

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

Purpose

The paper aims to report to Members the progress of preparatory work by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Delegations to 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).

Background

2. The co-hosting of the 15th NG and the NGDSO by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao for the first time is of great significance. The HKSAR Government will form delegations to take part in the 15th NG and the NGDSO, which will run from 9 to 21 November and 8 to 15 December respectively. In order to effectively handle matters related to the HKSAR Delegations' participation in the 15th NG and the NGDSO, the HKSAR Government set up the Organising Committee (OC) of the HKSAR Delegations to the 15th NG, the 12th NGD and the 9th NSOG in December 2024. The OC is specifically responsible for overseeing and coordinating matters concerning the delegation's participation in the Games. An Executive Committee (EC) and an Appeal Board were established under the OC to assist in organising and implementing specific tasks, as well as handling athlete /squad selection appeals.

3. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) serves as the Secretariat to the OC, dedicated in organising and handling matters related to the HKSAR Delegations' participation in the 15th NG and the NGDSO.

The 15th NG

(i) Competition Events

4. To facilitate the selection of athletes for the 15th NG, the Secretariat urged the

national sports associations (NSAs) in May 2024 to establish and announce to athletes/affiliate clubs at the earliest opportunity their sport-specific selection criteria, so as to ensure that the athletes have adequate preparation time for the events. In February 2025, the Secretariat notified the NSAs of the selection criteria of the HKSAR Delegations, the arrangement on subvention application and the procedure for submitting athlete nominations for the EC's approval.

5. On 18 February 2025, upon receiving notification from the Chinese Tennis Association of the need to submit individual and team nominations by 11 and 18 March 2025 respectively, the Secretariat promptly scrutinised the list of athletes nominated by the Hong Kong, China Tennis Association in accordance with the selection criteria of competition events of the 15th NG approved by the OC and the eligibility criteria set out in the respective prospectuses, including the age of athletes, their history of competitions and other relevant requirements of the competitions in which they intend to compete. The nominations were then submitted to the EC for approval, and the enrolment for the tennis event was completed successfully before the deadline. The enrolment dates for other events are yet to be announced by the Organising Committee of the 15th NG.

(ii) *Mass Participation Events*

6. According to the general rules and regulations of the mass participation events, the HKSAR Delegation will be exempted from the preliminary rounds and granted direct entry to the finals which will be held between May and November in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau. For instance, the bowling event hosted by Hong Kong will be held in August 2025, while karate will be held in Macau in November 2025. Enrolment deadlines for most event finals are yet to be announced by the Organising Committee of the 15th NG. For the schedule of the finals, please refer to **Annex 1**.

7. To align with NG's mission to "benefit ordinary people, make a healthy China", the relevant NSAs/Sports 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 impartiality, to select suitable athletes for the mass participation events of the 15th NG. Such selection competitions/skill tests must be open to free public participation. Besides, the relevant NSAs/Sports Organisations must also announce the enrolment arrangements at least one month prior to the enrolment deadline, thereby allowing sufficient time for preparation. Meanwhile, the relevant NSAs/Sports Organisations must step up publicity efforts for the "我要上全運" campaign, so that an active atmosphere for territory-wide participation in the NG will be created. In addition, the "Supported by the Organising Committee of the HKSAR Delegation to The 15th National Games of China and The 12th National Games

for Persons with Disabilities and The 9th National Special Olympic Games” and “Government-funded programme” logos will also be featured on the prospectuses and publicity materials of all selection competitions and skill tests.

8. As the enrolment deadlines for several mass participation events have yet to be announced, the NSAs/Sports Organisations are actively organising selection competitions/skill tests. This ensures that athlete nominations can be submitted to the Secretariat as early as possible to avoid missing the deadlines. As at 22 April 2025, a total of 13 NSAs/Sports Organisations have completed their selection competitions/skill tests of relevant events. For details, please refer to **Annex 2**.

9. Considering that most of the selected athletes are amateurs, a maximum of 30 hours of pre-event training will be offered for the athletes of each mass participation event to enhance their performance and teamwork. As in the case of selection competitions/skill tests, the Secretariat will continue to liaise with relevant NSAs/Sports Organisations on the hiring of LCSD recreation and sports facilities for conducting selection competitions/skill tests or training sessions.

NGDSO

10. At present, ordinary members or associate members of the China Hong Kong Paralympic Committee (HKPC) and the Hong Kong, China Sports Association of the Deaf are responsible for nominating athletes to represent the HKSAR in overseas competitions, based on their types of disabilities or the international federation to which their respective NSAs/Sports Organisations is affiliated to. With reference to previous arrangements for participation in the NGDSO, the HKPC and its ordinary members or associate members, organisations recognised by and affiliated to the international federation/Asian federation/regional federation or recognised by the General Administration of Sport of China, as well as organisations that have previously sent athletes to compete in events at the NGD, may nominate athletes to participate in the relevant para sports events.

11. The Secretariat will review the athlete nominations of the relevant NSAs/Sports Organisations based on the selection criteria endorsed by the OC of the HKSAR Delegations to the 15th NG, the 12th NGD and the 9th NSOG. All eligible nominated athletes will be recommended by the EC to compete in the events.

