

COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Community Sports Committee

Date: 17 March 2010 (Wednesday)
Time: 10:30 am
Venue: Conference Room I, Home Affairs Bureau, 41/F, Revenue Tower,
5 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Present: Mr CHAU How-chen (Chairman)
Mr TONG Wai-lun (Vice-chairman)
Mr Daniel CHAM Ka-hung
Mr Henry CHAN Chi-chiu
Mr CHENG Shu-ming
Mr Alan CHOW Yiu-ming
Mr FUNG Kwong-chung
Mr James KONG Tze-wing
Mr LAM Hong-wah
Mrs Stella LAU KUN Lai-kuen
Mr Philip LI Wing-kuen
Mr LIU Ah-chuen
Dr LO Wing-lok
Mr TONG Tai-wai
Prof Stephen WONG Heung-sang
Mrs Cecilia WONG LAM Siu-ling
Dr Simon YEUNG Sai-mo
Mr George YIP Chi-wai
Prof LEUNG Mee-lee

Department Representatives in Regular Attendance

Ms Olivia CHAN Yeuk-oi	(Representative from Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Ms Candy NIP Kai-yan	(Representative from Home Affairs Bureau)
Dr Regina CHING Cheuk-tuen	(Representative from Department of Health)
Mr LAI Yiu-keung	(Representative from Education Bureau)
Ms Olivia YIP Wai-ling	(Representative from Social Welfare Department)
Ms Iris YICK Pui-yin	(Representative from Home Affairs Department)

Absent with Apologies

Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin
Mr Lawrence LO Wing-man

In Attendance

Mrs Betty FUNG CHING Suk-ye	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Mr Bobby CHENG Kam-wing	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Ms LAM Sau-ha	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Ms OR Wai-ye	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)

Secretary

Ms LOK Kit-ha (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)

Opening Remarks

1.1 The Chairman welcomed all Members and representatives from various government departments to the meeting. The Chairman remarked that this was the first meeting of the current Community Sports Committee (CSC), which consisted of 27 Members, among whom seven were new, including Mr Henry CHAN and Mr LAM Hong-wah from the District Councils (DCs), Mrs Stella LAU, Prof Stephen WONG and Dr Simon YEUNG from the education sector, Mr Philip LI and Mrs Cecilia WONG from the sports sector. The Chairman was grateful to former CSC Members, including Mrs Susana CHAN, Mr Norman CHAN, Ms CHAU Chuen-heung, Mr Francis CHAU, Mr Cowen CHIU, Mr Kenny CHOW, Mr Benedict LEE, Mrs Laura LING, Mr PUI Kwan-kay and Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung for their contribution. He hoped that all Members would actively voice their opinions and work hand in hand to promote Sport for All.

Item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of Last Meeting of the CSC

2.1 The draft minutes of the 20th meeting were sent to Members for comment by fax on 1 February by the Secretariat and hitherto proposed amendments were received from the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and Education Bureau (EDB). The amended draft minutes were faxed to Members on 10 March. The Chairman asked Members to refer to the proposed amendments tabled at the meeting. As no further amendment was proposed at the meeting, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 20th meeting were endorsed.

Item 2: Matters Arising

Report on the Follow-up Action Plan on Study on Sport for All – the Participation Patterns of Hong Kong People in Physical Activities

3.1 The Chairman said that after the Sports Commission had endorsed the five-year action plan on the Study, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) actively pursued work of Phase I by disseminating the message of the importance of regular participation in physical and sports activities to the public through various channels, and introducing the findings of the Study and the Follow-up Action Plan to the 18 DCs in order to enlist their support for implementing the recommendations of the Study. He invited Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD to report the progress of the Follow-up Action Plan and views of the 18 DCs.

