

COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 19th Meeting of Community Sports Committee

Date: 3 June 2009 (Wednesday)

Time: 10:30 am

Venue: Conference Room I, Home Affairs Bureau, 41/F, Revenue Tower,
5 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present Mr CHAU How-chen (Chairman)
Mr TONG Wai-lun (Vice-chairman)
Mr Daniel Cham Ka-hung
Mrs Susana CHAN LO Yin-bing
Ms CHAU Chuen-heung
Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming
Mr CHENG Shu-ming
Mr Cowen B C CHIU
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah
Mr Alan CHOW Yiu-ming
Mr James KONG Tze-wing
Mr FUNG Kwong-chung
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing
Dr LO Wing-lok
Mr Lawrence LO Wing-man
Mr PUI Kwan-kay
Mr Raphael TONG Tai-wai
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung
Mr George YIP Chi-wai
Prof LEUNG Mee-lee

Department Representatives in Regular Attendance

Ms Olivia CHAN Yeuk-oi (Representative from Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Ms Candy NIP Kai-yan (Representative from Home Affairs Bureau)
Dr Regina CHING Cheuk-tuen (Representative from Department of Health)
Mr LAI Yiu-keung (Representative from Education Bureau)
Ms Olivia YIP Wai-ling (Representative from Social Welfare Department)

Ms Iris YICK Pui-yin (Representative from Home Affairs Department)

Absent with Apologies

Mr Norman CHAN Shui-tim
Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun
Mr LIU Ah-chuen

In Attendance

Mr Thomas CHOW Tat-ming (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Mr Vincent LIU Ming-kwong (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Mr Jonathan McKINLEY (Home Affairs Bureau)
Mrs Kane LI CHOI Wing-kwan (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Ms LAM Sau-ha (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Ms LOK Kit-ha (Secretary) (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)

Opening Remarks

1.1 The Chairman welcomed all Members and representatives from various government departments to the Meeting. He also welcomed Mr. Jonathan McKINLEY, and Ms Candy NIP of the Home Affairs Department, who attended the meeting for the first time.

Item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the CSC

2.1 The draft minutes of the 18th meeting was sent to Members for comment by fax on 14 May by the Secretariat and hitherto no proposals for amendments had been received. As there was no amendment proposed at the meeting, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 18th meeting was endorsed.

Item 2: Matters Arising

(i) Report of the 2nd Hong Kong Games Organising Committee

3.1 The 2nd Hong Kong Games (HKG) had completed successfully. The Chairman thanked the 18 District Councils (DCs), the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC), relevant National Sports Associations (NSAs), members of the 2nd Hong Kong Games Organising Committee (OC) and members of the Community Sports Committee (CSC) for their full support to the

smooth completion of the 2nd HKG. He invited Mrs Kane LI, the Secretary General of the OC, to report on the implementation of the 2nd HKG.

3.2 Mrs Kane LI reported various key focal areas of the 2nd HKG as follows:

- (a) All competitions and related activities of the 2nd HKG had completed successfully. A total of 2 307 athletes from the 18 districts took part in six competition events including athletics, swimming, badminton, table tennis, basketball and tennis. Yuen Long District won the “Overall Champion of the 2nd Hong Kong Games.” She asked Members to read the results of all competition events presented in the meeting. A total of 14 districts won awards in the Games.
- (b) With regard to publicity, after a wide coverage of the opening ceremony in the media, the OC continued to disseminate updates of the 2nd HKG to the public through different channels by broadcasting APIs on the HKG on trains, buses and in stadiums of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). Updates of various activities and sports competitions of the HKG were also disseminated through newspapers, radios, televisions and the dedicated website of the HKG.
- (c) The OC had organised various activities for community-wide participation, including a launching ceremony, voting for “My Favourite Sporty District”, guessing the “Overall Champion of the 2nd HKG”, “Elite Athletes Demonstration and Experience Sharing Sessions”, “Cheering Competition for the 18 Districts”, a grand opening ceremony and a closing ceremony cum prize presentation ceremony. An award for “The District with the Greatest Participation in the 2nd HKG” and “Dynamic Moments Photo Contest” were new activities introduced this year. These activities attracted over 160 000 participants in total.
- (d) As for sponsorship, the OC had received a total sponsorship of about HK\$900,000 in cash and in kind from seven organisations for various OC projects. There were four lists of district sponsors from Tsuen Wan, Central & Western, Tai Po and Yau Tsim Mong.
- (e) The Secretariat would collect views on the 2nd HKG from various sectors of the community including participating units and co-organisers through different channels. The OC would hold an

evaluation meeting in July and present a report on the review of the 2nd HKG in the next CSC meeting.

