

COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of 7th Meeting of Community Sports Committee

Date: 22 June 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
Dr CHEUNG Siu-yin, MH
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing, MH
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, MH
Dr LO Wing-lok, JP
Mr PUI Kwan-kay, MH
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung

Department Representatives In Regular Attendance

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
Miss Ophelia CHAN	Social Welfare Department

Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Tung, BBS, JP
Mr Cowen B CHIU
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun, MH
Mr SUEN Kai-cheong, MH, JP
Mr TONG Wai-lun, MH
Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung
Dr LEUNG Mee-lee
Mr Eddie POON Tai-ping Home Affairs Bureau

In Attendance

Ms Anissa WONG Sean-yee, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Lolly CHIU Yuen-chu, JP	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Alan SIU Yu-bun, JP	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Lawrence CHEUNG Yiu-kong	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mrs Yolanda TONG LEE Yan-yan	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Alice HEUNG Ching-yee	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mrs Kane LI CHOI Wing-kwan	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Daniel SIN Pak-wing (Secretary)	Home Affairs Bureau
Mr Alfred LAW Kam-fat	Home Affairs Bureau
Miss Florence IP Pui-kwan	Home Affairs Bureau

Opening Remarks

1.1 The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. With the successful selection of the new Chief Executive, he hoped that the Government would maintain its administrative efforts in the development of sports to improve the prosperity of Hong Kong and enhance the public's quality of life. He also hoped that members would continue with their strong support in implementing the directives of the Committee on sports development.

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of 6th Meeting of Community Sports Committee

2.1 The Secretariat issued the draft minutes of the 6th meeting to members on 8 June 2005 and made amendments according to members' comments. There being no further amendments, the Chairman announced the endorsement of the minutes of the 6th meeting.

Item 2: Matters Arising

Student Sports Activities Co-ordinating Sub-Committee (SSACS)

3.1 Members noted that the first meeting of the renewed SSACS was held on 15 June 2005. In addition to its original members, Dr LO Wing-lok, Mr Norman CHAN, Dr CHEUNG Siu-yin, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung and Mr TONG Wai-lun joined the Sub-Committee. The Vice-Chairman reported the progress of the survey on student sports activities conducted by the Leisure and

Cultural Services Department (LCSD). He pointed out that LCSD had collected preliminary information (including the number of participants, expenditure and other participating institutions) on the training courses and competitions organised by various district leisure services offices for primary, secondary and tertiary school students for 2004-05. The LCSD would write to all NSAs, Hong Kong School Sports Federation, Hong Kong Post Secondary College Athletic Association and 18 District Sports Associations, requesting information on their training courses, promotional programmes, development plans and competitions organised for students for 2004-05. It was expected that the collection of information would be completed by the end of September to early October and that the overall analysis and report would be completed in 2005-06. Based on the results of the survey, SSACS would review the overall strategy, resource allocation and structure for promoting student sports activities.

Action: LCSD

3.2 The Vice-Chairman reported that SSACS had conducted preliminary examination on the contents, initiatives and strategies for “one sport for each student” programme. The Sub-Committee believed that “one sport for each student”, as the foundation for promoting sports for all, would foster the exercise habit among students, who would keep playing sports after leaving schools.

3.3 The Chairman was satisfied with the progress of work of SSACS for giving a pragmatic interpretation of “a sport for each student”, preventing it from being reduced to a slogan. He requested SSACS to continue formulating specific objectives, contents and strategies for “a sport for each student” and seek members’ views on its way forward.

Action: SSACS

Advisory Committee on Fitness Test for the Community

3.4 Dr LO Wing-lok reported that the Advisory Committee on Fitness Test for the Community had been formed. Its members included Mr Francis CHAU and representatives of Hong Kong Centre of Sports Medicine and Sports Science, Physical Fitness Association of Hong Kong, Department of Health, Education and Manpower Bureau and the LCSD. The Advisory Committee convened the first meeting on 6 May 2005 to decide on its terms of reference, the implementation, promotion and publicity strategies for fitness

test. The progress report of the Advisory Committee is attached at Annex A.

3.5 Dr LO said that having consulted Department of Health, Physical Fitness Association of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Centre of Sports Medicine and Sports Science, the advisory committee proposed to adopt “Physical Fitness Test for the Community” as the English title of the campaign.

