoting student sports.

18. Mr LEUNG Shiu-keung stated that, in the curriculum reform of late, the EMB had classified the current subjects into eight Key Learning Areas which included physical education. EMB found that, in addition to academic learning, the students should attach importance to whole-man development so as to cultivate a positive attitude towards sports, and make it a good habit to participate in sports activities. He hoped that the community sports clubs could offer opportunities for students to further develop their potential outside the school. Mr LEUNG also remarked that the EMB supported the establishment of the SSCSC in the hope that it might assist the LCSD in promotion of sports at school. He provided the

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EMB's guideline of the Learning Areas published in 2002 for members' information.

19. Mr Francis CHAU inquired whether the funding for primary schools, secondary schools and tertiary institutions could be merged upon the establishment of the SSCSC, and asked about the difference between the SSCSC and the previously-formed advisory committees over their terms of reference. Mr Johnny WOO replied that the advisory committees merely offered their advice on the School Sports Programmes of the LCSD, while the proposed SSCSC had a wider scope of terms of reference and functions. The SSCSC could advise, through the Committee, the Sports Commission to be established, on the government's overall policy for promotion of student sports, the related work of the LCSD and the funding for the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation (the Federation).

20. In response to the concern raised by Mr CHAU on the funding for primary schools, secondary schools and tertiary institutions, the Vice-Chairman stated that the funding from the LCSD, EMB and Hong Kong Sports Development Board (HKSDB) to the Federation was mainly for holding inter-school competitions among secondary schools and primary schools territory-wide. Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung added that when the Federation held a sport event, they would solicit entry fees from schools to pay for the referees' remuneration and, when necessary, resort to their reserve to hold such an event.

21. Mr CHOW Kun-wah clarified that the funding for the sports programmes held by the tertiary institutions in 2002-03, which mainly came from their entry fees, was to cover expenses relating to the venues, referees

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and the staff. He said that the part of funding from the HKSDB was to support the participation of national squads in the overseas events, and the rest of funding came from sponsorship of the members. Dr LEUNG Mee-lee added that the staff who assisted in the programmes held by the tertiary institutions were volunteers without receiving any pay and they had requested the LCSDB to review the concerned policy.

22. Although there could be some co-ordination with primary schools and secondary schools as their policies were closely related to the government, Mr Benedict LEE was doubtful that the government could influence the tertiary institutions in running sports programmes because they had their own sports policies and venues, and therefore did not need the government venues. Mr Johnny WOO replied that the SSCSC might forward their opinions towards the tertiary institutions to the relevant departments for reference. He also reported that the LCSDB had received a request to award the tertiary institutions priority to use the government facilities.

23. Dr CHAN Wai-man commented that the SSCSC was tasked to promote sport popularization, not to train the elites. Seeing that a lot of pupils were overweight, she suggested that the SSCSC should call upon the parents to encourage students to do more exercises in order to achieve physical fitness, and the SSCSC should focus on the discussion of this issue.

24. With the consensus of members, the Chairman announced the establishment of the SSCSC which was comprised of representatives of the EMB and the Health Department, and the convener was Mr John FAN, the

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Vice-Chairman. Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing, Mr Kenneth TSUI, Mr Benedict LEE, Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung, Mr PUI Kwan-kay, Mrs Laura LING, Mr Kenny CHOW and Mr WONG King-cheung expressed their interest to join the SSCSC. The Secretariat would invite the members who were in absence to join the SSCSC.

The
Secretariat

V. Any Other Business

25. The Chairman anticipated that the LCSD would provide a one-stop funding service for National Sports Associations in April 2004. To ensure a smooth transition, the government would continue to adopt the existing funding criteria of the HKSDB and LCSD in provision of funding for 2004/05. The Committee would discuss if it was necessary to set up another Sub-committee to review the funding criteria.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

26. The Chairman thanked members for attending the meeting and putting forward their valuable opinions. The third meeting was scheduled for May 2004. Members would be informed of the exact date and venue of the meeting in due course.

27. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Home Affairs Bureau

March 2004