3.3 The Chairman congratulated Yuen Long District for winning the “Overall Champion of the 2nd Hong Kong Games”, and other prize winning districts. He said that the OC would thoroughly review the arrangements for the 2nd HKG and submit an evaluation report in the next meeting. He invited Members to give their views on the organisation of the 2nd HKG.

3.4 On behalf of the Government, Mr Thomas CHOW, the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, thanked the Chairman and all Members for their efforts in organising the 2nd HKG. Under the devoted leadership of the Chairman, the 2nd HKG marked a record high number of competition events and participants. He appreciated whole-heartedly the efforts of all relevant parties and believed that the next HKG would be a greater success under the leadership of the Chairman.

3.5 The Chairman thanked Mr CHOW for his appreciation of the work done by the OC. He said that competitions were very fierce because lots of athletes took part in the HKG this year. Many people attended the competition venues wearing identical clothes designed for the event to support their respective districts, so the atmosphere was very lively on the spot. He expected that the next HKG would be an even greater success.

3.6 Mr. Jonathan McKINLEY noted that the results of some districts were remarkably well and asked if the LCSD make a preliminary analysis of the success factor(s) of those prize winning districts.

3.7 Miss Olivia CHAN of the LCSD opined that the support from the DCs was very important. Apart from the support from the LCSD, various DCs had provided their teams with additional resources to prepare for the HKG. She said that the LCSD might help study the success factor(s) of the prize winning districts for reference by other districts with the aim of increasing the competitiveness of all districts. As Yuen Long District was the overall champion, she invited Mr Daniel CHAM, a Yuen Long District councillor, to share the experience of success of his District.

3.8 Mr Daniel CHAM was of the view that the efforts made by athletes were the most important. He said that to prepare for the HKG, the Yuen Long District Council had provided its team with many additional resources to intensify their training and increase publicity at district level such as organising a flag presentation ceremony and other related activities. He said that the Yuen Long District Sports Association was a local sports association and one of the three major bodies in Yuen

Long District. The District Council attached great importance to and staunchly supported the Association by allocating generous funds to the latter for organising different trainings and activities.

3.9 Mr CHENG Shu-ming, the Honorary President of the Yuen Long District Sports Association, said that the Association had co-operated closely with NSAs and helped them solve problems in relation to venues, referees and finance. He was of the view that close co-operation between NSAs and local sports associations was a contributory factor to desirable results.

3.10 Mr TONG Wai-lun, the Vice-Chairman, said that all district teams had given their best shot in the HKG competitions and District Leisure Services Offices their full support to their respective district teams. He thought that the HKG was a complete success and the atmosphere of the presentation ceremony was very good. He suggested that the competition events and results of HKG be showed on televisions for wider publicity.

3.11 Mr Cowen CHIU stated that water sports facilities were available in many districts. He suggested that water sports such as rowing, canoeing, sailing and windsurfing be introduced in the 3rd HKG.

3.12 The Chairman said that several NSAs had already suggested that their sports be included in the 3rd HKG. The OC would have detailed discussions with the relevant NSAs about the competition events of the 3rd HKG.

3.13 Mrs Susana CHAN opined that the HKG was organised to provide athletes of the 18 districts with an opportunity to polish their skills through competitions. She said that inter-district competitions were organised annually in the New Territories (NT) to provide teams therein with more opportunities to compete and warm up for the HKG. Therefore, the results of the NT districts were more favourable. She suggested that urban districts consider organising inter-district competitions to provide their teams with more opportunities to compete.

3.14 Mr Francis CHAU said that the HKG would become more viewable with the participation of A1 basketball players but the competitiveness of an event would be affected. He suggested that the OC discuss the eligibility requirements for athletes with the relevant NSAs to see if the skill level of athletes or participation of athletes from districts should be given the utmost consideration. He also reflected that instructor's fees were insufficient and the relevant arrangement was far from clear. He suggested that DCs should be informed as soon as possible of the arrangement for instructor's fees so that funding could be earmarked accordingly. Further, he thought that broadcasting the preparation work for the Games in various DCs via RoadShow

and inviting elite athletes to give support were good arrangements. As public participation was important, he suggested that publicity at district level be increased to attract more spectators when competitions were staged. He hoped that the OC would provide the numbers of spectators of each session for future reference.

3.15 The Chairman said that any A1 basketball player who had not taken part in any high-level major event was eligible for the HKG. He mentioned a basketball competition between the Central & Western District and the Yau Tsim Mong District. There were more A1 basketball players in the team of the Central & Western District, but the competition was quite fierce. This proved that the will power of players was important. He was of the view that a higher participation rate of A1 basketball players would facilitate skill exchanges and create a more cheerful atmosphere.

