

Work Progress and Strategic Plan of the Community Sports Committee

Introduction

This paper briefs members on the work progress of the Community Sports Committee (CSC) since its establishment in October 2003 and outlines the proposed strategic plan of CSC in promoting and developing sports at community level.

Responsibilities of CSC

2. The major responsibilities of CSC are to advise the administration, through the future Sports Commission, on the strategies and initiatives to promote community participation in sports; the strategies to foster partnership with different sectors of the community for the promotion of community sports; the interface with relevant authorities on the integrated framework for development of student sports; the development of community sports clubs and their interface with District Sports Associations (DSAs) and National Sports Associations (NSAs); the promotion of major community sports programmes; the principles, procedures and the control mechanism for subventing and sponsoring community sports; the funding priorities for community sports programmes; and the provision of territory-wide and community sports facilities and the improvement of the existing facilities.

Work Progress

3. CSC has conducted three meetings and a brainstorming session so far. A wide spectrum of subjects, including the ways to promote

community sports activities with recreational facilities provided by Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and other government departments; the role of school sports in the development of community sports; the function of DSAs; and the planning strategies for the development of Community Sports Programmes of LCSD, have been discussed by CSC.

4. As school sports plays a fundamental and important role in the development of community sports, a Student Sport Activities Coordinating Sub-committee (SSACS) has been set up in May 2004. The SSACS will give advice on the framework and specific policy objectives of student sport from primary one to tertiary level; the strategies for promoting student sport in the community; implementation of the School Sports Programme of LCSD; co-ordination of the various measures on the promotion of student sport; the use of sports facilities for school sport activities; and the funding arrangements for student sport.

Proposed Strategic Plan

5. In order to foster a “sport for all” culture in the community, we need to encourage wide public participation at all ends. We also need to enhance the awareness of the benefit of sports, arouse public interest, cultivate sports appreciation abilities, increase individual or family-based participation and promote a lifelong habit of playing sports through public education.

Student Sport Activities Co-ordinating Sub-committee

6. A positive attitude towards sports is a prerequisite for wide sport participation and cultivation of a sports culture among the students will promote a lifelong habit of playing sports in the community. SSACS will study the existing student sports activities in Hong Kong so as to have a better co-ordination of the student sports activities territory-wide and to avoid duplication of effort. It is expected that the study would be completed by late 2004 and an overall view on the current pattern of student sports activities in schools could be reported to the future Sports Commission with a view to developing a strategic plan for

promoting student sport.

Co-ordination of the Roles of Various Key Partners in the Promotion of Community Sports

7. NSAs, DSAs, District Councils (DCs), schools and government departments/bureaux are the key partners in promoting community sports and their respective roles and functions should be well-defined. Therefore, CSC will review the framework and the roles of NSAs, DSAs, DCs, schools and government departments/bureaux for better co-ordination and utilization of resources in the organization of sports competitions/activities, training programmes and the use of facilities at the community level.

Sports Exchange Programmes

8. To enhance sports co-operation and exchange between Hong Kong and the Mainland in different sports areas, a number of exchange programmes will be launched. Those which are specific to the promotion of community sports and sports management include -

(a) Shanghai and Hong Kong Sports Summer Exchange Camp 2005

Tentatively, an exchange camp would be arranged in 2005 summer. Government officials, coaches together with some young athletes of Hong Kong will attend an exchange camp in Shanghai in 2005 summer. In return, the Shanghai delegation will visit Hong Kong in 2006 summer. The Camp will last for about five to seven days and is aimed at providing a platform for young athletes with high potential in basketball, table tennis and badminton to exchange skills and knowledge through visits, competitions and training etc. Subject to the feedback of Shanghai Sports Administration, we shall proceed to work out details of the programme with them.

(b) Shanghai and Hong Kong Exchange Programme for NSAs

It has been proposed that a bilateral visit programme between

the NSAs of Shanghai and Hong Kong be established. The NSAs will have full discretion on the details of the programme whereas the government of both cities will be responsible for providing advice and support.

(c) **Shanghai and Hong Kong Exchange Programme on Sports Facilities**

The government officials of Shanghai and Hong Kong will visit each other to exchange views and experience on the management of sports facilities and other subjects of mutual interest.

Fitness Test for the Community

9. It is planned that a fitness test for the community will be held in 2005 to collect more information on the physical fitness of the people of Hong Kong. The exercise is expected to provide useful information and form the base for further developing sports programmes to enhance the physical fitness of the community as well as to educate the public on the benefits of sports.

Way Forward

10. Members are invited to comment on the proposed strategic plan as set out in paragraphs 5 to 9 above. Subject to Members' views, the proposed strategic plan would be presented to the future Sports Commission.

**Home Affairs Bureau
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