

COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 38th Meeting of the Community Sports Committee

Date: 3 December 2015 (Thursday)
Time: 10:30 am
Venue: Conference Room 401, 4/F, Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters, 1-3 Pai Tau Street, Sha Tin, Hong Kong

Present: Mr TONG Wai-lun (Chairman)
Mr David YIP Wing-shing (Vice-chairman)
Mr Henry CHAN Chi-chiu
Mr CHU King-yuen
Mr Arnold CHUNG Chi-lok
Mrs Stella LAU KUN Lai-kuen
Ms LEE Ching-nga
Ms Peggy LEE Pik-yee
Ms TUNG Kin-lei
Ms WAI Hoi-ying
Mrs Cecilia WONG LAM Siu-ling
Dr Simon YEUNG Sai-mo
Dr YUNG Shu-hang
Mr Ronnie WONG Man-chiu

Department Representatives in Regular Attendance

Mr Richard WONG Tat-ming (Representative from Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Miss Petty LAI Chun-yee (Representative from Home Affairs Bureau)
Dr Anne FUNG Yu-kei (Representative from Department of Health)
Mr HO Chun-ip (Representative from Education Bureau)

Absent with Apologies

Prof Stephen WONG Heung-sang
Mr Philip LI Wing-kuen
Mr CHAN Pok-chi

In Attendance

Ms Michelle LI Mei-sheung	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Mr Raymond FAN Wai-ming	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Mrs Susana TAI YIP Sau-lan	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)

Secretary

Ms Winnie LEE Fung-ming	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
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Opening Remarks

1.1 The Chairman welcomed all Members and representatives of various government departments to the meeting. He also welcomed Mr Ronnie WONG of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China to the meeting. Mr Wong represented Mr Kenneth FOK who was unable to attend the meeting.

1.2 The Chairman, on behalf of the Community Sports Committee (CSC), congratulated Dr YUNG Shu-hang on being awarded the Certificate of Commendation under the Secretary for Home Affairs' Commendation Scheme. He also extended sincere congratulations to Mr Henry CHAN on his appointment as a Justice of the Peace.

Item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of Last Meeting of the CSC

2.1 The draft minutes of the 37th meeting had been emailed to Members for comment on 28 October 2015 by the Secretariat. No proposals for amendments had been received so far. As no further amendment was proposed at the meeting, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 37th meeting were endorsed.

Item 2: Matters Arising

3.1 The Chairman reported that there were no matters arising from the previous meeting, and directly moved on to Item 3 "Pilot Scheme for Student Athlete Support" (CSC Paper 05/15).

Item 3: Pilot Scheme for Student Athlete Support (CSC Paper 05/15)

4.1 Miss Petty LAI presented CSC Paper 05/15. Members' views on the paper were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mrs Cecilia WONG said that the Pilot Scheme for Student Athlete Support (the Pilot Scheme) attracted a large number of participating schools, showing that it was well received by schools and was successfully launched. She relayed the views of the special school sector, hoping that the Pilot Scheme would be extended to special schools, and that the scope of subsidies be expanded to cover accompanying persons of participating students in future in order to benefit more students.
- (b) Mr Henry CHAN enquired whether students would be given money to purchase sports equipment themselves, and whether the Bureau would consider obtaining companies' purchase discounts to lower the cost.
- (c) Mr David YIP, the Vice-chairman, supported the idea of allowing schools to decide on ways to purchase sports equipment at their own discretion for greater flexibility. Besides, to avoid suspicion of transfer of benefits, he considered it inappropriate to require schools to purchase sporting goods of a particular brand.
- (d) Dr Simon YEUNG suggested that the quotas for individual schools should be flexibly adjusted according to the characteristics of respective communities so that more students would be benefited from the scheme.
- (e) Mr CHU King-yuen hoped that the subsidy quotas under the scheme could be calculated on a cumulative basis, and suggested that any unused quota should be reserved for future use if a school had remaining quotas for that academic year. Besides, he said that setting different quotas for schools might create a labelling effect, but he believed that the allocation of quotas would not create a labelling effect on various aspects of the schools internally.

4.2 Miss Petty LAI of the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) thanked Members for their valuable views, and her responses were summarised as follows:

- (a) Application for the 2015/16 academic year was closed in mid-September; however, Members' views would be considered when conducting a review in future. The HAB would also explore the feasibility of including special schools in the scheme in future, and would further examine the proposal to subsidise accompanying persons of disabled students.
- (b) No specific ways to purchase sports equipment were stipulated in the current scheme. Students could purchase the sporting goods themselves or through procurement by the schools.
- (c) The purpose of setting a standard quota for schools in various districts was to avoid labelling effects. The HAB had considered increasing the overall school quota. The proposal was still under consideration as some schools had not fully utilised their quotas. She indicated that Members' views would be further considered thoroughly to refine the contents and details of the scheme in future.

4.3 The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable views. He said that the Pilot Scheme was a great success, with an increase of about 100 participating schools per academic year, demonstrating that the scheme was well received by schools, and that subsidies were provided for needy students to help them fully realise their potential in sports. Furthermore, he hoped that with the implementation of the Pilot Scheme, sports development of local schools could be enhanced, thus further promoting community sports programmes and fostering the culture of "Sport for All".

Item 4: Any Other Business

5.1 Mr CHU King-yuen reflected that confusion was likely to arise if members of the public were allowed to take part in football and jogging activities at sports grounds at the same time or users were allowed to enter the running tracks at sports grounds with wheelchairs. He hoped that the LCSD would take follow-up actions.

5.2 Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD thanked the Member for his views. He said that the above measures aimed to meet different needs of the public and make effective use of limited facilities under safe conditions.

5.3 In response to the Member's views, the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services added that the LCSD would optimise the use of venue resources to promote community-wide participation in sports activities. For safety sake, when football activities were taking place at sports grounds, the running tracks close to football pitches would be temporarily closed, and running track users would be required to run in a single direction. Moreover, the LCSD would consider the setting up of fast and slow lanes to cater for users' needs. To step up publicity and promotion of the safe use of sports grounds, the LCSD would, in collaboration with relevant national sports associations, explore the safety measures to be taken when sports activities were held at sports grounds. Moreover, she said that in line with the policy of social integration of able-bodied and disabled persons, it was a current practice for the venue management to allow users to use wheelchairs at sports grounds.

5.4 Dr Simon YEUNG supported the LCSD in making efforts to allow the use of wheelchairs at sports grounds to cater for the needs of different users, and encouraging families to take part in jogging activities on the running tracks. He hoped that various national sports associations would work together to remind athletes to follow the LCSD's guidelines on the use of sports grounds.

Adjournment of Meeting

6.1 The Chairman thanked Members for attending the meeting. The Secretariat would inform Members of the date of the next meeting in due course.

6.2 The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Community Sports Committee Secretariat
December 2015