

**Community Sports Committee**

**Progress of Preparatory Work by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region**  
**Delegations to the 15th National Games, the 12th National Games for Persons**  
**with Disabilities and the 9th National Special Olympic Games**  
**and the Relevant Supporting Activities**  
**Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department**

**Purpose**

The paper aims to report to Members the progress of preparatory work by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Delegations for the 15th National Games (NG), the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities (NGD) and the 9th National Special Olympic Games (NSOG) (together referred to as the NGDSO), as well as the progress of the relevant supporting activities organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD).

**Background**

2. The NG, held once every four years, is the nation's highest level and largest multi-sports event. The State Council announced in August 2021 that the 15th NG would be co-hosted by Guangdong (GD) Province, Hong Kong and Macao in 2025, marking the first time Hong Kong will co-host the NG. The NGD is a national multi-sport event for persons with disabilities, featuring sports events under the International Paralympic Committee, while the NSOG encourages those with intellectual disabilities to participate in sports competitions. The 2025 NGDSO will also be co-hosted by the above three places.

3. It is the third time GD Province will host the NG, following the 6th and 9th NGs, while it is the first time the HKSAR and Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) will co-host the event. To follow up on the preparatory work, the HKSAR set up the National Games Preparatory Office (NGPO) for Hong Kong under the LCSD in April 2023, followed by the establishment of the HKSAR Organising Committee of the 15th NG in May 2023 to steer and oversee the preparation for events to be staged in

Hong Kong. In October 2023, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau officially created the National Games Coordination Office (Hong Kong) to replace the NGPO under the LCSD, tasked with the planning and implementation work of the 15th NG and NGDSO.

4. The 15th NG will run from 9 to 21 November 2025, where Hong Kong will host eight competition events, namely basketball (men U22), track cycling, fencing, golf, handball (men), rugby sevens, triathlon, beach volleyball, as well as one mass participation event of bowling. Meanwhile, the NGDSO will run from 8 to 15 December 2025, where Hong Kong will host five events: three NGD events, namely boccia, wheelchair fencing and table tennis (TT11), one mass participation event of para dance sport, as well as one NSOG event of table tennis.

### **The HKSAR Delegations**

5. The HKSAR first sent a delegation to the 8th NG in 1997. The 15th NG marks the eighth time the HKSAR will send a delegation to the event. Moreover, Hong Kong athletes have participated in 7 NGDs and 5 NSOGs in total.

6. The 15th NG and the NGDSO will be co-hosted by GD Province, Hong Kong and Macao for the first time, marking a significant moment in history. The HKSAR Government will spare no effort in fulfilling the requirements of the General Administration of Sport of China and collaborate closely with the governments of GD Province and Macao SAR in hosting the 15th NG and the NGDSO with primary focus on “simplicity, safety and excellence”. As in the past, the HKSAR Government will form a delegation to proactively take part in the events. It will also invite members from the sports sectors and the community to form an Organising Committee (HKSAR OC) of the HKSAR Delegations, which will be exclusively tasked with handling the matters related to the HKSAR Delegations’ participation in the 15th NG and the NGDSO. Meanwhile, the LCSD will provide secretariat services to the HKSAR OC.

7. The 15th NG features both competition events and mass participation events. The LCSD approached the relevant National Sports Associations (NSAs) by email in October 2024 to ask about their wish to participate in the events. There were 34 NSAs expressing their wish to nominate a total of 910 athletes to compete in 34 competition events<sup>1</sup>. The HKSAR OC agreed to referring to the selection criteria of the 14th NG,

<sup>1</sup> The competition events will feature 34 sports, namely swimming (swimming, marathon swimming, diving,

with priority accorded to those who had participated in the recent Olympic Games and Asian Games, athletes on the lists of 2023-24/2024-25/2025-26 Sports Scholarship Scheme under the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) and athletes achieving results in the competitions equivalent to 3 points or above specified in the “Elite Vote Support System Generic Scoring Table” of the HKSI. In addition, its Executive Committee of the HKSAR Delegations (HKSAR EC) may also scrutinise the eligibility of athletes for competitions in the light of special circumstances.

8. It will be the first time for the HKSAR to form a delegation to take part in the mass participation events featuring 23 items in total, namely 19 competitions<sup>2</sup> and 4 demonstrations<sup>3</sup>. To align with the goal of “Benefiting Ordinary People, Making a Healthy China”, the relevant NSAs/organisations must evaluate the skill level of athletes by means of selection competitions or objective skill tests, in line with the principles of fairness, openness and transparency, to select suitable athletes for competitions. Such selection competitions or skill tests must be open to free public participation. Besides, the relevant NSAs and organisations must also announce the enrolment arrangements at least 1 month prior to the enrolment deadline, thereby allowing sufficient time for preparation. Meanwhile, the relevant NSAs/organisations must step up publicity efforts to disseminate the message of “Striving towards the National Games”, so that an active atmosphere for territory-wide participation in the NG will be created. The secretariat will scrutinise the athlete nominations submitted by the relevant NSAs/organisations having regard to the eligibility criteria set out in the respective schedules, including the age of athletes, their history of competitions and other relevant requirements of the competitions in which they intend to compete. The total number of athletes in the mass participation events is subject to confirmation.