3.16 In response to the issue of instructor's fees, Mrs Kane LI said that the LCSD had provided each district with same level of support, that is, the provision of three training sessions for each competition event and the relevant instructor's fees. DCs could allocate additional funding for more training sessions to meet the needs of individual district teams. She said that DCs would be informed of the arrangement for instructors as soon as possible in future to facilitate their operation.

3.17. Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung said that as most of the athletes were students and most students sat for examinations in May, he suggested that the competitions be held during the non-examination period.

3.18 Mr FUNG Kwong-chung remarked that the 2nd HKG was a complete success. Regarding the eligibility requirements for athletes, he said that athletes must reside at their respective districts. He reflected that some of the athletes who should have represented Wong Tai Sin District became team members of other districts eventually. He worried that the existence of a grey area might affect the original team spirits. He suggested that the OC consider relaxing the eligibility requirements for athletes so that any person who attended school, worked or resided at a district could represent that district. Besides, he said that the basketball coach of Wong Tai Sin District could not claim the instructor's fees because he was not a registered coach of the Hong Kong Basketball Association.

3.19 The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable opinions. Their suggestions would be forwarded to the OC for deliberation and reference by the next HKG.

Item 3: Follow-up Action Plan on Study on Sport for All – the Participation Patterns of Hong Kong People in Physical Activities (CSC Paper 2/09)

4.1 The Chairman invited Dr LO Wing-lok, the convener of the Task Force to Follow up on the Study Report on the Participation Patterns of Hong Kong People in Physical Activities, to brief Members on CSC Paper 2/09.

4.2 Dr LO Wing-lok briefed Members on CSC Paper 2/09. He said that the Task Force had held two meetings and formulated future promotion strategies and specific work plans for “Sport for All” based on the recommendations of the Study. Targets for Phase I were the inactive population who would be encouraged through various channels to meet the physical and sports activity level of the “baseline indicator” as a starting point. It was hoped that with persistent efforts, they would achieve the ultimate goal of taking physical and sports activities every day. The relevant follow-up actions and recommendations would be implemented in two phases within five years. Through co-operation with various stakeholders in the community, more opportunities to participate in physical and sports activities would be offered to the public. The objective was to lower the ratio of the inactive population, thus achieving the ultimate goal of “Sport for All” in the community. Dr LO invited Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD to brief Members on the promotion goals and strategies of the plan as well as follow-up actions on the promotion of public participation in physical and sports activities.

4.3 Ms LOK Kit-ha briefed Members by PowerPoint. The Chairman thanked the Task Force and invited Members to give their views.

4.4 Members gave their views on the contents of the paper. Their views and responses were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr LAI Yiu-keung asked if the data collected from the Study had been published. He said that the Department of Health (DH) was studying the diet and physical activities of the public and planned to publish a report after October. He suggested that the data collected from the Study be sent to the DH for reference so as to strengthen co-operation.
- (b) Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD replied that the Study Report had been presented to Members in the CSC meeting on 23 December 2008 and uploaded to the Internet. A detailed report on the Study would be released fully after a press conference to be held in due course.
- (c) Mr Benedict LEE opined that the follow-up action plan was

invaluable. He was of the view that arrangements for facilities, provision of instructors and venue hiring charges were crucial for the promotion of public participation in recreation and sports activities. LCSD facilities were underused during non-peak hours but fell short of demand during peak hours. He suggested that the LCSD strengthen co-operation with schools and other organisations to formulate plans for better use of existing resources and providing user-friendly facilities for public use. He also suggested that the Government provide reasonable and convenient coaching services and reduce venue hiring charges or provide venues free of charge in order to encourage more people to take part in recreation and sports activities. Regarding the encouragement of business organisations to jointly promote “Sport for All”, he was of the view that the relevant work was very important because staff health mattered greatly to the operation of an organisation. However, except for some big business organisations which had already provided recreation and sports facilities for their staff, it was quite difficult to promote the issue in other business organisations. He suggested that detailed programme plans, including suggestions on how the relevant arrangements for facilities and instructors might be made, be provided for business organisations so as to encourage their active participation.