3.6 The Chairman said that Physical Fitness Test for the Community was one of the highlights of the Community Sports Committee for the current year. The Committee would support the Advisory Committee in its work. He expressed his gratitude again to Dr LO and Mr CHAU for their participation. He also urged members, including representatives of the Government departments, to participate actively in and contribute to the promotion and publicity of the project.

Shanghai and Hong Kong Sports Exchange and Cooperation – Sports Summer Exchange Camp 2005

3.7 The Secretariat reported that according to paragraph 3.5 of the minutes of the last meeting, members would be invited to take part in the summer camp held between 25 July to 29 July. Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung and Mr CHAN Kui-yin would participate in the camp as the Committee’s representatives.

3.8 Ms Alice HEUNG Ching-yee of the LCS D reported that Mr YEUNG and Mr CHAN were the chief and deputy chief of Hong Kong’s delegation. There were a total of 90 applicants. Together with the representatives of NSAs and staff members, the total number of participants in this camp was 104. The LCS D succeeded in obtaining a corporate sponsorship of summer camp uniforms and \$20,000 in cash.

Enhancing the Usage Rate of Fitness Rooms

3.9 The Secretariat reported that a visit to fitness rooms was arranged for Members to decide on lifting restrictions on the use of certain fitness equipment to enhance service flexibility as mentioned in paragraph 5.15 of the minutes of the last meeting. Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the LCS D reported that the Chairman, Mr CHOW How-chen, Dr LO Wing-lok and Dr CHUENG Siu-yin visited the fitness rooms located in two sports centres in Fat Kwong Street and Ho Man Tin on 27 May 2005, and put forward the following proposals for the LCS D to follow up:

- (a) to provide two hours of instruction and demonstration for users of fitness equipments for anaerobic exercise, replacing the existing requirement for possession of Fitness Gold Cards;
- (b) to exempt qualified sport teachers from the fitness coach qualifications in the use of fitness equipments; and
- (c) To lower the minimum age (18 years of age) of the existing users.

3.10 The LCSD would consider proposal (a) and specific arrangements for implementation. Regarding items (b) and (c), the LCSD and Physical Fitness Association of Hong Kong would conduct a study, and report to the CSC once the results were available.

Action: LCSD

Management of Sports Venues by the Government in Collaboration with the Private Sector (e.g. NSAs)

3.11 The Secretariat reported on the progress of convening a special meeting for discussing the proposal on the management of sports venues by the Government in collaboration with the district organisations under paragraph 6.10 of the minutes of the last meeting. The special meeting was held on 13 June. A total of 7 members attended the meeting and expressed their views on the principles and directions of the issue. Members in attendance agreed on the direction as this proposal might facilitate public participation in sports activities and promote “sports for all”. Members also suggested using venues of lower usage rate as pilot venues. Besides, in discussing the mode of operation, Members believed that flexibility should be allowed for different actual circumstances of the venue (e.g. allowing advertising in the venues, accepting sponsorship, etc). In view of resource constraints of the NSAs, the Government should continue to cover the repair and maintenance costs. Members were concerned about whether District Sports Associations which were not involved in the development of any sport, could take part in the scheme. After discussion, members suggested that further deliberation on the implementation of the project was required. They also discussed the feasibility of the management of sports venues by District Sports Associations.

3.12 The Chairman stated that the Report of the Sports Policy Review Team issued in 2002 proposed, among others, to examine ways to facilitate

involvement of the private sector in the provision and management of public sports facilities. Members attending the special meeting agreed on the direction of the proposal and believed that it would help facilitate promotion and development of sports in the community. Regarding the implementation plans, in view of the complexity of the issue, more time was required to consider all feasible plans. However, he added that the Committee would continue its follow-up efforts. He urged the Government to cautiously consider members' views and put forth a detailed plan to seek the comments of the Committee at the earliest convenience.

Action: The Secretariat and LSCD

Item 3: Report on the Visit to the State Sports General Administration
(Paper CSC 08/05)

4.1 The Chairman said that the visit was successful. During the visit, participating members benefited from serious exchanges of views with the SSGA, Beijing Administration of Sports and Tianjin Administration of Sports, and gained a more in-depth understanding of mass sports development in Mainland China.

