

**Notes of Meeting of Brainstorming Session of
Community Sports Committee**

Date: 8 December 2003
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Venue: Multi-use Room, Service Level, Hong Kong Stadium,
55 Eastern Hospital Road, So Kon Po, 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
Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming, MH
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah
Dr York CHOW Yat-ngok, SBS, MBE,JP
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, MH
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun, MH
Mr PUI Kwan-kay, MH
Mr TONG Wai-lun, MH
Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung
Mr WONG King-cheung, JP
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung
Dr LEUNG Mee-lee
Mr Anthony POON Hon-hung
Dr CHAN Wai-man
Miss Ophelia CHAN
Mr Eddie POON
Mr Johnny WOO, BBS, JP

Absent with apologies

Ms CHAU Chuen-heung, MH, JP
Mr CHAN Tung, BBS, JP
Mr SUEN Kai-cheong, MH, JP
Mr Cowen B CHIU
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing
Mr LEE Kam-chung, JP

In attendance

Mr Leo KWAN, JP
Mr Alan SIU
Ms Miranda YEAP (Secretary)
Mr Charles CHU
Mr Wells HO Ip-chuen
Mr William NG Wai-keung
Mr CHENG Kong-yu
Miss Olivia CHAN Yeuk-oi
Miss Margrit LI Lai-fan
Mrs Yolanda TONG LEE Yan-yan
Mrs Annie CHOY LAM Sau-ha
Mr Horace CHEUNG Wing-yu
Mrs LI CHOI Wing-kwan
Mr Kelvin LEUNG King-fat
Ms Alice KONG Po-yee
Ms Natalie YEUNG

Opening remarks

The Chairman first welcomed members to the brainstorming session and briefed them on the items for discussion. At the last meeting, members expressed their concern over the significance of booking of recreation grounds on community sports development, and regarded that school sports would be vital to the promotion of community sports activities and the role of District Sports Associations (DSAs) in community sports development should not be neglected. The items for discussion would accordingly focus on the following three areas:

- (a) Ways to promote community sports activities with the recreational facilities provided by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and other government departments.
- (b) The role of school sports in community sports development.
- (c) The function of DSAs.

2. The Chairman requested members to express their views as much as possible in this session. As the Community Sports Committee (the Committee) covered a wide scope of work, it was necessary for members to advise on how such areas of work could be improved. The three items for discussion were areas of greater significance in community sports. Further brainstorming sessions for discussion of other issues might be organised in the future should the need arise.

3. The Chairman invited Mr Leo KWAN, Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (Special Duties) to address the meeting.

4. Mr Leo KWAN thanked members for attending the brainstorming session. He remarked that although the Committee was only one of the three committees under the Sports Commission, it covered a wide spectrum of sports affairs, including community sports, district sports and school sports etc. It needed valued opinions from members to facilitate the development and promotion of community sports activities in Hong Kong. Accordingly, discussion would focus on three different topics in this session, it was hoped that members would voice their opinions as much as possible. The Committee would base on the outcome of the discussion to draw up blueprints for promoting community sports.

5. The Chairman invited the Secretary to brief members on the rundown of the meeting and the staff from LCSD to present the information for discussion.

(Group discussion — 4:40 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)

6. The Chairman invited group representatives to present the result of discussion.

Item 1: Ways to promote community sports activities with recreational facilities provided by LCSD and other government departments

7. After discussion, members drew the following conclusions:

- (a) To designate venues for developing a particular sport – many district sports venues could be used for the development of a particular sport and used by Community Sports Clubs (CSCs), DSAs or National Sports Associations (NSAs).
- (b) To maximize use of district facilities – school sports venues and community halls should be made available for hire, such as school sports facilities could be hired by the parents of students, for promoting sports activities.
- (c) To coordinate the roles of DSAs, CSCs, NSAs and schools – as sports promoters at community level, the relation and tasks of these stakeholders should be better coordinated to avoid duplication of roles and to maximize use of resources.

- (d) 2009 East Asian Games – district sports facilities should be enhanced as soon as possible to provide training venues for athletes who would be considered the mainstay of 2009 East Asian Games.

8. Other members' views on the said item were as follows:

- (a) To achieve flexibility in use of resources, especially in the New Territories district where resources had to be increased to address the issue of insufficient venues.
- (b) To extend the opening hours of facilities to enhance public use.
- (c) To coordinate the roles of schools, CSCs and DSAs in promoting community sports activities.
- (d) To achieve flexibility in hire of venues, in particular, swimming pools should be available for school competitions as far as practicable.
- (e) To review the procedure of hiring community halls to prevent the community halls from being monopolised by certain groups.

Item 2: The role of school sports in community sports development

9. School sports laid a cornerstone in the overall development of community sports and formed a major part of it. Currently, school sports development involved two aspects, namely School Sports Programme (SSP) under LCSD and sports events organised by the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation (HKSFF) for all secondary and primary schools. In case where resources of the HKSFF were insufficient, District Leisure Services Offices (DLSO) under LCSD would lend support to events organised by it. Besides, two sports associations for the handicapped would continue to promote sports both within and outside schools.

10. Due to the lack of sports facilities in schools, it is not able to arouse students' interest in taking part in sports activities. Apart from encouraging active participation of students in sports activities, sports should be included in school curriculum. It was also considered to include sports as one of the test subjects for admission to tertiary institutions. To sum up, we should keep running SSP and set up two task forces overseeing school sports and non-school sports respectively.

Item 3: The function of DSAs

11. The Committee regarded that NSAs should be mainly tasked for promoting individual sport and that DSAs should be responsible for organising a number of district sports activities. There should be enhanced coordination between NSAs and DSAs in the use of funds and venues so that more competitions and promotional activities could be organised. CSCs could also target at senior age groups in encouraging them to do more exercise for promoting health. Sports venues with lower usage rate could be used for promoting other sports and used by DSAs.

Conclusion

12. The Chairman invited Mr Johnny WOO, Deputy Director of LCSD, to give concluding remarks on the discussion. It was summarized as follows:

- (a) Recreation ground was one of the major factors affecting community sports development. Despite the existing venue booking policy under LCSD, we could flexibly deal with the case having regard to various views. We need to design multi-purpose venues to meet the needs of various sports. We should also make good use of other recreation and sports facilities, such as school sports grounds or community halls.
- (b) DSAs played an important role in promoting community sports. They should work with NSAs and both should take up separate duties to avoid duplication of resources. We could also consider making arrangements for DSAs to use the sports venues with lower usage rate.
- (c) As the cornerstone in community sports, student sports activities should be promoted and there would be a need to set up a task force to study student sports activities.

13. The Chairman thanked members for their active participation in expressing views in the brainstorming session. The Secretariat would sum up the result of discussion for future consideration.

14. The session concluded at 7:00 p.m.