3.2 Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD reported that the completed promotion work of Phase I included producing fact sheets on the Study for distribution to different bodies and organisations in the community, and attending meetings of the District Facilities Management Committees/Culture and Recreation Committees under the 18 DCs held between October 2009 and February 2010 to introduce the findings of the Study and the Follow-up Action Plan to DC members in detail and to collect their views. Besides, “Sport for All Carnival” was held in the 18 DCs across the territory from January to March 2010, and TV APIs were being produced for broadcasting on TV and RoadShow in late April 2010 to disseminate widely the message of participation in sports and other physical activities. Ms LOK of the LCSD briefed Members on the views of the 18 DCs on the findings of the Study and the Follow-up Action Plan. A summary of those views was also tabled at the meeting for Members’ reference.

3.3 The Chairman remarked that promotion of Sport for All was a major task of the CSC and the LCSD, and the Study provided important data for the formulation of development strategies for community sports. He was grateful to the convenor (namely Dr LO Wing-lok) and other members of the Task Force to Follow up on the Study Report on the Participation Patterns of Hong Kong People in Physical Activities for their efforts and co-operation. He invited Members to comment on the Report on the Action Plan.

3.4 Mr Daniel CHAM hoped to understand the actual work of Phase II as well as how to review and revamp the existing combination of community sports programmes and recreation and sports facilities.

3.5 Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD responded that the promotion work of Phase II would start in April 2010. The LCSD would review and revamp the current recreation

and sports programmes and organise more activities for parents and children as well as the middle-aged with National Sports Associations (NSAs) so as to encourage wider public participation. Regarding recreation and sports facilities, the LCSD would review the existing recreation and sports facilities in various districts and increase the supply of facilities for district sports activities with local characteristics.

3.6 Mr Daniel CHAM was of the view that Sport for All should be promoted on an on-going basis. He suggested that the LCSD should install as far as possible large screen displays outside its sports centres and sports grounds to publicise LCSD activities and broadcast major events being staged in the venue such as the Hong Kong Games (HKG) and Festival of Sport with the aims of increasing the attendance and further promoting Sport for All.

3.7 The Chairman thanked Mr Daniel CHAM for his opinions. To follow up the promotion work of Phase II, he suggested that the Task Force should be retained and Mr CHAM's opinions should be referred to the new Task Force for consideration. The Chairman suggested that Dr LO Wing-lok should be invited to continue to act as the convenor of the Task Force, who will lead the Task Force to follow up the various recommendations of the Study. Dr LO accepted the invitation. The Chairman thanked Dr LO. As the workload of the Task Force was very heavy, he suggested that a vice convenor should be assigned and invited Members to give nominations.

3.8 Mr TONG Wai-lun the Vice-chairman nominated Prof Stephen WONG as vice convenor of the Task Force. Prof WONG accepted the invitation. The Chairman thanked Prof WONG and welcomed other Members to join the Task Force to give views on the follow-up of the various recommendations of the Study. Interested Members were asked to return the duly completed reply slips to the Secretariat after the meeting.

Item 3: Formation of the 3rd Hong Kong Games Organising Committee (CSC Paper 1/10)

4.1 Mrs Betty FUNG, Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (DLCS), said that to prepare early for the 3rd HKG, the Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) had appointed Mr CHAU the Chairman and Mr TONG the Vice-chairman as Chairman and Vice-chairman of the 3rd HKG Organising Committee (HKGOC). She thanked the above two for accepting the appointments. She believed that under their leadership and the support of all Members, the coming HKG would be an even bigger success.

4.2 The Chairman thanked SHA for appointing him again as Chairman of the 3rd HKGOC and hoped that with the full support of Mr TONG the Vice-chairman and all

Members, the 3rd HKG would be a continuing success. He invited Ms Wendy OR, Secretary General of the 3rd HKGOC, to brief Members on CSC Paper 1/10.

4.3 Ms Wendy OR, Secretary General, briefed Members on CSC Paper 1/10. Regarding the nomination of two Members to join the 3rd HKGOC, the Chairman said that Mrs Susana CHAN and Mr Kenny CHOW had been members of the previous two HKGOCs. As these two Members had completed their tenures, he suggested that Mr CHENG Shu-ming and Mr FUNG Kwong-chung who were familiar with district affairs should be invited to join the 3rd HKGOC. Mr CHENG and Mr FUNG accepted the invitations. The Chairman thanked them and invited Members to comment on the paper.

