

Minutes of 1st Meeting of Community Sports Committee

Date: 16 October 2003

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Home Affairs Department, 30/F, Southorn Centre,
130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present

Mr CHAU How-chen, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Mr John FAN Kam-ping, BBS, JP (Vice-Chairman)
Mr CHAN Kui-yin
Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing
Mr Norman CHAN Shui-tim
Ms CHAU Chuen-heung, MH, JP
Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming, MH
Mr Cowan B CHIU
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah
Dr York CHOW Yat-ngok, SBS, MBE, JP
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, MH
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun, MH
Mr PUI Kwan-kay, MH
Mr SUEN Kai-cheong, MH, JP
Mr TONG Wai-lun, MH
Mr WONG King-cheung, JP
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung
Dr LEUNG Mee-lee

Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Tung, BBS, JP
Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung

Department Representatives In Regular Attendance

Mr Anthony POON Hon-hung	Education and Manpower Branch
Dr Mandy HO Mang-ye	Department of Health
Miss Ophelia CHAN	Social Welfare Department
Mr Eddie POON	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr David LEUNG Chee-kay	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Johnny WOO, BBS, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department

In Attendance

Mr Leo KWAN, JP	Home Affairs Bureau
Ms Lolly CHIU	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Alan SIU	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Miranda Yeap (Secretary)	Home Affairs Bureau
Ms YEUNG Yee-wa	Home Affairs Bureau

Opening Remarks

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The Chairman welcomed members and department representatives to the first Community Sports Committee (the Committee) meeting and introduced participants to each other.

2. The Chairman informed members that the government intended to dissolve the Sports Development Board (SDB) on 1 April 2004 and replaced it by setting up a high-level Sports Commission (the Commission). There would be three committees under the Commission, including the Community Sports Committee. Our Committee undertook to foster partnership with different sectors of the community in promoting wider community participation in sports, and to advise the government through the Commission on the funding priorities for community sports programmes and schemes. Details of the background and the new administrative structure for sports development were set out in the reference document.

3. The Chairman extended welcome to Dr Patrick C P HO, Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA), and invited Dr HO to address the audience and take a snapshot with the members.

4. Dr HO said that he was glad to attend the first meeting of the Committee and gave a brief account of the background of setting up the Committee. In May 2002, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) published the Sports Policy Review Report (the Report), and had received over 300 submissions. After a series of discussion and studies, the findings were reported to the Panel on Home Affairs of the Legislative Council and the Executive Council. The SDB would be replaced by the Commission to be established on 1 April 2004. The Commission was a consultative structure underpinned by three committees, namely the Community Sports Committee, Major Sports Events Committee (MSEC) and the Elite Sports Committee (ESC). The MSEC would be set up after the SDB dissolve in 2004, and would be responsible for matters concerning

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elite training and the Sports Institute. The Committee and the MSEC would be set up earlier due to their important roles in sports promotion and development, such areas had not been given due importance under the present structure. Among these committees, the Community Sports Committee was especially important for it played a complementary role in elite sports. With the popularization of sports, people at all levels would be interested and thus developed the capability to enjoy sports, and in turn there would be higher demand for sports which would drive the elite athletes towards a higher level of performance. In order to extend the idea of popularization of sports to schools, families and every corner of the community, the membership of the Committee consisted of representatives from various sectors of the community, including extraordinary practitioners in sports education, hoping that they could bring the idea of popularization of sports to the community. It was also hoped that communication between various sports associations in the 18 districts could be enhanced in building an interactive relationship in concerting and utilizing resources from all sources. It was necessary for the Committee to coordinate with the other two Committees in bringing the sports undertakings to a higher level.

II. Proposed Terms of Reference (CSC Paper 1/2003)

5. The Chairman invited the Secretary to brief members on the proposed terms of reference, and asked members to give their views on the document.