9. The NGD features 20 items in the Summer Paralympics and Deaflympics<sup>4</sup>

water polo, artistic swimming), archery, athletics, badminton, basketball (basketball, 3-on-3 basketball), boxing, canoeing (sprint, kayak slalom), cycling (road race, track, mountain bike, BMX freestyle, BMX racing), equestrian (eventing, dressage, jumping), fencing, football, golf, gymnastics (artistic gymnastics, trampoline, rhythmic gymnastics), handball, hockey, judo, modern pentathlon, rowing, rugby (rugby sevens), sailing, shooting, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, triathlon, volleyball (volleyball, beach volleyball), weightlifting, wrestling (freestyle, Greco-Roman), breaking, skateboarding, sport climbing, surfing, baseball/softball and wushu.

<sup>2</sup> The mass participation events will feature 19 competition items, namely table tennis, badminton, tennis, football, basketball, light volleyball, shuttlecock, roller sports, dragon boating, Go, Chinese Chess, Chess, bridge, Chinese wrestling, orienteering, karate, gateball, modelling and bowling.

<sup>3</sup> The mass participation events will feature 4 demonstration items, namely health qigong, tai chi, dragon and lion dancing, and broadcast gymnastics.

<sup>4</sup> The Summer Paralympics and Deaflympics will feature 20 items, namely archery, athletics, badminton, basketball (wheelchair and deaf), boccia, football (blind and deaf), rowing, shooting, swimming, sitting volleyball, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, wheelchair fencing, weightlifting, cycling, para judo, triathlon, canoeing and goalball.

and 11 mass participation events<sup>5</sup>. Featuring 6 items<sup>6</sup>, the Winter Paralympics and Deaflympics will be held in advance in the areas outside GD Province. Meanwhile, there will be 9 competition items in the NSOG<sup>7</sup>. As at the end of November 2024, a total of 8 NSAs and organisations wished to nominate 244 athletes to compete in the 12th NGD, while the Special Olympics Hong Kong expressed its wish to nominate 68 athletes to compete in 7 competition items in the 9th NSOG.

### **Progress in Preparatory Work by the HKSAR Delegations**

10. Set up by the HKSAR Government in December 2024, the HKSAR OC held its first meeting on 5 December, in which the establishment of the HKSAR EC and the Appeal Board was approved to arrange and execute specific tasks and handle those appeals related to athlete selection/squad formation respectively. As regards subventions, the Government will subsidise the HKSAR Delegations to take part in the 15th NG and the NGDSO under the “Arts and Sport Development Fund”, while deliberating, in the light of actual circumstances, the subventions to those NSAs/sports organisations taking part in the mass participation events of the 15th NG and athletes sitting the selection competitions of the NGDSO.

11. Scheduled for 17 January 2025, the first HKSAR EC meeting will take forward the formation of the HKSAR Delegations and execute the specific tasks related to its participation in the events, having regard to factors such as the athlete selection criteria adopted by the HKSAR OC, competition arrangements, subvention framework, publicity projects and sponsorship programmes.

### **Supporting Activities**

12. To step up the publicity of the NG and NGDSO in communities and schools, the LCSD will organise supporting activities on the sporting and cultural fronts across districts, while highlighting such events during the annual Hong Kong Flower Show and Sport for All Day. Besides, the LCSD will also launch extensive publicity campaigns on the 15th NG and the NGDSO in schools under the School Sports Programme, so that the participants will know more about the sports items involved and those competition

<sup>5</sup> The mass participation events will feature 11 items, namely badminton, deaf basketball (3-on-3), deaf futsal, table tennis, darts, para dance sport, rope skipping, floor curling, Chinese Chess, Go, and roller skiing.

<sup>6</sup> The Winter Paralympics and Deaflympics will feature 6 items, namely cross-country skiing, biathlon, alpine skiing, snowboarding, curling and ice hockey.

<sup>7</sup> The NSOG will feature 9 items, namely athletics, badminton, basketball, football, swimming, table tennis, bocce, weightlifting and roller sports.

events to be held in Hong Kong. By doing so, students can further enhance their understanding of such events and foster their ability to watch the matches, thereby contributing to the atmosphere for territory-wide participation in the events.

## **Presentation**

13. Members are invited to note the progress of preparatory work by the HKSAR Delegations for the 15th NG and the NGDSO and the supporting activities to be organised by the LCSD accordingly.

Secretariat of the Organising Committee of the HKSAR Delegations to the 15th National Games, the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 9th National Special Olympic Games

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