- (d) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD responded that in Phase II the Administration would carefully consider how arrangements for facilities, instructors and venue hiring charges should be adjusted to encourage active public participation in sports activities. Regarding the better use of facilities, she said that the LCSD had allowed schools, NSAs and other non-governmental organisations to use its recreation and sports facilities free of charge during non-peak hours so as to vacate the facilities for other users during peak hours. She said that future major tasks included carefully reviewing the current method of venue allocation and introducing measures to facilitate public participation in sports activities and increase the ratio of active population.
- (e) Prof LEUNG Mee-lee was of the view that working pressure was one of the reasons for the low participation of the public in physical activities. She said that a doctoral candidate of the Hong Kong Baptist University had conducted a study one and a half year before on working pressure, participation in physical activities and health conditions of recreation and sports workers at managerial level in

three organisations including the LCSD, a profit-making organisation and a non-profit making organisation. Findings of the study showed that the LCSD staff had experienced the highest working pressure, thus affecting their interests in participating in physical activities. She thanked the LCSD for distributing the questionnaires and said that a summary of the study would be provided to the LCSD for reference.

- (f) Mr Kenny CHOW remarked that warm-ups and cool-downs were integral parts of any exercise. He was of the view that long working hours was a hindrance to exercise. He hoped that employers would be aware of this. He was also of the view that families were ideal targets for promotion of “Sport for All” in addition to District Councils, schools and business organisations and parents could guide their children or other family members to exercise more and develop exercise habits.
- (g) Mr Daniel CHAM opined that the promotion of “Sport for All” in business organisations, government departments and the public sector was quite difficult. As the work force made up 52.7% of the total population in Hong Kong, it was vital to enlist the active support of business organisations, government departments and the public sector. He suggested that government departments take the initiative and the Chief Executive or bureau heads take the lead in doing exercise and bring on a community effect through media coverage. He asked whether the Government could motivate various bureaus and departments to encourage their staff to participate in more recreation and sports activities, thus motivating the public sector to follow suit. Regarding the business sector, he suggested encouraging big enterprises through an award scheme to promote “Sport for All”. In the case of small and medium enterprises, simple activities such as walking should be promoted. He suggested that the workforce be encouraged to walk more before or after work through publicity and an approach of “mastering simple sports before difficult ones” be adopted to promote community-wide participation step by step.
- (h) Dr Regina CHING asked Prof LEUNG Mee-lee about the study report on recreation and sports workers. She was of the view that the LCSD staff should have more opportunities to exercise due to their work. She hoped to have a better understanding of the study on the participation in physical activities and health conditions of the LCSD staff. She opined that sports culture was really important and

it must tie in with the management culture to convince the business sector that employees' active participation in physical and sports activities would increase their productivity; thus encouraging active participation from the business sector. Implementation details could be examined further.

- (i) Prof LEUNG Mee-lee responded that the targets of this study were recreation and sports workers at managerial level. In addition to the LCSD staff, workers of the profit-making and non-profit-making organisations had frequent contacts with sports, so their opportunities to participate in physical activities was not less than those of their counterparts in the LCSD. She said that a summary of the study would be sent to Dr Regina CHING and the LCSD for reference. Prof LEUNG Mee-lee continued that the study had been conducted one and a half year before. The Olympic Torch Relay and preparation for the East Asian Games and other major events were being carried out by that time and the nature of the work of the LCSD staff was different from those of their counterparts in the profit-making and non-profit making organisations, so it was conceivable that the LCSD staff had experienced higher working pressure then.
- (j) Dr Regina CHING remarked that the working pressure of civil servants kept increasing due to rising expectations from the public. She was of the view that sports culture had been established in the LCSD which could be referred to for the promotion of sports activities at other levels.
- (k) Mr LAI Yiu-keung thanked the Task Force for formulating comprehensive strategies to promote physical and sports activities. His views on the paper were as follows:
 - (i) Regarding the introduction of the findings of the Study to kindergartens, primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, he said that the Education Bureau (EDB) planned to organise seminars to promote healthy lifestyles among students in January or February 2010. Headmasters and teachers of primary and secondary schools were the initial targets. Staff of kindergartens might also be considered. He hoped to invite Dr LO Wing-lok, the convener of the Task Force, or other members of the Task Force to introduce the findings of the Study in the seminars. Regarding kindergartens, he said that most of the

kindergarten teachers had received training in early childhood education and other pre-service trainings, including how to guide pupils to carry out physical activities and other basic activities. Currently, pre-service trainings were provided mainly by the Hong Kong Institute of Education and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He also said that workshops would be organised for kindergarten teachers as proposed in the paper. As “workshop” was only a mode of training, he suggested that it be replaced with “training course”.

