

## COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

### Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Community Sports Committee

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Date: 9 March 2005  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
Venue: Conference Room I, Home Affairs Bureau, 41/F, Revenue Tower,  
5 Gloucester 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 Cowen B C CHIU  
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah  
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, MH  
Dr LEUNG Mee-lee  
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun, MH  
Mr PUI Kwan-kay, MH  
Mr SUEN Kai-cheong, MH, JP  
Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung  
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung

#### **Department Representatives In Regular Attendance**

Mr Eddie POON Tai-ping	Home Affairs Bureau
Miss Carol OR Kar-lok	Home Affairs Department
Miss Olivia CHAN Yeuk-oi	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TANG Fat-yuen	Education and Manpower Bureau
Dr Regina CHING Cheuk-tuen	Department of Health
Mr CHAN Wah	Social Welfare Department

#### **Absent with Apologies**

Mr CHAN Tung, BBS, JP  
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing, MH  
Mr TONG Wai-lun, MH

### **In Attendance**

Ms Lolly CHIU Yuen-chu, JP	Home Affairs Bureau
Ms Anissa WONG Sean-ye, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Alan SIU Yu-bun, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Lawrence CHEUNG Yiu-kong	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Richard WONG Tat-ming	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHOI Wing-kwan	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mrs Karen YUEN CHAU Oi-wah	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr KAN Tat-sing	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Daniel SIN Pak-wing (Secretary)	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Alfred LAW Kam-fat	Home Affairs Bureau

### **Opening Remarks**

1.1 The Chairman welcomed members and Ms Anissa WONG, the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to attend the meeting. He announced that Ms Miranda YEAP, the ex-Secretary of the Committee, was posted out of the Home Affairs Bureau in December 2004 and her post was taken over by Mr Daniel SIN.

1.2 The Chairman then drew members' attention to the following sports development of Hong Kong since the last meeting:

- (a) The Sports Commission (SC) officially set up on 1 January 2005 would advise the Government on the matters pertaining to the sports development of Hong Kong. The Community Sports Committee (CSC), the Major Sports Events Committee and the Elite Sports Committee underpinning the SC would give advice to the Secretary for Home Affairs via the SC;
- (b) the SC with its three Committees, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the LCSD and other institutions would constitute a new administrative structure to play a pivotal role in the sports development of Hong Kong;
- (c) at the meeting with the Chairmen of the SC's three Committees and the representatives of the sports sector on 27 January 2005, the Chief Executive (CE) expressed due regard for the sports development of Hong Kong. He requested the Secretary for Home Affairs to submit a report outlining the future strategies and directions for the sports development of Hong Kong. The HAB would inform the meeting upon the CE's acceptance of the report; and
- (d) a brainstorming session for the SC to thoroughly discuss the strategies and tasking priorities would be scheduled for 2 April

2005. Its findings would be submitted to this Committee for discussion on their implementation.

### **Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Community Sports Committee**

2.1 The Chairman announced that the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Community Sports Committee was confirmed without amendments.

### **Item 2: Matters Arising**

#### **Student Sports Activities Co-ordinating Sub-Committee (SSACSC)**

3.1 The meeting previously suggested that the LCSD's questionnaire on the participation of primary and secondary school students in sports should incorporate the information on their participation in sports and competitions outside schools. In such connections, Miss Olivia CHAN of the LCSD reported that having initially approached the National Sports Associations (NSAs), the Hong Kong School Sports Federation (HKSSF) and the Hong Kong Post-Secondary Colleges Athletic Association for provision of such information, the LCSD was now examining the methodology of survey, data collection and analysis of gathered information. The survey was scheduled for completion in the second half of 2005. Its findings would be submitted to the SSACSC for consideration before they were reported to the CSC.

3.2 The Vice-Chairman reported that a meeting was convened by the SSACSC on 20 December 2004 to discuss the impact of the educational reform and the new senior secondary curriculum on the student sports programmes. In the Paper submitted by the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) to the SSACSC on the proposed changes to the senior secondary Physical Education (PE) curriculum, it was proposed that the new senior secondary curriculum guide should specify 5% of the total lesson time for PE lesson. Members of the SSACSC appreciated such proposal and requested the EMB to brief the CSC on how the student programmes would be affected by the change in the PE curriculum.