4.4 Members gave their views on the paper. Their views and responses were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr Philip LI suggested that more competition events especially team events should be included in the 3rd HKG to tie in with the theme of the HKG. For example, football events should be included. The Chairman responded that the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) organised the Third Division “District” Football League for local teams from the 18 districts, so no football event was organised in the previous two HKGs. The proposal would be referred to the 3rd HKGOC for consideration.
- (b) Mr LAM Hong-wah agreed that more competition events should be included in the HKG as it was meant to tie in with Sport for All. He suggested that Wushu events should be included. As part of the traditional Chinese culture, Wushu was rich in content and both individual and team events could be held. He said that the recent 8th Hong Kong Wushu International Championship had attracted more than 6 800 athletes to Hong Kong for participation and Sha Tin Wushu Team also obtained remarkable results in a world championship held in Hangzhou. He remarked that Wushu was very popular at the district level. Wushu competitions held in Sha Tin were met with very good responses and Taichi was also very popular among the elderly in the district. Therefore, he suggested that Wushu should be included in the HKG to further promote the sport in the district.
- (c) Mr CHENG Shu-ming concurred that football events should be included. There was a soccer pitch in every district. In addition to promoting parent-child relationships, it could also tie in with the policy of vigorously

promoting the development of football in Hong Kong.

- (d) Mr Henry CHAN agreed that football should be included. He remarked that some district teams which took part in the Third Division “District” Football League were promoted to the First Division League and the HAB accepted the recommendations of a consultancy study which included vigorous promotion of football in Hong Kong. Currently, local football teams had good performance. If football was included, community cohesion could be enhanced. However, to ensure fairness and attractiveness of the competition, he suggested that seeded teams should be set up.
- (e) Mr Raphael TONG said that he was a member of the Youth and Technical Development Task Force of the HKFA. He explained how the Third Division “District” League was organised for the HKGOC’s reference. Currently, the competition period for the Third Division “District” League only lasted for six months and the skills of the teams varied greatly. In view of that, professionalisation should be avoided as far as possible in the competition format and teams were advised to deploy young members to take part in the competition. Further, teams were divided into different divisions so that each team would have more chance of competition and the competition time could be shortened. The Chairman responded that in the 2nd HKG, the 18 districts were divided into four divisions by region (namely Island, Kowloon, New Territories East and New Territories West) for competition and a single round robin system was also adopted in the preliminary round to increase the chance of competition.
- (f) Mr Alan CHOW welcomed the inclusion of football, but he reflected that soccer pitches in Kwun Tong were heavily used. He hoped that the LCSD would examine carefully how to avoid compromising the chance of current users using the pitches, while providing district teams with pitches for selecting players and training.
- (g) Mr Raphael TONG reflected that there was no soccer pitch in the Central and Western District and the Third Division district team had to hire a soccer pitch in the neighbouring district for training.
- (h) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD fully agreed with Mr Alan CHOW. As turf soccer pitches were very short in supply, it would be very difficult to

provide district teams with sufficient pitches for selecting players and training, and current pitch users might be affected. Therefore, careful and thorough consideration should be given in deciding whether football should be included. Besides, she said that a seven-a-side artificial turf soccer pitch would soon be available at the Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park in the Central and Western District. The LCSD would also gradually convert current turf soccer pitches into artificial turf soccer pitches to increase the number of available sessions with the aim of solving the problem of pitch shortage in the long run.

