

**Brainstorming Session of the Sports Commission
on 2 April 2005**

Summary of Discussion on Community Sports

Improving physical fitness of the Community

- the proposed fitness test for the community should be implemented to provide a benchmark of fitness conditions of the community for comparison and improvement. The followings should be borne in mind:
 - (i) the Community Sports Committee should steer the implementation of the fitness test; and
 - (ii) experts, professionals and departments (including Education and Manpower Bureau and Department of Health, etc.) should be involved in the design and implementation of the fitness test.

Student Sports

- strengthen physical education (PE) in the secondary school curriculum by, for example:-
 - (i) implementing “a sport for each student” (「一學生一運動」) in schools;
 - (ii) making PE lessons mandatory in higher forms and/or extending the duration and frequency of PE lessons;
 - (iii) adding PE to the list of elective subjects in university entrance examinations;
 - (iv) encouraging students to participate in inter-school sports competitions or other community sports activities; and
 - (v) giving due credits for students’ performance in sports in considering their applications for admission to universities or for employment.
- flexible designs and fitting-out of school auditorium should be adopted to provide more alternative space for sports activities ; and

- recognizing the demand for more sports venues, the option of making available school premises for community organizations to hold sports activities during after school hours could be explored. Further discussion with Education and Manpower Bureau might be necessary. However, increase wear and tear of school premises and facilities, as well as disruption to school routine as a result of damages to these facilities would need to be borne in mind.

Making LCSD sports venue more accessible

- Having regard to the increasing demand for suitable sport venues, LCSD plan to convert some of the under-used facilities for other purposes, and are introducing measures to boost utilization of these venues, especially during non-peak hours. In this connection, it was suggested for consideration that:-
 - (a) private sector involvement in the provision and operation of sports venues should be explored; and
 - (b) incentives could be provided for private operators to run commercial activities, or to hold a longer operating license to improve viability.
- In connection with the above issue, the possibility of inviting NSAs to run certain purpose-built sports venues (e.g. tennis court) should be examined. The following issues may be relevant:-
 - (a) this arrangement should be supported if the NSAs concerned could demonstrate their ability to run the venue properly;
 - (b) the financial implications should be assessed carefully if additional resources were required. There were also concerns about possible forgone of revenue if the income from the use of the venue was retained by the NSAs;
 - (c) there might be policy implications if NSA would restrict public access to the sport venues, which are by nature a public facility. There would also be queries if NSAs adopt a different charging policy than the prevailing government rates; and
 - (d) different operating modes of collaboration between NSA and LCSD could be explored for implementation.

Other Issues

- foster closer ties with Mainland sports authorities as well as local sports bodies; and
- develop community sports clubs: specialized training for sports managers should be offered; corporations should be encouraged to set up sports clubs for staff.
