

HONG KONG NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Council Meeting

7.00pm, 20 March 2018 (Tue)

Room 3-4, Olympic House

Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

<u>Attending:</u>	<u>Apologies:</u>
Angela Chan (AC) Cheng Lai Fun (FC) Christina Yue (CY) Chanelle Candy (CC) Connie Wong (CW) Danielle Taylor (DT) Emma Gregory (EG) Emma Sharrock (ES) Gloria Jung (GJ) Jennifer Dax (JD) Lorraine Pak (LP) Shannon Lee (SL) Sherryn Hancock (SH) SamL (SamL) - Kowloon	Katharine Wood(KW)
	<u>Absent:</u>

Meeting commenced at 7:05pm

MINUTES OF MATTERS DISCUSSED

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from the previous council meeting confirmed.

2. President's Report (SH)

SH would be meeting with Joint Dynamics on Wednesday 21st March to discuss continuation of sponsorship for our National Opens Team and possibility of collaboration with our U21s. SH discussed with Robin and Ronnie regarding this. SH will update the council after the meeting.

Sub-committee meeting will be held in mid of April and each sub-committee will need to send in a report of items discussed.

If anyone have any outstanding payment for the financial year 2017-18, please submit before March 31. Umpires payment for badged umpires for Hong Kong Netball League 2017-18 Season will need to be settled, hopefully by end of April. Office will need to work with Jenny Chadwick regarding badged umpires list and the number of games umpired this season.

SH is proposing to bid for the 2020 Asian Championship. The bidding will likely to occur in September at the Asian Netball Federation Council Meeting. This will hopefully give us 2 years to prepare.

Participants for the Netball WA Umpire Development tour has been confirmed. Jenny Chadwick's expenses for the tour will be fully paid for by HKNA. As for the participating umpires, they

will need to pay their own airfares and HKNA will subsidize other expenses. A maximum amount of spending will be decided to control the total HKNA contribution. CW will help with logistics in Perth.

SH is suggesting to live-stream the HK Netball League Premier Grand Final on Facebook. SL will check with HKFC if it is allowed to do so. If confirmed by HKFC, we will need to find volunteer to do it over a mobile device.

SH has been receiving enquiries regarding Junior Netball League (JNL) umpiring slots and also Umpiring Supports. Since the 2017 Fall season, AC has been using Google Sheet to find umpires for JNL. Some timeslots are reserved for umpires that are looking to get qualified. However, there are not many replies, especially for the Spring 2018 season as JNL for this season is on Sundays. In addition, we are lacking Umpiring Supports on Sundays. Umpiring Supports needs to be trained and most of them are B Badged umpires. Unfortunately, there is not much time left in Spring Season to train Umpiring Supports as Semi-finals and Finals are coming up. With the different availability between Saturdays and Sundays issue mentioned, therefore less timeslots were given for people looking to get qualified.

Umpiring Supports are paid \$150 for each umpire which totals up to \$300 (if supporting both umpires) per game supervised. AC noted that the google sheets link were put up on social media and also out to affiliated clubs but is not directly sent to the participants of umpiring course. Participants are only told during the course that our Facebook page will include all the details on JNL and the umpiring timeslot. Moving forward, AC will need to liaise with HKNA Office after umpiring courses in order to liaise with new umpires signing up for practical sessions at JNL.

SH noted that she has been receiving complaints about laziness of umpires in both JNL and Monday league. CW suggested that we could look into penalties for umpires that passed the practical but did not do their umpiring job properly thereafter. EG will discuss with Jenny Chadwick about this issue and see if we can have umpiring penalties included in the League By-laws. The penalties could include suspension/demotion of umpires.