- (i) Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB supported that football events should be organised. As some of the participating athletes were students and the dates of holding the preliminary rounds of the previous HKG and the competitions organised in the school sector were close, student athletes had difficulty in taking part in competitions and training of both. He hoped that the HKGOC would consider the competition schedule arrangement carefully. Besides, due to the limited supply of soccer pitches, he suggested that the HKGOC should first consider organising indoor soccer competitions that required a fewer number of players.
- (j) Mr CHENG Shu-ming was of the view that artificial turf was hazardous to players. Mr Raphael TONG added that quasi-natural turf was more desirable than artificial turf. He continued that as the Chinese were very fast, our five-a-side football players were doing quite well internationally. He agreed that indoor futsal competitions should be held. Besides, he reflected that the soccer pitches of the LCSD were often closed in rainy days and spotlights were poorly maintained. He hoped that the LCSD would take follow-up action.
- (k) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD explained that the LCSD was converting current pitches into 3rd generation quasi-natural turf pitches which were suitable for international competitions. She said that she knew a school had built a 4th generation quasi-natural turf soccer pitch. The LCSD would monitor its effectiveness closely and further study the introduction of higher quality quasi-natural turf for soccer pitches. Besides, she said that she would follow up the damage of spotlights and current lighting and other ancillary facilities would be properly improved in the alteration works.
- (l) Mrs Cecilia WONG was a representative from the Hong Kong Sports

Association for the Mentally Handicapped. She opined that the mentally handicapped were part of the community. Currently, her Association organised more than ten activities including some competition events of the HKG and arranged athletes to take part in international competitions. She suggested that the HKGOC should consider incorporating some activities of integration into one of its competition items so as to provide the mentally handicapped with opportunities to take part in the HKG.

4.5 The Chairman thanked Members for their views, which would be referred to the 3rd HKGOC for thorough consideration.

Item 4: Healthy Exercise for All Campaign - Physical Fitness Test for the Community 2010 (CSC Paper 2/10)

5.1 The Chairman said that the CSC completed the first physical fitness test for the community (the physical fitness test) in 2006 and it recommended that a territory-wide physical fitness test should be conducted every five years in order to get an understanding of the changes in the physical fitness of members of the public. He invited Ms Wendy OR of the LCSD to present CSC Paper 2/10.

5.2 Ms Wendy OR of the LCSD briefed Members on CSC Paper 2/10. Regarding the nomination of two Members to serve as the convenor and the deputy convenor of the Advisory Committee for the Physical Fitness Test (the Advisory Committee) respectively, the Chairman said that Dr LO Wing-lok and Mr Francis CHAU were the convenor and member of the first Advisory Committee. To follow up the work of the second physical fitness test, he proposed to invite Dr LO to take up the role of convenor again. Dr LO accepted the nomination. The Chairman thanked Dr LO for that, and invited Members to nominate another Member for the post of deputy convenor.

5.3 Mr TONG the Vice-chairman proposed Mr Daniel CHAM to take up the post. Mr CHAM accepted the invitation. The Chairman thanked Mr CHAM for that, and invited Members to give their views on the paper.

5.4 Members gave their views on the paper. Their views and responses were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr Raphael TONG asked why only 6 000 questionnaires containing test data were collected in the first physical fitness test which had over 8 000 participants. Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD explained that the physical fitness test comprised a physical fitness test and a questionnaire. Only

when a person completed both parts, it would then be counted as a successful test. There were some 6 000 persons who finally completed both.

- (b) Mr Raphael TONG opined that if a participant could not meet the basic requirements, it meant that he was not in a satisfactory physical condition, and this type of participants should be categorised as a separate group for analysis. He also proposed that the sample structure for the second physical fitness test should be the same as that for the first one to facilitate comparison. Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD said in response that for the first physical fitness test, samples were classified according to age groups, and for the second physical fitness test, though specific work had yet to be finalised, the same sampling principle would be adopted as far as possible to facilitate comparison.
- (c) Dr LO Wing-lok added that the Advisory Committee had taken different conditions into consideration when collecting samples, and the age profile of the samples was the same as that of the Hong Kong population. He said that the first physical fitness test was conducted in two stages to ensure that sufficient samples were collected for analysis. He agreed that the sampling method for the second physical fitness test should be the same as that for the first one if comparison was to be made.
- (d) Prof LEUNG Mei-lee said that regarding the first physical fitness test, the representativeness of the samples collected could have been enhanced. She proposed that the new Advisory Committee should closely monitor the survey agent to ensure the smooth conduct of the study.
- (e) Mr TONG the Vice-chairman doubted if 8 000 samples were representative and enough for scientific analysis. If not, he suggested that an appropriate sample size should be decided as early as possible to ensure the smooth implementation of the tendering exercise in May. Prof LEUNG Mei-lee said that similar questions had been raised in the previous CSC meeting. According to the statistician of the LCSD, the sample size met the statistical requirement and was representative of the Hong Kong population.