4.2 Mr Francis CHAU said he was delighted to know that China based its development of sports on scientific researches. The authorities concerned possessed data on exercise habits and sports equipments for various age groups. He said that the Committee could refer to their experience and set a target in order to have a good grasp of the exercise habits of different age groups and improvement methods. He also suggested that the Administration should provide sufficient sports venues for people over 50 years of age. He believed that the Government should consider increasing the allocation to the Art and Sports Development Fund prior to introducing the "Sports and Arts Lottery". The Vice-Chairman responded that the balance of the Fund was \$150 million. Only when the fund was used up and no more funding was injected would the feasibility of introducing the "Sports and Art Lottery" be considered.

4.3 Now that only universities were able to fund their scientific researches, Dr CHEUNG Siu-yin enquired whether the Government was providing funding source, as the former Hong Kong Sport Development Board for such purpose previously. As for the concept of "introducing sports into parks", she recommended that the Administration should not only encourage public participation in sports activities but also enhance its promotional efforts. She suggested that the 18 districts should take the lead in organising various sports activities. Besides, the Government should consider introducing legislation

on sports to provide guidelines for the public.

4.4 In response to the enquiries on scientific researches, the Chairman would find out about the situation with the funding to Secretariat and reported to the Committee in the next meeting.

Action: The CSC Secretariat

4.5 Mr CHAN Kui-yin noticed that on the Mainland, educational authorities were responsible for coordination and implementation of the monitoring of the fitness levels of youngsters (including students). He enquired about the ways to enable the students of Hong Kong to attain the standard. Mr TANG Fat-yuen of EMB said that relevant information on fitness standards was uploaded to the EMB website for parents' reference by the parents. Dr LO said that in designing the questionnaire for the Physical Fitness Test for the Community, data of the students might be included.

Action: LCSD

Item 4: Proposed Multi-Purpose Stadium Development in South East Kowloon(CSC 09/05)

5.1 The Chairman said that the item had been discussed at the Sports Commission's meeting. The Commission was of the view that the proposal should be deliberated by the three committees under the Commission. The proposal was discussed at the meetings of the Elite Sports Committee and Major Sports Events Committee. Their members generally agreed that a multi-purpose stadium should be developed in South East Kowloon to tie in with Hong Kong's sports development in the long run. Besides, the Sports Institute supported the proposal that the major facilities of the Institute should be included in the multi-purpose stadium to provide elite athletes with high-quality training facilities. The Chairman invited members to express their views on whether to support the development of a new multi-purpose stadium in Hong Kong, its location and the ways to help enhancing the interest in sports in the community.

5.2 The Members unanimously supported the proposed development of a multi-purpose stadium in South East Kowloon as it would tie in with Hong Kong's sports development in the long run. They put forward recommendations on the auxiliary facilities, funding arrangement, events to be

held in the stadium, long-term use of the Hong Kong Stadium and other major sports facilities as follows:

(a) The need for a multi-purpose stadium

Members unanimously supported the development of a multi-purpose stadium in Hong Kong. The stadium could redress any shortcoming of the Hong Kong Stadium and similar facilities. Besides, it would become a landmark of Hong Kong, as well as enhance the status of Hong Kong as an international city. It was believed that though the proposed stadium was a multi-purpose venue, sports development and practicality should be its emphasis.

(b) Location

Members supported the location of the stadium at South East Kowloon, which was the city centre. Its accessibility would improve the usage rate. As the proposed stadium occupied a large area of around 24 hectares, members believed that it should be able to accommodate more modern facilities.

(c) Facilities and utilisation

The Members believed that the stadium should be equipped with a retractable roof to rectify the restraints on usage. To tie in with the concept of the development of a “sports city”, Members suggested introducing a wide variety of arenas/facilities to create a more favourable atmosphere for sports activities. These facilities might include:

- Facilities for physical education/sports training;
- Sports schools (for skill exchanges with international/mainland sports communities);
- Offices of NSAs and sports organisations to develop the stadium into a “home base for sports”;
- Facilities for sports medicine or scientific researches; and
- Regular medical examination centre.