MyNetball subscription will expire in the end of March. Discussion has been made whether to continue the subscription or not

- SH: The Mynetball is not only a database but it is a sports management system. Everything related to the league can be automatically generated there (i.e. fixtures, standings, etc). Currently, Jenny Chadwick is using the umpiring database. The current usage is unsatisfactory as not all clubs and teams are registered on it that we could not fully implement the system in our league. SH ran a training on MyNetball before the 2017-18 League Season starts but not much response was received. SH is happy to manage it as she is familiar, but she did not put effort on it since a few months ago as conversation leading to cancellation of subscription has been going on. SH suggest giving it another year but must fully utilize the features. This extension of 12 months would be a trial to see if the system is suitable for our organization. Meanwhile, we can explore what other options are there.
- ES: have used the MyNetball system for the Mixed League 2017 and finds it really useful as most of the things are automated.
- LP: The MyNetball system is not user friendly and the office has constantly receiving emails on problem with the system which we cannot really solve by ourselves. LP noted that nothing is currently running on that platform. As discussion on the subscription will only happen today, LP have not checked to quotes for other system options and will follow up on it. LP will look into what the Hong Kong Baseball Association is using and meet up with the service provider to discuss further.
- DT: noted that we definitely need the database
- CC: As mentioned from previous meeting, there are no penalties for not using the system which is why people ignores it and we could not fully benefit from the features. CC has previously

downloaded information from MyNetball and she thinks it is okay. CC suggested to download all the data down and not make a subscription decision now. Instead, find out all the different things that needs to be covered by the system and compare how MyNetball and local option can help with our needs. SH to ensure that all information in the system could be downloaded

- CY: suggested that other than from affiliated clubs' perspective in using the system, we also need to consider what the HKNA Office actually required from the system as well.
- CW&AC: Both CW and AC have not used the MyNetball system and also the website generated by the system in administrator point of view so don't really understand what the actual advantages of the system. If we are to continue using the MyNetball system / HKNA Web-hosting, CW suggested to use the off-season period to put necessary data in. If we are to use a new system by a local service provider and web-hosting, we can look to outsource the system management effort as well. As currently SH is the only easily-reachable contact person if there is any problem with the MyNetball system. Using the local system would allow us to have a direct contact person with service provider and should in theory be reachable any time. This could also reduce SH's workload and also give more timely response to enquiries.
- JD: After downloading all the information as suggested by CC, we should go back to MyNetball saying we are still evaluating our association's system and will get back to them later, probably around May.

Discussion regarding this will be continued in April subcommittee meeting and decision to be made by end of April. SH will ask MyNetball to temporarily extend the membership for another 2 months while we are still discussing, so that we will not need to reset the whole system if we decided to continue. LP will look into the local system provider and write up a proposal for the council to consider.

CY reminded that we need to look into our Players Pathway submitted and Agreed by LCSD, especially on the number of players that went through the LCSD funded programs (YATS, Regional U14s & U16s, U21s and Opens). As CW voiced at last meeting about players leaving Hong Kong after the tours/training, we need to make decisions during selections carefully. Continuity should be taken into consideration at selections. Therefore, we need to be mindful for the upcoming programs selections.

3. Treasurer Report (SH)

No treasurer report at the moment.

We are still looking to hire part-time book keeper which will need to be sorted out soon as AGM is coming. SH will further discuss on this with CY.

4. Office Manager's Report (LP)

As agreed with LCSD for funding, the Hong Kong-Singapore Cup has to be ran as a separate event from the Four Nations. LP has discussed with Robin and came up with the period of 7-9 December 2018 as the best option. Venues for this period is much more likely compared to other periods. However, Robin requested that premier division to not play in the week before and after the event. LP suggested for this competition to be held during the wet weather week. EG noted that this is possible as there are less public holidays on Monday for the coming season compared to this year. However, it cannot be decided until the league dates for season 2018-19 are confirmed.

Regarding the results of the LCSD Mid-year Assessment, LCSD staff has expressed to LP about means of achieving better results under the International Competition aspect, that it would not be necessary to host INF ranking matches. DT thinks that it is better if it is a ranking game. However, ranking game will require extra expenses (for INF appointed umpires). And if it is not a INF ranking

games, we could use local umpires, and this would be a good for development. CW noted that we can look into umpiring development opportunity but is also concerned if this would against the rule to have umpires badged if it is a ranking game. EG mentioned that some umpires are previously badged in ranking games such as Asian Championship.