3.3 Mr TANG Fat-yuen of the EMB said that they had completed the consultation on the new academic structure and was at present consolidating the views collected. It was envisaged that the EMB would finish the report in the second quarter of 2005 and launch the second round of consultation on the PE subject around June and July 2005. Report would be made to this Committee upon completion of the consultation. Mr TANG added that under the new curriculum framework, the PE subject was an elective to be assessed through public examinations. Besides, the new curriculum would offer students with more opportunities to take part in physical activities as well as a broader learning environment.

*Action: Education and Manpower Bureau*

3.4 Mr CHAN Kui-yin asked how the EMB would monitor all schools to ensure their compliance with the requirement that the PE lessons should take up 5% of the total lesson time as set out in the new senior secondary curriculum guide. He added that according to the media coverage, there was a suggestion to delete the unit of “Sports and Health” from the proposed curriculum for the Liberal Studies it involved too many units. He asked members to comment on it.

3.5 Mr TANG Fat-yuen of the EMB replied that some opined in the consultation that too many units were offered in the Liberal Studies. Based on such opinions, the integrated group on curriculum formed by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) and the Curriculum Development Council (CDC) was examining the need to delete some units. Concerning the non-compliance of the proposed requirement on PE lesson time, Mr TANG said that schools should provide an account with information on class allocation and the overall curriculum.

3.6 The Vice-Chairman suggested that the Committee forward submission to the EMB stating our position on the issues, i.e. the PE lessons should at least take up 5% of the total lesson time; and “Sports and Health” should form a unit in the curriculum for the Liberal Studies. The Chairman added that promoting sports-for-all should start with schools and in collaboration with all walks of life. He thus deemed it necessary to stress the importance of PE in the school curriculum.

*Action: Community Sports Committee Secretariat*

3.7 Dr LEUNG Mee-lee concurred with the Vice-Chairman’s suggestion. Regarding the column of career-oriented studies in the new senior secondary curriculum, she added that currently the Hong Kong Baptist University was the only institution to offer courses in sports coaching and administration.

**Item 3: Proposed Arrangement on Allocation of Swimming Lanes and Weekly Cleansing Programme at Public Swimming Pools**  
**(Paper CSC 01/05)**

4.1 The Chairman invited Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD to brief members on the Paper CSC 01/05, and asked members to comment on the proposed arrangement on allocation of swimming lanes and weekly cleansing programme at public swimming pools

4.2 Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing considered the LCSD’s proposed arrangement on allocation of swimming lanes reasonable as it could enable full

use of swimming lanes by different users.

4.3 As to whether the number of swimming lanes for priority booking by schools from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. should be confined to a half or less, Mr CHAN Kui-yin stated that, upon implementation of full-time education in the majority of primary schools, students were the main users of the pools from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He had reservation on the reduction of swimming lanes for priority booking by schools since it would be against the objective of encouraging students to take part in sports.

4.4 The Vice-Chairman added that about seven or eight years ago Mr LAU Chak-bun, the then Principal Inspector (Physical Education) allowed schools to reimburse the venue fees from the then Education Department/ the current EMB in order to encourage their use of sports venues managed by the then Urban Services Department/ the current LCSD during the off-peak hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. However, there was a competition in booking by various groups during 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He suggested the LCSD set up a working group consisting of representatives of the EMB, the NSAs, the District Sports Associations and the HKSSF, etc., to coordinate the needs of various parties.

4.5 Mrs Laura LING concurred with the Vice-Chairman's suggestion. She opined that the PE was an important subject and the parents also attached great importance to a multi-faceted training for their children. People using the swimming lanes during 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. were mainly students and members of sports associations. The working group should study how to balance the needs of various groups.

4.6 Ms CHAU Chuen-heung suggested collecting data on the use of swimming lanes by schools during 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and that the LCSD should determine the swimming pools to be assigned for priority use by schools during the same period with reference to the actual situation.

4.7 Mr Alan SIU of the LCSD explained that the Paper only reflected the views of some NSAs on the use of swimming lanes. LCSD would balance the needs of all users for resource optimisation. He agreed that the issue should be studied carefully and he would liaise with relevant parties to follow up on the Vice-Chairman's suggestion.

*Action: Leisure and Cultural Services Department*

4.8 As regards the weekly cleansing programme, the Chairman asked if the LCSD would simultaneously close all the swimming pools in the same district for cleansing. Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD replied that swimming pools in the same district would be closed in different periods so that when one pool was closed, the public could use another swimming pool in

the same district.