It was suggested that the secondary stadium could be used for community sports activities (e.g. inter-school competitions).

Besides, the main stadium could be used for major international conferences (and therefore it was necessary to provide such facilities as lecture theatres). Members had no objection to setting up a sports institute in the stadium subject to the compatibility with the overall development project;

(d) Transport facilities

It was necessary to pay special attention to the provision of transport facilities, to cope with the pressure on nearby transport network as a result of the increased people flow during major events;

(e) Development of existing large-scale facilities

Members were generally reserved with the recommendation of the disposal of other major facilities (e.g. Hong Kong Stadium, Hong Kong Coliseum, etc). It was believed that the purpose of some venues (e.g. the Hong Kong Coliseum) could be altered to facilitate participation in sports in the districts to tie in with the objective of “Sports for all”;

(f) Funding arrangement and cost effectiveness

The Members pointed out that the development of a multi-purpose stadium involved a very high cost, so prudence should be exercised in considering the funding arrangement. However, many members agreed that in the long run, the development of the stadium was not only cost effective but also conducive to the economic activities in its vicinity, leading to greater social cohesion and economic vitality.

Although the proceeds generated from the development of the neighbouring areas might offset the construction cost of the stadium, there was objection to finance a significant part of the project by property developments. Besides, it was pointed out that the Government should be committed to the development project of the stadium. It was proposed that the Administration should develop the stadium on a matching fund or a build-operate-transfer basis.

(g) Operation

To ensure the viability and sustainability of the stadium, it was suggested that commercial elements (e.g. shopping arcades, hotels, restaurants, car parks, etc.) should be added to the

development of the stadium subject to the compatibility with the overall planning.

The Members also pointed out that attention should be drawn to whether breakeven could be achieved. Apart from holding major sports events, the stadium could be open to public as a tourist spot to increase revenue when no activities were held. It was proposed to involve private organisations in the operation of the stadium but the Administration should monitor the service provided.

It was also suggested that different charging (rental) arrangements should be employed to promote and encourage sports development in Hong Kong. For example, rental concession should be allowed for NSAs.

(h) Consideration of long-term sustainability

In considering the usage and assessing the number of participants of major events, Members were of the view that the Authority should consider attracting visitors from the whole Pearl River Delta region. To this end, it was proposed that the Government should enhance the networking, coordination and promotion efforts with the Mainland to boost the usage rate and revenue of the stadium.

(i) Others

Members agreed that the needs of disabled athletes should be taken into account.

5.3 The Secretariat stated that the Planning Department was about to commence the second round of public consultation on the planning brief for the South East Kowloon Development. The Members might submit their suggestions on the development of the stadium to the Planning Department.

5.4 The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable views, which would be submitted to the Sports Commission for consideration.

Action: The CSC Secretariat

Item 5: Additional Measures to Enhance the Hygiene of Public Swimming Pools

(Paper CSC 10/05)

6.1 Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the LCSD presented the paper to the meeting. Dr LO Wing-lok said that it was right to clearly state that all swimmers must rinse their body thoroughly before entering the pool deck area, but the Department should also remind them to thoroughly rinse themselves before going into the changing room and not to share their towels. Ms Anissa WONG of the LCSD said in response that to improve the transparency of the operation, the department would enhance the education and publicity of the message and inform the public as well as the swimmers once they discovered and received complaints of such incidents.

6.2 Mr Francis CHAU remarked that the bathing room did not have any hot water supply, and the water temperature of the shower bath and foot bath was low. Mr Benedict LEE said that swimmers generally avoid the shower bath when entering the pool and the department should explain its use so that the swimmers would not avoid it. Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the LCSD said in response that the shower room had both the hot and cold water supplies and the water temperature of the shower bath and foot bath was the same as the pool water. He pointed out Swimming Pool Ambassadors of the LCSD would instruct the swimmers to follow the instructions when entering the pool and swimmers could hardly bypass the shower bath due to its design. The Department would step up the publicity of the measures. Mr Alan SIU of the LCSD said that he would follow up with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department to warm up the shower bath.

Action: the LCSD

6.3 Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung enquired if the hygiene requirement could be loosened when schools held swimming galas since there would be a lot of swimmers going to and from the pool and the changing rooms. Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the LCSD said that the students should follow the instructions to re-enter the pool from the changing room. Ms Anissa WONG of the LCSD said that the Department must strictly enforce the instructions to ensure their universality and the hygiene of swimmers.