Kowloon park is an unlikely venue for this. Other options are:

- Shek Kip Mei Park: a good venue as there is spectator stands but it is comparatively not easy access as it is quite far from MTR station
- Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park: LP talked to LCSD and will request the side with the spectator stand. If this is not given to us, this venue is impossible as there are no spaces at all for spectators.
- Wong Chuk Hang: This venue is close to the MTR station and it also has spectator stand.
- CIS or Kellet School Indoors: there are no seatings for spectators
- HKIS: it is hard to get to and will need to make netball markings.

From the discussion, Wong Chuk Hang, Shek Kip Mei and Sun Yat Sen is preferred. LP has already requested these venues to LCSD. She will follow up and hoping to have the venues confirmed in a week or two

LCSD Subvention Agreement is still pending, so no confirmation on anything yet.

A new NSAs assessment has been conducted and we score very low. We finished last 4 which is far down compared to the previous years. This is due to the new assessment criteria which we only know after the assessment result. LP noted the following things:

- We scored really low for assessment on achievement in major/international games. Despite the different achievement for us, their assessment criteria are very strict that we need to finish top third of participating teams in order to score a point.
- We also scored low for training of technical officials, which are our umpires. We mentioned that we will have 140 umpires to attend the course. However, only 114 registered.
- They suggested that for us to score higher on some items, HKNA need to host more events. HKNA should invite teams to come and as long as our National teams win, the assessment result can improve. It is worth nothing that these games do not need to be a INF ranking game. LP to check if this applies to all of our national teams or just certain age group. Additionally, this will be discussed with the national coaches. LP will email executive council and coaches about this.

Joint University Netball Tournament is well underway. With EG's help, all umpires up to finals had been arranged.

The 2018-19 Financial Speech, it is mentioned that the Government will look into the possibility of Olympic House Redevelopment after the completion of Kai Tak Sports Park, which is scheduled to be in year 2023. A questionnaire is to be completed by end of next week regarding the office space expectation.

5. Coaching and Development Report (CW)

CW, Not much update since last meeting:

- 14s Academy Squad is selected
- Men's league dates are confirmed. The registration fee received will be used to contribute to the Men's program. There is no confirmation yet on whether Asian Men's Netball Championship will be held in 2018.

AC (Administrative Assistant - Development): AC is a new full-time staff in the HKNA office with the main duties of local promotion and JNL convener.

AC and CW came up with a proposal to utilize the government "Opening up Schools Facilities for Promotion of Sports Development Scheme". AC has discussed with Sha Tin Tsung Tsin Secondary School (STTSS) and would like to use their netball court for a beginners netball training course. The target participants are new learners to netball, especially those participated in HKNA's school promotion sessions and is interested to continue playing netball, who are around 12 to 18 years old. The reason why this program is designed is that CW and AC realized that students in promotion sessions are interested in netball but they don't have access to continuation to netball.

The cost of hiring the netball court will cost \$190 per hour. As this program will run over 8 weeks, the total cost will be around \$4500. Coaching will be done by AC and CW, so that there will be no extra cost on coaching. AC is considering to charge \$150 per participant. This is the same fee as YATS program. STTSS netball court is outdoor, so if there are rain, the program end date will be extended. AC will check with STTSS if they can get refund if courts are cancelled due to rain and extension are not possible. The beginner program will have 8 sessions, 3 hours each. This program will be cancelled if there are under 20 participants. However, AC noted that this amount is possible as there are currently many school promotion going on in the Sha Tin area. The program's cost and income will break even if we have 30 participants. If only 20 participants signed up, HKNA will need to subsidize the court hiring cost. This program is supported by the Council as we think it is a great chance to expand netball coverage to the area. HKNA will try this program as a pilot program and see how we can improve.

6. League & Umpiring (EG & JD)

Ladies League 2017-18

No issues on semi-final games. There is extra time for one of the games, but luckily it is in HKFC which is relatively more flexible on court usage. CY suggested that we need to make sure that teams knows about the extra time procedure, especially teams playing in LCSD courts as there will be not enough time for extra time. For this situation, the match winner will be decided through a golden goal. This will be specifically mentioned in our bylaws which will be updated in May.

JD received 1 protest regarding one specific game. This is resolved on Saturday morning before the Semis.