4.9 Ms Anissa WONG of the LCSD said that the Government formed a specialist group the previous year to study the ways to enhance the cleaning and hygiene standard of public swimming pools. Starting from April 2005, the LCSD would appeal to the public for jointly improving the hygiene standard of public swimming pools in the following ways:

- (a) swimmers should take thorough shower in the changing room and walk through the shower bath and the foot bath before entering the pool deck area. In addition, only those in appropriate and clean swimming suits with clean items would be allowed to enter the precinct of pool deck;
- (b) swimmers who wished to wear slippers in the pool deck area should put on the slippers provided by the LCSD before entering the pool deck area;
- (c) swimmers who wished to wear T-shirts should only bring along clean white T-shirts which would be put on top of their swimming suits in the changing room before they walk through the shower bath and the foot bath to enter the pool for swimming; and
- (d) the public who did not feel well, e.g. with symptoms of fever, diarrhoea, cold, flu, red eye syndrome or skin infection, should refrain from swimming and consult a doctor promptly.

She sought members' comment on the above measures.

4.10 Mr Francis CHAU inquired if the requirements were statutory and the swimming clubs would prohibit swimmers from wearing T-shirts and sun lotions. Ms Anissa WONG of the LCSD replied that the management staff of swimming pools would offer reasonable instructions and advice to swimmers, and the staff could forbid them to enter the pools if they failed to follow the reasonable advice with serious implications to public hygiene. Swimmers should wear white or light-coloured T-shirts if they needed to put them on top of their swimming suits. LCSD did not forbid swimmers to wear sun lotion for the time being. Mr Kenny CHOW pointed out the importance of public education on the awareness of hygiene. Out of consideration for hygienic safety, Mr SUEN Kai-cheong found it necessary for the LCSD to impose some reasonable restrictions.

4.11 In response to the queries of Messrs SUEN Kai-cheong and CHAN Kui-yin on the adequacy of the slippers provided by swimming pools and the cleansing methods for them, Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD said that it was estimated that about 15% of the swimmers would wear slippers and the

department would prepare enough slippers coming in various sizes for them. The slippers would be cleansed and sterilised according to the instructions proposed by the Department of Health.

4.12 The meeting agreed on the weekly cleansing programme and the improvement measures to the hygiene of swimming pools mentioned in paragraph 4.9.

(Post-meeting note: in respect of paragraph 4.9(b) above, for better management, the LCSD would not provide slippers to swimmers. They should instead bring clean slippers themselves and put them on in the changing room. Then, they should thoroughly cleanse their slippers at a designated area, and wear them to pass through the shower bath and the foot bath before they enter the pool deck area.)

#### **Item 4: Proposed Public Coaching Areas at Public Swimming Pools** **(Paper CSC 02/05)**

5.1 The Chairman invited Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD to present Paper CSC 02/05 and asked members to comment on the proposed public coaching areas at public swimming pools.

5.2 Mr Francis CHAU inquired if the proposal would be extended to all the swimming pools and if the width of the swimming lanes would be affected. Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD replied that the proposal would be extended to other public pools with similar management problems as appropriate. The Department would discuss in detail with the Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association and adjust the width of the swimming lanes according to the size of individual pools.

5.3 Dr LEUNG Mee-lee inquired about the illustration for the Swimming Zones Trial Scheme in the Annex of the Paper, and suggested interchanging lanes 1, 2 and 3 (the public swimming area by the pool side) with lanes 4, 5 and 6 (group hiring area) to facilitate hiring groups' coaching for swimming trainees. Mr Richard WONG of the LCSD replied that the lanes would be allocated according to the environment of individual pools. He stressed the aim of the scheme at balancing the needs and interests of swimmers and swimming trainees.

5.4 The meeting finally agreed on the designation of "public coaching areas" at public swimming pools to enhance management of coaching/ training activities conducted at the pools.

**Item 5: Proposal on the Fitness Test for the Community**  
**(Paper CSC 03/2005)**

6.1 The Chairman invited Ms CHOI Wing-kwan of the LCSD to present the Paper and asked members to comment on the proposal on the fitness test for the community.