(i) NGD Competition Events

12. In late January 2025, the Secretariat received notification from the Curling

Sports Federation of Hong Kong China of its intention to participate in the Winter Paralympics and Deaflympics events of the NGD, and commenced relevant preparatory work immediately. The HKSAR Delegation marked its debut in the finals of the curling event at the Winter Paralympics and Deaflympics by sending five athletes. The wheelchair team of four (mixed) event was held in Beijing between 8 and 19 April 2025, with nine teams competing, and Hong Kong ranked 9th. Furthermore, the HKSAR Delegation also intends to participate in the deaf football and taekwondo events to be held in May and October 2025 respectively. As at 23 April 2025, the regulations and enrolment arrangements of other competition events are yet to be announced.

(ii) *NGD's Mass Participation Events and NSOG*

13. At present, the Organising Committee of the 12th NGD and the 9th NSOG has announced the regulations and enrolment arrangements for some of the mass participation events, including para dance sport and floor curling, and NSOG events. Relevant NSAs/Sports Organisations will, in accordance with the announced regulations and enrolment dates, inform the EC of the list of nominated athletes after the completion of the selection exercises.

14. Following the arrangements of the mass participation events of the 15th NG, each event will be provided a maximum of 30 hours of pre-event training. The Secretariat will also coordinate arrangements such as the hiring of LCSD recreation and sports facilities.

Pre-participation Physical Evaluation, Medical Service Centre and Doping Test

15. The Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) and the Chinese University of Hong Kong will provide medical services to the HKSAR athletes at the host cities during the events. In addition, the HKSI has provided professional advice on the content of physical health certificate, including physical examination details and test items, so that the NSAs/Sports Organisations can arrange for their athletes to undergo pre-participation physical evaluations at qualified medical service centres. Furthermore, the Anti-doping Organization of Hong Kong, China will organise anti-doping talks prior to the events and select some athletes competing in the finals of the 15th NG competition events for doping test.

Subvention Framework

16. The Secretariat will, based on the list of approved subvention items endorsed by the OC, review funding applications from NSAs/Sports Organisations participating

in the 15th NG and the NGDSO, including applications for grants to support athlete selection competitions or skill tests for the mass participation events in both the 15th NG and the NGD. Taking into account the participation intentions of NSAs/Sports Organisations and the participant quotas stipulated in the respective prospectuses, the Secretariat has applied to the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau for a total grant of \$40.56 million under the “Arts and Sports Development Fund”. The funding will support NSAs/Sports Organisations in conducting selection competitions/skill tests, organising pre-event training, participating in the competition events, as well as publicity for the HKSAR Delegations and Secretariat expenses.

Publicity Projects

17. The Secretariat will implement a wide-reaching publicity campaign for the HKSAR Delegations to the 15th NG and NGDSO through multiple channels and platforms, including organising flag presentation ceremonies and welcome home receptions, creating a dedicated webpage with links to participating associations and supporting organisations’ sites, printing an athlete booklet, producing promotional posters and banners, issuing press releases, enhancing social media presence on social media such as Facebook and Instagram, establishing a sharing platform for local press to access competition photos, running radio promotions, arranging for VIP Delegation to attend the finals to support Hong Kong athletes and participate in activities arranged by the Organising Committees.

18. To support the athlete selection for the mass participation events, the Secretariat launched the “I Want to Compete in the National Games” campaign in January 2025 to encourage public participation. The relevant NSAs/Sports Organisations have assisted in promoting the campaign through their own channels and have added hyperlinks to the LCSD’s NG and NGDSO webpage on their official websites.

19. In addition, the Secretariat has further promoted the mass participation events through multi-faceted platforms, including producing and uploading athlete promotional videos to LCSD’s dedicated webpage and social media platforms, while creating official “I Want to Compete in the National Games” Instagram and Threads accounts; promoting through social media coverage, press interviews and television/radio programmes; printing promotional leaflets, posters and banners; displaying e-banners and short videos on digital boards at all 18 District Leisure Services Offices, recreation and sports venues and major shopping malls; posting promotional content on the SmartPLAY website; setting up campaign booths at events like Corporate Games, Hong Kong Flower Show,

carnivals and the Cheung Chau Bun Festival; promoting the 15th NG mass participation events to participants of LCSD recreation and sports training courses and subvented activities under the School Sports Programme with the help of coaches; promoting through District Councils and their meetings; as well as featuring event QR codes on LCSD-printed promotional materials. Additionally, to support the athlete selection for the mass participation events of the NGDSO, the Secretariat will launch the relevant publicity campaign in mid-May.

Presentation

20. Members are invited to note the progress of preparatory work by the HKSAR, China Delegations to the 15th NG and the NGDSO.