6.4 Mr CHAN Kui-yin suggested that the LCSD should collaborate with

schools and allow them to use the pools for educating the students. The Department might ask the coaches to teach the participants when organizing swimming classes.

6.5 Upon discussion, the Members supported the new measures listed in the paper.

Item 6: Any other business

Use of mobile phones with built-in camera or video function to take photos or videos in the changing rooms of venues under the LCSD

7.1 Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the LCSD reported that the media recently complained about a website displaying photos of swimmers obviously taken furtively in the changing rooms of swimming pools under the LCSD. The Department immediately referred the case to the police and stepped up the patrol in the changing rooms of its water sports venues. Not only would the venue staff maintain high alert as usual, the LCSD would send a special team to patrol all the changing rooms of public swimming pools and beaches. Apart from taking the aforementioned immediate measures to curb the clandestine photographing and video shooting, the LCSD put forth four options as follows to seek comments from members:

- (a) to require that mobile phones with built-in camera or videotaping function must be deposited or forbidden to use in all the changing rooms of venues under the LCSD;
- (b) for venue with LCSD staff, to require that mobile phones with built-in camera or videotaping function must be deposited or forbidden to use in the changing rooms of public swimming pools manned by the LCSD;
- (c) to forbid the use of mobile phones with built-in camera or videotaping function in the changing rooms of public swimming pool and beaches, and no depository service would be provided; and
- (d) To maintain the status quo, i.e. no depositing or restriction of use for

the mobile phone but the department would heighten the alertness, step up patrol and improve the facilities in the changing room.

7.2 Upon discussion, members agreed to adopt option (d) which would be followed up by the LCSD.

Action: the LCSD

Booking of recreational and sports facilities 6 months in advance

8.1 The LCSD drew the attention of members to the press release tabled in the meeting on booking of recreational and sports facilities under the department. As the issue was endorsed in the previous meeting and members had no further comment, the LCSD would issue the press release afterwards.

(Post-meeting note: The press release was issued on 29 June 2005)

Schedule of Meeting

9.1 The Secretary stated that according to the schedule proposed by the LCSD, the Committee should meet once every three to four months. The Secretariat revised the schedule of meeting accordingly and tabled it in the meeting. He asked members to take note of the schedule and reserve time for attendance.

9.2 The Chairman remarked that since there were a lot of items to be handled and decided by the Committee, special meetings might be convened when necessary. If any member intended to further discuss a specific item, he/she might inform the Secretariat for convening an ad hoc meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

10.1 The Chairman thanked Members for attending the meeting and offering their valuable comments. The next CSC meeting was scheduled on 10:30 am on 21 September 2005.

10.2 The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Community Sports Committee Secretariat
August 2005

Advisory Committee on Fitness Test for the Community

Progress of Work

(a) Project

The test project will commence in September and is due for completion by the end of this year. The project drew reference from the physical fitness test project and questionnaire designed by the State Sports General Administration (SSGA) with adjustment to suit the situation in Hong Kong. Target participants of the test are Hong Kong people aged between 3 and 69, with a sample size of 6 000 to 8 000 persons.

(b) Implementation plan

To ensure that the project is implemented in a professional approach, the LSCD was to commission a professional agent through open tender for implementation of the project. After consultation with the Members of the Advisory Committee, the Invitation for Quotation was issued on 8 June. Tenderers were required to submit the quotations by 30 June. If the professional agent is successfully commissioned in July, the project will commence in September as scheduled. The tests will be held in sports venues in 18 districts during weekends, Sundays and public holidays. Test equipments will also be taken to the participating organisations for in situ tests.

(c) Publicity

To promote and encourage the public to participate actively in the project, the LCSD will widely distribute publicity materials to the District Councils, kindergartens, schools, youth centres, elderly centres, corporations, women organisations, public housing estates and other district organisations. Besides, posters will be displayed at the poster sites of the ISD, MTRC, KCRC, HAD and LSCD for publicity purpose. To enlist public support in the project and enhance the response rate, each participant will receive a souvenir after completion of the test and questionnaire.