5.5 The Chairman thanked Members for their views, which would be referred to the Advisory Committee for thorough consideration.

Item 5: Promotion of School Sports (CSC Paper 3/10)

6.1 The Chairman invited Ms LAM Sau-ha of the LCSD to present CSC Paper 3/10.

6.2 Ms LAM Sau-ha of the LCSD briefed Members on CSC Paper 3/10. As the School Sports Programme (SSP) would extend to kindergartens, the Chairman invited Mr LAI Yiu-keung, Chief Curriculum Development Officer (Physical Education) of the EDB, to give information on pre-primary physical activities.

6.3 Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB briefed Members on pre-primary physical activities. He said that pre-primary (kindergartens) curriculum were divided into six learning areas, among which “Physical Fitness and Health” was most relevant to physical activities, and early childhood education focused on integrated learning. He presented two short videos on the physical and arts educational activities in kindergartens and on the rationale and approach for the design of the pre-primary curriculum. He stated that the videos were produced under the Education Magazine of the ETV Programme in response to the curriculum reform. Interested Members were welcome to visit the EDB website and watch them again.

6.4 Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB pointed out that early childhood education must be in line with the growth and development of children, thus physical education should focus on the amount of activities and the ability to co-ordinate, balance, move and control body movement. To encourage schools to promote physical activities, the former Education Department (the present EDB) issued the Guidelines on Physical Play in 1999 to arouse children’s interest in sports. The booklet was uploaded to the EDB website. Besides, the Guide to the Pre-primary Curriculum issued by the Curriculum Development Council in 2006 recommended that daily physical and arts activities for half-day and full-day kindergartens should last for at least 45-60 and 60-105 minutes respectively. Kindergartens generally met this requirement. To ensure that parents had a clear understanding of the kindergarten curriculum, the EDB issued the Guide to the Pre-primary Curriculum – Parent Booklet in 2007. He concluded that the main objectives of physical activities in kindergartens were to help children develop their basic physical abilities and arouse their interest in sports, which were different from the rationale for adults participating in vigorous physical activities.

6.5 The Chairman thanked Mr LAI Yiu-keung for his detailed briefing, and invited Members to give their views on the paper and the report.

6.6 Members gave their views on the paper and the report. Their views and responses were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr Raphael TONG was of the view that the qualifications of teachers were very important, and asked if there was any plan on the training for teachers and how many resources would be allocated to schools for training PE teachers to help promote school sports.
- (b) Mr Daniel CHAM shared the view that the habit of playing sports should be developed in early childhood. He therefore fully supported the promotion of the concept of playing sports to children as well as their teachers and parents. He had the following enquiries regarding the promotion of school sports:
- (i) He would like to know about the team sports that were planned to increase. He was of the view that the sports under the Sport Captain Programme were small in number and asked if there was any plan to include more sports;
 - (ii) To encourage more graduates who were currently working in society and retired persons to participate in voluntary work and exchange programme in their alma mater, he suggested that certificates should be awarded to them in recognition of their participation and contribution;
 - (iii) Regarding the proposal of arranging students to watch major international competitions, he stated that some of the events of the East Asian Games (EAG) were held at night or on holidays, and therefore teachers were unwilling to take their students to watch these events, which might be the cause for some of the student seats for these events were left vacant. He opined that the problem must be solved;
 - (iv) He supported the proposal of schools opening up their facilities for use by the community. To encourage more schools to do so, he opined that apart from the issues of insurance, security and cleansing that must be solved, the LCSD should give support to schools in respect of venue hiring and management. He also suggested enhancing publicity to let people in the community know which schools were willing to open up their facilities.
- (c) In response to Members' enquiries, Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB replied as follows:

