

Organised by the Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China
Subvented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Co-organised by the Education Bureau

School Sports Programme
2025 Easy Sport Competition – Baseball Competition (Baseball5)

Prospectus

1. Objective: To offer former participants of the Easy Sport Programme – Baseball under the School Sports Programme (SSP) an opportunity for exchanges to develop their interests in Baseball and enhance their skills and gain experience in competitions.
2. Eligibility: The Competition is open to primary schools which participated in the Easy Sport Programme – Baseball between 1 September 2023 and 31 December 2024. Remaining quota will be allocated to other elementary primary school students who have participated in training courses or programs approved by the relevant Sports Association.

3. Time and Venue:

	Date	Time	Venue
Competition Day	26/1/2025 (Sun)	9:00am – 6:00pm	Tsuen Wan West Sports Centre

4. Quota:
 - a. 8 Teams (Each team is composed of 5 to 8 members. Mixed teams of boys and girls are allowed.)
 - b. For efficient use of the resources, the Organiser may adjust the quota in the light of application response. The quota will be finalised on the ballot date. Participating schools/participants must raise no objection.
5. Notes on application:
 - a. Priority will be accorded to schools which participated in the Easy Sport Programme – Baseball between 1 September 2023 and 31 December 2024. If the number of applying schools exceeds the quota, the places will be allocated by ballot. Each school may enrol a maximum of 2 teams. Please indicate their priority on the application form (i.e., “Team 1” and “Team 2”). If there are remaining places after the first round of ballot, teams with lower priority may be considered. Any places still remaining will be allocated by ballot to schools which have never participated in the Easy Sport Programme – Baseball.
 - b. Each student may only be in one team and should be a current student of the school represented by the team during the Competition.
 - c. Please submit completed application forms by Email, post or by fax (Email address: applicationssp@lcsd.gov.hk; fax number: 2684 9076 or 2697 5087) to this Office.
 - d. A list of successful applicants and payment details will be sent to the schools concerned by post.

- e. The list of participants is not subject to change after payment has been completed.
6. Fee: \$320 per team
7. Application submission period:
30/10/2024 to 19/11/2024 (The postmark date or Email date will be deemed the date of submission.)
8. Enrolment ballot:

The ballot will be held at 1/F Lobby, Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters at 4:00 pm on 25/11/2024. Representatives of schools are welcome to attend. Schools allocated with places will be informed by post, while unsuccessful ones will not be notified. The ballot result will be posted on the following website on 28/11/2024:

http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ssp/competition_info/competition_info.html

If an Acknowledgement Receipt is not received within two working days before the ballot date (i.e., 21/11/2024), please contact our staff on 2601 7648 or 2601 7602 to check if we have received your application. Otherwise, we may not be able to process your application.
9. Payment period for successful applicants: 2/12/2024 to 13/12/2024
10. Payment period for successful waiting list applicants: 18/12/2024 to 24/12/2024
11. Match draw and team manager's meeting:

The match draw will be held at 1/F Lobby Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters at 4:00 pm on 2/1/2025. Visitors are welcome. Letters will be sent to participating schools informing them of the results of the draw and reporting time. The relevant information will also be posted on the LCSD's web page on 7/1/2025:

http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ssp/competition_info/competition_info.html
12. Format:
 - a. The competition will be run on a group round-robin system, all subject to the actual number of teams enrolled.
 - b. Rules and regulations of *Baseball5* will be adopted.
 - c. A game will last for 20 minutes or 5 innings, and 3 completed innings will be regarded as a regulation game. The 2 teams will swap sides if either 3 outs or 6 runs (but not yet 3 outs) are scored in an inning.
 - d. Mercy Rule:

A game is over if a team leads by 15 runs at the end of the third inning, or a team leads by 10 runs at the end of the fourth inning. A game can also be brought to a close if a team leads by 10 or more runs during the top of the fifth inning. In the event of a tie at conclusion of a regulation game, the team having scored more outs will be declared as the winner. If the numbers of outs are the same, the winner will be determined by a random draw.
 - e. The lineup card must list the five active players batting from one to five. Such a batting

order must remain the same throughout the game unless a player needs to be substituted, whose place in the batting order will then be taken by his/her substitute.