6.2 In response to the inquiries of Dr LEUNG Mee-lee, Mr Francis CHAU, Ms Lolly CHIU and Mr Kenneth TSUI, the LCSD replied as follows:

- (a) The LCSD forwarded to a commissioned professional agent the sampling methodology and programme of a similar test conducted by State Sports General Administration of China (SSGA) for reference to design the test. Potential participants in the test would be selected by sampling; and those selected could decide if they would take the test. In addition, LCSD would request the professional agent conducting the test to provide sufficient safety precautions for the safety of participants;
- (b) a proposed Advisory Panel would advise the LCSD on the implementation and publicity of the fitness test. The LCSD would monitor the test conducted by the professional agent. The agent would only release overall data, but not personal particulars and fitness data of individual participants;
- (c) the data collected could reflect the fitness state of Hong Kong people. Based on the data, the Government can keep track of the relationship between their physical exercise pattern and physical fitness for identification of areas for improvement, setting priority and formulation of measures to enhance the fitness of the public; and
- (d) SSGA's test was conducted once every five years to shed light on improvement of national physical fitness. The proposed test would be an unprecedented test on the fitness of the community in Hong Kong. After collecting the data and consulting the Advisory Panel, long-term objectives would be set. Similar tests might be conducted in future when necessary.

6.3 Ms Lolly CHIU suggested that the "Adults" group aged 23 to 59 in the Annex should be further broken down. She opined that the scope of the current proposal was too extensive to fully reflect the characteristics of individual age groups. LCSD agreed to follow up on her suggestion.

*Action: Leisure and Cultural Services Department*

6.4 Dr LEUNG Mee-lee noted that the project might not be conducive to the promotion of individual sports due to the small size of the sampling, though it might help identify the relation between exercise pattern and physical fitness, and the difference of such a relation among the 18 Districts. Miss Olivia CHAN of the LCSD replied that having consulted the statistician of LCSD, it was considered that the proposed sampling size would be enough to provide representative information for future follow-ups.

6.5 Mr Kenneth TSUI said that the result of the test would help individual departments formulate measures to tie in with community sports strategies and facilitate the development of public health policies. However, such test should be conducted on a regular and continuous basis so as to identify and assess the long-term effects of relevant measures on the enhancement of physical fitness of the general public.

6.6 The Chairman said that members' opinions would be compiled by the Secretariat and forwarded to the LCSD for consideration and follow up. The meeting agreed that an Advisory Panel should be set up under CSC to advise the LCSD on the implementation and publicity of the project. The Chairman added that LCSD would provide secretariat support to the Advisory Panel, which together with the LCSD, would periodically report progress of the fitness test to the CSC. Since the present meeting was the last of the current CSC, the meeting suggested putting off the nomination to the Advisory Panel until commencement of the next term of the CSC.

*Action: Community Sports Committee Secretariat*

**Item 6: 25 Municipal Projects Proposed for Priority Treatment in the 2005 Policy Address**

**(Paper CSC 04/05)**

7.1 The Chairman invited Ms Karen YUEN CHAU of the LCSD to present the Paper and asked the members to comment on 25 municipal projects proposed for priority treatment.

7.2 Ms CHAU Chuen-heung observed that the tentative date of completion for projects proposed for priority treatment (particularly those in the new towns) as set out in the Annex failed to meet the public expectation. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung asked the LCSD if the works could be expedited. He suggested that adequate manpower and resources be provided for management of those projects in future.

7.3 Ms Anissa WONG of the LCSD explained that all projects were subject to full consultation and funding approval. Currently, the projects

proposed for priority treatment would be implemented ahead of the other outstanding leisure and cultural projects of the two ex-Municipal Councils. In addition, seeing that the local demand for various leisure and cultural services facilities varied, the LCSD would consider completing works of relatively small scale through “minor works”. As regards future management, the LCSD would resort to outsourcing and redeployment of manpower for saving and minimizing additional resources.

7.4 Members noted the content of the Paper.

**Item 7: Any Other Business**

**Development of Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground**

8.1 The Chairman reported that Finance Committee of the Legislative Council had agreed to upgrade the Development of Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground to Category A programme. Members might refer to the Paper tabled for the date of commencement and completion of the project.

8.2 As the present meeting was the last of the current CSC, the Chairman thanked Members for their contribution to the CSC. The next CSC meeting was scheduled for April to discuss and set down the specific work targets for the coming year. The schedule of meetings for the next term of the Committee was tabled.

8.3 The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Community Sports Committee Secretariat

April 2005