- (i) He agreed that the qualifications of teachers were very important. At present, all kindergarten teachers must receive pre-service training on early childhood education. This kind of training programmes was offered by the tertiary institutions including the Hong Kong Institute of Education and the Hong Kong Baptist University, and it covered how to lead students in physical play. For primary and secondary schools, teachers must receive pre-service training on PE teaching before they were qualified as PE teachers. He said that the EDB offered professional development programmes annually, which included seminars, workshops and various training courses. Over 20 courses were offered to kindergarten teachers each year. The EDB also offered courses across key learning areas such as the Seminar on Active and Healthy Lifestyle held in February this year targeted at teachers of kindergartens and primary and secondary schools. He thanked Dr LO Wing-lok for introducing the study results of the CSC and Dr Regina CHING for speaking on the importance of healthy diet to the teachers. The EDB also organised two workshops in January this year to enhance kindergarten teachers' knowledge and skills in leading physical activities. The Guidelines on Physical Play issued in 1999 provided many examples for teachers' reference. The Guidelines and information on the professional development programmes for teachers were uploaded to the EDB website. He encouraged teachers to make reference to the teaching materials designed by other organisations such as the Hong Kong Council of Early Childhood Education & Services, the Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong, China, and the Physical Fitness Association of Hong Kong, China. He said that the EDB would upload information on the professional development programmes for teachers to its website in the middle of each year for teachers' reference. The EDB was actively drafting a plan for the second half year and would continue to explore ways of strengthening teachers' in-service training.
- (ii) Regarding hire of school facilities, he stated that the EDB had always encouraged public schools to open up their school facilities as far as possible for use by the community, and had taken out a block insurance policy for all public schools, which covered students and staff in case they were injured and the

liability for accidents caused by the negligence of schools. All organisations which hired schools for holding activities should arrange separate insurance for their activities. The EDB issued guidelines on the hiring of facilities and charges to schools, and uploaded the Common Questions and Answers on Block Insurance Policy to its website for reference by schools and hiring organisations. He said that the EDB would continue to co-operate with the LCSD and encourage more schools to open up their facilities.

- (d) Ms LAM Sau-ha said in response that the NSAs arranged qualified coaches to schools or venues for most of the programmes under the SSP. At present, there were 18 team sports, among which 11 were gradually promoted in schools. The LCSD would continue to discuss with the NSAs responsible for other team sports, hoping to introduce more team sports to schools and encourage students to participate in more team sport training. Besides, the LCSD would contact the NSAs for extending the scope of service of the Sport Captain Programme and invite graduates and retired athletes to be Ambassadors of the Sport Captain Programme and assist in the promotion of the aforementioned programme in schools. She said that the LCSD was currently studying the mode of award for the Ambassadors of the Sport Captain Programme with the relevant NSAs to acknowledge the contribution of the ambassadors and encourage them to continue to participate in volunteer work and exchange activities. As regards arranging students to watch major events, the LCSD was currently making such arrangement by contacting the EDB and school councils. If the events were held after school, the LCSD would assist in providing transportation depending on the needs of schools. She commented that this arrangement under the Sport Education Programme was well received by schools and students. The LCSD would continue to contact the NSAs to strive for more free tickets for schools, with a view to arousing students' interest in participating in sports.
- (e) Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB gave explanation on the existence of some vacant seats for students in the EAG events. He reported that over 120 000 educational tickets were allotted to schools. The EDB arranged staff (including teachers on secondment) to observe the attendance and behaviour of students in the venues and schools had to submit reports afterwards. From those reports it was learnt that students and teachers treasured the learning opportunity brought by the activity. Since the

locations of some of the schools were far from the competition venues, students had to leave early or were unable to arrive at the venues before the events started, thus causing the misunderstanding that some seats for educational tickets were vacant. He cited the Football Final between Hong Kong and Japan held on 12 December as an example. The Bronze and Gold Medal Matches were held at 2 pm and 5 pm respectively on that day. When schools received the tickets in November, it was impossible for them to know which teams would play in the final matches. However, since they had to arrange parent volunteers to assist in escorting and bus for transporting the students, some of them had decided to watch the Bronze Medal Match and left before the Gold Medal Match started. Thus there were vacant seats. He clarified that educational tickets were well utilised by schools and the participating students were very involved. He also shared with Members the touching moments of students leading some ten thousand people in the venue to sing the theme song of the EAG in the Women's Volleyball Final. He commented that the arrangement of the EAG was good and hoped organisers could provide more tickets of major events for students in future.