- f. Unless otherwise stipulated in this prospectus, the existing rules employed by the Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China will be adopted.
- g. The Organiser has the right to change the format as necessary.

13. Reporting on Arrival:

- a. Participating teams must report to the Organiser 30 minutes before the schedule of time and submit the Line-up Sheet for the match. Those who fail to show up within five minutes after the staff of the Organiser's roll call will be deemed to have waived their right to participate.
- b. Participating team members must produce unambiguous proof of identity bearing photos, e.g., student handbooks, student cards, etc. to the staff of the Organiser on the competition day for verification.
- c. The competition schedule must be as announced on-site.

14. Inclement Weather Arrangements

- a. In case the Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above, or Red/Black Rainstorm Signal is issued by the Hong Kong Observatory two hours before the reporting time for the first round of events on the competition day; or the Environmental Protection Department has announced that the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) recorded at its general monitoring stations reaches 10+ ("Serious" health risk category) in the competition area; or the Education Bureau has announced the closure of schools, all events on the day will be **cancelled**. Participants will be notified of the corresponding arrangements. Under other weather conditions, all participants are required to report to the Organiser as scheduled. The umpires on the site must decide whether the Competition should proceed or not.
- b. If the AQHI recorded at the general monitoring stations in the competition area reaches 10+ ("Serious" health risk category) during the Competition, all events in progress must be **terminated immediately**.

15. Remarks:

- a. Schools should remind their students to bring along their lunch and sufficient drinks.
- b. All teams must prepare two sets of sportswear in different colours (one in dark colour and the other in light colour). Team members must wear proper sportswear and shoes with non-marking rubber outsoles during the Competition.
- c. All participants must not wear metal spike shoes and metal jewellery during the matches.
- d. The Organiser will provide Baseball5 balls.
- e. Fielders may catch the ball with hands instead of caps.

- f. The dimensions of a field are as follows:
Fair territory is square in shape, 18 m (i.e. 59 ft) in length each side, where a home plate is placed at one of its corners. The no-hit zone in front of the home plate is not part of this fair territory.
- g. Participating teams which play in consecutive matches may take a break of 5 to 10 minutes between each match. The Organiser reserves the right to make arrangements according to actual circumstances. Participating teams must not request postponement of matches on the grounds of fatigue.
- h. Any team leaving the playing area during a match must be deemed to have forfeited the match. The opposing team must be declared the winner by the Organiser.
- i. In case of a breach of the rules or regulations of the Competition or unsporting behaviour by a team leader or team member, the referee must have the right to disqualify the team from the Competition.
- j. The Organiser will carry out photo shoots/video-filming/arrange broadcasting during the competitions, and has the right to display/publish the event photos or videos on the Internet, at venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, on the dedicated website, in publications of the Organiser and through other publicity channels, for promotion of activities or record purposes.

16. Awards:

- a. Each team member will receive a commemorative certificate.
- b. The ‘Most Valuable Player’ (MVP) will be chosen from each team according to the players’ performance on the event day by their coach. A certificate of merit issued by the Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China will be presented to the MVPs.
- c. Trophies will be awarded to the champion, first, second and third runners-up and four merit award winners (The actual number of awards is subject to the number of participating team). Medals and certificates will also be awarded to members of the winning teams. The prizes will be presented to the winners on spot after the finals are completed.
- d. For participating teams which fail to show up for or complete any event, the Organiser has the right to revoke their eligibility for prizes and no trophies, medals or certificates will be given to them.

17. Selection of Athletes:

The Baseball Association of Hong Kong, China (BAHKC) will assign a member/coach of the Elite Training Committee to observe players’ performance on the event day and recommend potential players to trial for BAHKC 2024-25 Baseball5 Regional Squad Training Scheme. Please visit the BAHKC’s website for the details:

<https://www.hkbaseball.org/html/en/training-course/elite-training.html>

18. Appeal:

No appeal will be accepted. The referees' decision on the competition results must be final.

19. Enquiries:

School Sports Programme Unit, 1/F, Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters, 1-3, Pai Tau Street, Sha Tin. (Telephone number: 2601 7648)

In case of any inadequacy in this Prospectus, the Organiser reserves the right to amend it at any time without further notice.