- (ii) As regards major publicity campaigns, he mentioned that “Fitness for All in Support of EAG” would be held on August 8 and Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin suggested in the last meeting that a “Hong Kong Sports for All Carnival” be organised on December 5. He said that many schools had examinations in December every year. As school participation was indispensable, he suggested that such factor be taken into consideration in the selection of dates.
 - (iii) Regarding the production of APIs and publicity materials, physical activities included daily activities that consumed energy. He suggested that students be encouraged through publicity to develop a healthy lifestyle in addition to doing more exercise. He was also of the view that childhood obesity could not be solved by exercise alone and studies showed that obesity was most obvious among blue-collar males. This indicated that establishing good dietary habits was important. He suggested that a message on healthy diet be disseminated to the public as well.
- (l) Mr George YIP said that he was engaged in work related to dancesport, which was not only a sport, but also a social, recreation, performance and cultural activity suitable for all ages and most places. He said that those who took part in dancesport, athletes or not, attained and maintained better health and body shapes. He was of the view that dancesport could help to further promote “Sport for All”.
 - (m) Mr. TONG Wai-lun opined that co-operation from other departments such as the EDB and the DH was required for the implementation of these four areas of work plan and better results would be achieved.

4.5 The Chairman stated that the Task Force comprised representatives from various departments so as to collect different views. He thanked Members for their valuable suggestions and endorsement of the strategies and work plans proposed in the paper. The suggestions would be submitted to the Task Force for reference. According to the proposal of the paper, the LCS D would meet the Chairpersons of the 18 DCs and the Chairpersons of the respective District Facilities Management Committees/Culture and Recreation Committees in mid-June to introduce to them the findings of the Study and follow-up actions. A press conference would also be held. Findings of the Study and follow-up actions would be introduced to the 18 DCs with the aim of enlisting their support and jointly promoting “Sport for All” in the community. The Chairman thanked Dr LO Wing-lok for taking up the leading role of the Task Force and other members of the Task Force for their efforts.

Item 4: Any Other Business

(i) Progress Report on Development of District Sports Activities with Local Characteristics

5.1 Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCS D reported that in 2009-2010, the 18 Districts would organise about 659 district activities with local characteristics, including fun days, training schemes, promotion activities and goodwill games, to encourage active public participation. Compared with 2008-09, the number of activities was increased by about 8%. Besides, to increase publicity and promote district sports activities with local characteristics, the LCS D had produced composite publicity posters and programme booklets and District Leisure Services Offices would also produce their own publicity materials to promote sports activities with local characteristics in their respective districts. She invited Members to refer to the publicity materials provided in the meeting.

(ii) Introduction of Fitness for All in Support of EAG and EAG exercise

6.1 Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCS D reported that to tie in with the “National Fitness Day” to be organised in the Mainland on August 8, the LCS D would organise a “Fitness for All in Support of EAG” in 18 designated sports centres across the territory on the same day. Programmes included physical fitness activities and the “EAG exercise”. In support of the Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games (EAG) and upon consideration of the view given by Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin in the last meeting, the LCS D had invited the Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong, China, to design the creative and sporty “EAG exercise” against the background of the 5th EAG theme song “You are the Legend”. There were four levels of the “EAG exercise”, namely Basic, Bronze, Silver and Gold to cater for various abilities of participants with different levels of physical movement. Participants might learn in a gradual fashion

and train themselves up progressively for challenges and advancement. Between June and August, the LCSD would provide the public with free “EAG exercise” sessions throughout the 18 designated parks to support the EAG and encourage public participation in physical activities. The LCSD had also produced and distributed “EAG exercise” VCDs to schools, local sports organisations and LCSD sports centres for viewing purposes. She played a video of “EAG exercise” at Silver level for reference by Members in the meeting.

(iii) Reports on the Hong Kong and Shanghai Summer Sports Camp for Youth 2009

7.1 Ms LAM Sau-ha of the LCSD reported that the Home Affairs Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Shanghai Administration of Sports signed the “Sports Exchange and Co-operation Programme Agreement” in 2004. Both parties agreed to organise several sports exchange programmes including the “Hong Kong and Shanghai Summer Sports Camp for Youth”. Entering its fifth years, the Camp should have been held at Shanghai Youth Activity Base – Oriental Land from 27 to 31 July 2009. However, due to the rapid spread of H1N1 influenza across the world as well as confirmed and suspected cases being found in Hong Kong and the Mainland recently, Shanghai suggested that the Camp be postponed until the following year. Having regard to the health of the participants, Ms LAM Sau-ha suggested that the Camp be postponed until the following year as requested by Shanghai. The Chairman and Members concurred.

Date of Next Meeting

8.1 The Chairman thanked Members for attending the meeting and the next meeting would be held on September 22. He hoped that Members would reserve time to attend the meeting.

Adjournment of Meeting

9.1 The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.