- (f) Mr Philip LI talked about the difficulty of taking out insurance. He used the Hong Kong Baseball Association as an example. Recently, the LCSD required the NSAs to take out third party insurance but the insurance companies requested a premium several times higher than before. It was known that some NSAs faced the same situation or other difficulties when taking out insurance. To avoid situations in which schools refuse to open up their facilities due to insurance issues and solve the NSAs' problems of taking out insurance, he suggested the LCSD or EDB consider taking out group insurance for schools willing to open up their facilities and for the NSAs.
- (g) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD clarified that requiring the NSAs to take out public liability insurance was a usual instead of new practice. She commented that every organisation was obliged to take out public liability insurance for its activities to safeguard the interest of all parties involved. Currently, most of the NSAs had taken out insurance. If the NSAs had difficulties in taking out insurance, the LCSD would try its best to render assistance. Regarding the taking out of insurance by schools, Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB remarked that the block insurance policy taken out by the EDB for schools covered the liability for accidents arising from hiring out of school venues while the organisations hiring the school

venues had to take out insurance for their activities. The EDB had uploaded the Common Questions and Answers on Block Insurance Policy to its website. Schools and the NSAs were welcome to refer to the information.

- (h) Mrs Stella LAU said that her school was often hired by organisations because it was close to an MTR station. She was happy to hire out the facilities of her school but emphasised that the hirers had to take out insurance exclusively for the activities organised. So far she had not met any problems. Besides, she added that schools also had the problem of shortage of venues. Most schools arranged sports activities for their students after school hours and her school had to hire venues in other schools for practice. She commented that apart from promoting sports, schools also pursued outstanding achievements. Some students were elite athletes but after school they did not have a fixed training venue. To avoid affecting the revision time of students, she suggested the Government consider building a well-equipped sports venue in an accessible location for schools in order to solve the problem of shortage of venues.
- (i) Mr TONG the Vice-chairman suggested revising the terms of reference of the Student Sports Activities Co-ordinating Sub-Committee (SSACS), including drawing up the framework and specific policy objectives of activities for students in kindergartens and from primary one to higher education institutions, as the service targets of the SSP would be extended to kindergartens.
- (j) Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB was of the view that higher education institutions in Hong Kong enjoyed autonomy and academic freedom while the University Grants Committee was concerned about whether institutions could provide education of top quality most cost-effectively. In view of this, it might not be appropriate to include sports activities for students of higher education institutions in the terms of reference of the SSACS. Besides, he opined that the second point in the terms of reference regarding policies of promotion of student sports activities had already covered the kindergarten level.
- (k) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD remarked that the terms of reference were for the SSACS of the last term. She suggested the SSACS of the new term could revise the relevant terms of reference appropriately and report

to this Committee in due course.

6.7 The Chairman thanked Members for their views. He believed that the SSACS had to continue to put effort and devise strategies to promote student sports activities and convey the views of schools and students in order to implement the intensification of the scope of the SSP to achieve the ultimate goal of “One Student, One Sport”. Since Mr YEUNG the Chairman and some Members of the SSACS of the last term had already left their posts, he suggested nominating the incumbent Chairman of the Hong Kong Subsidised Secondary Schools Council and academic affairs veteran, Mr LIU Ah-chuen to be the Convenor of the SSACS of the new term and inviting academic affairs veteran and the incumbent Chairlady of the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation, Mrs Stella LAU to be the Vice-convenor. Mr LIU and Mrs LAU both accepted the invitation. The Chairman expressed his gratitude and welcomed other Members to join the SSACS of the new term to give opinions on school affairs. Interested Members were asked to return the duly completed reply slips to the Secretariat after the meeting.