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

April 2025

Annex 1

Finals of Mass Participation Events of the 15th National Games
Dates and Venues

Event Number	Sport	Division	Venue	Competition Dates
1	Orienteering		Maoming, Guangdong	8–11 May
2	Football	Men's 7-a-side Group A	Foshan, Guangdong	23–29 May
		Men's 7-a-side Group B		
		Men's 7-a-side Veterans		
3		Women's 7-a-side	Zhuhai, Guangdong	3–9 June
		Women's 7-a-side Veterans		
4		Women's 5-a-side	Zhanjiang, Guangdong	11–17 June
		Women's 5-a-side Veterans		
5		Men's 5-a-side Group A	Meizhou, Guangdong	13–19 June
		Men's 5-a-side Veterans		
6		Men's 5-a-side Group B	Meizhou, Guangdong	23–29 June
7	Dragon Boating		Foshan, Guangdong	5–7 July
8	Basketball	Women's 5-on-5 Group A	Shantou, Guangdong	15–20 July
		Women's 5-on-5 Group B		
9	Chinese Wrestling		Qingyuan, Guangdong	24–25 July
10	Football	Men's Beach Soccer	Yangjiang, Guangdong	5–10 August
		Women's Beach Soccer		
11	Table Tennis		Guangzhou, Guangdong	8–14 August
12	Shuttlecock		Zhaoqing, Guangdong	15–20 August
13	Bowling		Hong Kong	22–24 August
14	Light Volleyball		Jiangmen, Guangdong	21–25 August
15	Gateball		Shenzhen, Guangdong	22–27 August

16	Basketball	Men's 5-on-5 Group A	Zhongshan, Guangdong	4–9 September
		Men's 5-on-5 Group B		
		Men's 5-on-5 Group C		
17	Chinese Chess		Shenzhen, Guangdong	5–12 September
18	Broadcast Gymnastics		Zhuhai, Guangdong	20–21 September
19	Modelling	Sailing, Vehicle	Shenzhen, Guangdong	20–24 September
20	Chess		Shenzhen, Guangdong	23–28 September
21	Tai Chi		Foshan, Guangdong	26–27 September
22	Modelling	Aviation	Shenzhen, Guangdong	14–19 October
23	Roller Sports		Huizhou, Guangdong	16–19 October
24	Health Qigong		Qingyuan, Guangdong	18–20 October
25	Go		Shenzhen, Guangdong	18–21 October
26	Badminton		Shenzhen, Guangdong	20–26 October
27	Bridge		Shenzhen, Guangdong	3–7 November
28	Karate		Macao	6–8 November
29	Dragon and Lion Dancing		Foshan, Guangdong	11–13 November
30	Basketball	Men's 3-on-3	Guangzhou, Guangdong	13–17 November
		Women's 3-on-3		
31	Tennis		Guangzhou, Guangdong	15–20 November

Note: The above table is excerpted from the “Letter of the Sports for All Department of the General Administration of Sports of China on the Competition Dates and Venue of the Preliminary and Final Rounds of the Mass Participation Event Competitions for the 15th National Games” issued by the Sports for All Department of the General Administration of Sport of China

**Selection Competitions of Mass Participation Events
Dates and Related Information (as at 22 April 2025)**

Annex 2

	Mass Participation Event	Selection Competition/ Skill Test Dates	Enrolment Period	Enrolment Status	
1	Chess	15–16 February	27 January–11 February	57 participants	Selection completed
2	Orienteering	23 February	28 January–16 February	110 participants	
3	Dragon Boating	1, 2, 22 and 23 March	24 January–23 February	113 participants	
4	Badminton	13–21 March	27 January–2 March	129 teams	
5	Karate	23 March	21 January–19 February	64 participants	
6	Football	(5-a-side) 15–31 March	27 February–8 March	38 teams	
		(7-a-side) 22–31 March	4–18 March	13 teams	
7	Shuttlecock	24–26 March	24 January–16 March	37 participants	
8	Health Qigong	16 March	28 January–8 March	104 participants	
9	Basketball	(3-on-3) 22–30 March	28 February–18 March	8 teams	
		(5-on-5) 22 March–6 April	28 February–18 March	27 teams	
10	Go	23 March–13 April	21 February–30 March	90 participants	
11	Modelling	(Sailing) 30 March–13 April	25 February–24 March	177 participants	
		(Aviation) 1, 5, 17 and 18 May	25 March–24 April	43 participants	
		(Vehicle) 3–10 May	17 April	100 participants	Enrolment closed
12	Bowling	5, 6 and 12 April	28 February–3 April	97 teams	Selection completed
13	Broadcast Gymnastics	13 April	7 March–10 April	30 participants*	
14	Gateball	13 and 20 April	25 February–31 March	38 teams and 33 participants (187 participants in total)	
15	Light Volleyball	26 and 27 April	7 March–8 April	24 teams	Enrolment closed
16	Dragon and Lion Dancing	27 April	17 March–16 April	17 teams	
17	Chinese Chess	3, 4 and 5 May	3 April–2 May	104 participants	
18	Table Tennis	4–25 May	11 February–17 March	576 participants	Enrolment closed
19	Chinese Wrestling	11 May	1–30 April	12 participants	
20	Tennis	To be confirmed			
21	Roller Sports	To be confirmed			
22	Bridge	To be confirmed			
23	Tai Chi	To be confirmed			
*Note: Selection competition is not required as enrolment falls below the training quota.					