6. The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and members Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming, Mr WONG King-cheung, Mr SUEN Kai-cheong, Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing, Mr Cowen B CHIU, Dr York CHOW Yat-ngok, Mr TONG Wai-lun, Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing, Dr LEUNG Mee-lee, Mr CHAN Kui-yin, Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun, had expressed their views and raised questions on this issue. The details were summarized as follows:

- (a) As mentioned in the terms of reference, the Committee had to advise the government through the Commission. Since the Commission had yet to be established, some members suggested adding the Commission in the terms of reference after its official establishment.
- (b) Though some members suggested adding the item “supporting National Sports Associations (NSAs) to promote sports activities and development at district level”, some considered that relevant amendments should be made after in-depth discussion in the future. For this item, the Vice-Chairman clarified that the recommendation

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was solely brought up as requested by the Vice-President of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong. He had no special views on this recommendation.

- (c) Some members suggested adding the word “competition” after “sports” in item 3 of the terms of reference. Most members were of the view that the words inside the brackets (including curriculum-based and co-curricular activities) were rather obscure and controversial, and opined that these words could be deleted.
- (d) Some members considered that the terms of reference could be passed after detailed consideration in future brainstorming sessions and appropriate amendments. Some members also agreed to pass the terms of reference this day to facilitate future work and to put forward amendments if necessary.

7. After discussion, the Chairman put forward the following amendments:

- (a) Delete “the Sports Commission” from the terms of reference for the time being and place it back after the Commission set up in April 2004.
- (b) Delete the words “including curriculum-based and co-curricular activities” from item 3 of the terms of reference.
- (c) Not to make any amendments to matters concerning NSAs for the time being and to carry out detailed study in future brainstorming sessions.

The
Secretariat

8. Members concurred to the amendments put forward by the Chairman and passed the proposed terms of reference unanimously. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to make appropriate amendments to the proposed terms of reference.

III. Proposed Standing Orders (CSC Paper 2/2003)

9. The Chairman asked the Secretary of the Commission to briefly present the proposed Standing Orders (i.e. the paper numbered CSC 2/2003), then he invited members to endorse the document. The document was approved unanimously.

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IV. Position Paper on Public Funding used for Community Sports Programmes in Recent Years

(CSC Paper 3/2003)

10. The Chairman invited the representative of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to present the paper and sought members' views.

11. Mr Johnny WOO, Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 2, said that the government provided over 20 000 recreation and sports activities in the districts for public participation with an annual funding of around \$80 million. The funds for schools in various districts to promote sports programmes would increase from \$12 million to \$16 million this year. Having taken up SDB's sports subventions to NSAs of around \$70 million, together with its subvention of around \$40 million to NSAs for the promotion of sports programmes, LCSD would have a total of \$110 million for funding district sports programmes in the future. He hoped that members would thoroughly discuss how the fund should be allocated.

12. Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming, Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing, Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing, Mr CHAN Kui-yin and other members requested LCSD to provide the following information for discussion in the brainstorming session:

- (a) The funds allocated to each programme with the percentage it accounted for;
- (b) The existing arrangements in the allocation of recreational facilities and venues, including the priorities for NSAs and District Sports Associations (DSAs) to use recreational facilities and venues and the feasibility of using the community halls managed by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) and the sports facilities of schools at all levels; and
- (c) The information on the analysis of the current situation of sports development, venues and resource allocation provided in the Report.

LCSD

13. The Chairman asked LCSD to provide upon members' request sufficient information for discussion and study in the brainstorming session.

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V. **The Brainstorming Session proposed to be held in November or December 2003**

14. To set the way forward, the Chairman asked members to deeply think about the following three points, and to give suggestions for discussion in the brainstorming session held in November or December 2003:

- (a) The recreation and sports services currently provided by LCSD;
- (b) The existing roles and functions of LCSD, District Councils and DSAs; and
- (c) The way forward.

VI. **Any Other Business**

15. The Chairman sought members' views on the time of future meetings. Members unanimously agreed to start the meeting at 3:00 p.m. As for the suggestion of confining the date of meeting to a certain weekday, the Secretariat will arrange for it as far as possible.

VII. **Date of Next Meeting**

16. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. Members would be informed of the date of brainstorming session in due course.

Home Affairs Bureau
January 2004