Item 6: Any Other Business

National Fitness Regulations

7.1 The Chairman said the State Council of the People’s Republic of China enacted and implemented the National Fitness Regulations (Regulations) in October 2009 with the aims of further promoting sports and physical activities for all and protecting citizens’ legitimate rights to participate in these activities. The Regulations were discussed in the previous Sports Commission meeting during which SHA requested the CSC to study the Regulations to see if it was appropriate for Hong Kong to use them as reference. He asked Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD to brief Members on the contents of the Regulations and invited Members to refer to the details of the Regulations tabled at the meeting.

7.2 Ms LOK Kit-ha of the LCSD briefed Members on the background information and provisions of the Regulations. She said that guidelines for implementing the Regulations included formulating work objectives and measures of national fitness, providing public sports facilities, promoting sports and physical activities for all, encouraging sponsorship, and encouraging enterprises and community groups to implement various types of sports and physical activities for all and designating 8 August of every year as the “National Fitness Day.” Through regular monitoring of people’s physical fitness and studies on sports and physical activities, the national fitness plan would be revised, publicity on sports and physical activities for all intensified, student sports plan formulated and public access to school sports facilities encouraged. These directions were in line with our current drive to promote sport for all. As the

Regulations were nearly implemented, the Mainland did not come up with any specific action plan yet. The LCSD would keep contact with the Mainland so as to have a detailed understanding of its specific plan on the implementation of the Regulations, which Hong Kong might use as reference.

7.3. Prof Stephen WONG remarked that the Mainland was very systematic in its implementation of national sports activities. Article 21 of the Regulations stipulated “schools shall ensure that students have sports activities for one hour a day at school”. This indicator was also internationally recognised, but it was not yet achieved in Hong Kong. Fewer young people participated in sports activities due to studies. He hoped that the one-hour indicator would be made known to them clearly.

7.4 Mr LIU Ah-chuen concurred with this direction, but he was of the view that detailed discussion should be held with the EDB as curricula were involved.

7.5 Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB said that one-hour of physical activity daily proposed by the World Health Organization included sports and daily household activities. According to the findings of our study, most of the primary students did exercise together with their parents, so parents played a crucial role. Therefore, he suggested that schools should strengthen co-operation with parents and work hand in hand with them to promote the benefits of doing exercise to students. As to the suggestion that students should have sports activities for one hour a day at school, he was of the view that Hong Kong was highly and densely populated with small room for activity in schools, so it would be difficult to implement the suggestion in the near future. Regarding the suggestion that the number of PE sessions should be increased, he said that students already had two or three PE sessions every week. Due to the constraints of school campus and facilities, it would be quite difficult to increase the number of PE sessions. He agreed with the general direction that students’ physical activities should be increased, but further studies should be conducted on its implementation.

7.6 Dr Regina CHING of the Department of Health hoped that the CSC and the SSACS would pay attention to community and family facilities as well as duties of respective individuals, families and employers, in addition to the LCSD and school facilities, in their future discussion. Besides, she agreed that an interest in sports participation should be cultivated in childhood in order to encourage public participation in sports. She said that she would join the SSACS and work hand in hand with the members to study on how to encourage active participation by parents.

7.7 Mr LAI Yiu-keung of the EDB provided figures of students taking PE Elective (Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education) under the New Senior Secondary

Curriculum in response to an enquiry made by Dr LO Wing-lok in the previous meeting. He said that the EDB had distributed questionnaires to more than 400 secondary schools in late 2009 and about 90% of schools responded. 63 schools had the subject and a total of 1 070 students took it. As the figures did not include those of the non-responding schools and schools involved in inter-school co-operation, the actual figures should be higher than the figures provided.

Date of Next Meeting

8.1 The Chairman thanked Members for attending the meeting. The next meeting would be tentatively scheduled for 23 June. He asked Members to refer to the schedule of regular meetings for 2010 tabled at the meeting and hoped that Members would reserve time to attend the meetings.

Adjournment of Meeting

9.1 The meeting was adjourned at 1 pm.

Community Sports Committee Secretariat
April 2010