Finals is scheduled to be on Saturday 24th March for Division 3 and above, Monday 26th March for Division 4 and below. JD has sent out email to Council Members asking to cover desk duties. The Executive Council will be presenting the awards on Saturday. As umpires usually find it difficult to decide, the MVP selection will be done by Executive Council on the day and a small trophy will be given to the Player of the Match right after the game.

Umpiring

EG and Jenny Chadwick are still organizing the umpires for both days of Grand Final, and also panels for badging umpires. Some umpires have already been badged during the semi-final / earlier weeks. CY is working with Champion System for badged umpires outfit and is hoping to get it done before AGM.

Ladies League 2018-19

LP noted that no venues confirmed yet for next season, office will check and help with bookings. Hopefully this will be confirmed before AGM in June. JD has received mixed feedback regarding the competition system of having divisions shuffled after the first half. Club representatives on the Council should go back to their clubs and ask for feedback whether teams want this to be continued or not.

Some teams may initially think that first half is not competitive. However, as there is actually a winner for the first half, so we hope that it is still an incentive to compete. Teams might not be aware of the first half season winner as it is only decided midway through the league. We are expecting a better and more competitive divisions next year if teams are expecting this.

Mixed League 2018

ES has planned the Mixed League dates and is trying to have it finish before July. Last year, the Mixed League is not as satisfying because a lot of games are rained off. Therefore, this year, wet weather weeks would be scheduled. The Mixed League will start on 16 April and finals to be scheduled on 25th June. All Aberdeen (Wong Chuk Hang) courts are confirmed until the end of June. As Hong Kong Park is reserved for July this would be used as backup where necessary. The competition system will be similar as last year. There will be 40 teams which will be randomly split into pools for round one. There will be 5 Divisions after the pool games. CY will confirm tomorrow if 2XU would agree to be title sponsor of the event. Team fee will be \$500 per team, \$300 as Team Deposit, and \$170 per person as individual player fee. LP mentioned that LCSD is requesting us to increase the team fee. This will be checked by SH and confirmed with ES as soon as possible. As the MyNetball system is still under consideration, this year's mixed league registration will be done through excel form to be filled and submitted to HKNA. LP will need to help ES book room for captain's meeting which initially scheduled to be on 9th April. CC suggested that HKNA can approach OVOLO, the hotel just situated beside Aberdeen courts. CY noted that for next year, Mixed League can be discussed earlier so that CY can explore sponsorship possibility, similar to netball kit sponsoring from Champion System for the Netball Festival last year.

A.O.B.

End of Season Event

CC noted that there is a minimum requirement of 50 people, but currently there are only 39 confirmed. DT believes that there will be more people signing up. However, CC was needed to confirm the numbers with HKFC by Friday 16th March. CC would now say 50 people and update HKFC if there is a significant increase in attendees. The office has sent email to all members about the event and the RSVP link for signing up. Some people might expect they could sign-up and pay at the door, but this will need to be more expensive compared to reserving in advance. Sponsors, Executive Council, HKNA Life Member and Office Staff and 3 umpires from Premier Final will be paid by HKNA. SH will make a speech at 830 to welcome guests and this will officially commence the event. Additionally, trophies for first half winners will also be given out during the event.

Beach5s

Beach5s is a huge success with everything running smoothly. CC mentioned that HKNA had done a lot comparing to the Rugby Union. SH expressed that we have been doing this in the past so as to make sure that the event is ran properly as our name is associated with the event. CC suggested that for next year, we should see if we can get more help on administration. CC thinks that this event is not too beneficial for HKNA in terms of recruiting new players if accounting for the amount of work done for the event.

Bench Officials Pathway

LP suggested that HKNA would fund some Bench Officials to get experience and exposure at the upcoming World Championship in Liverpool in 2019. SH thinks that this is a good opportunity to train up people as currently LP is the only trainer. SH suggested to send the Bench Officials to the upcoming Asian Championship in Singapore first before the World Championship. LP have two candidates in mind which are Crystal Yeung and Shirley Sin, who have been Bench Officials for the

past few years for Tri-Nations/Four Nations held in Hong Kong. This proposal is approved by the Council. LP to contact candidates for their availability for the events.

AGM details will be discussed in May.

HKFC Umpiring

SL forwarded a message from HKFC regarding umpiring that HKFC new umpires find it hard to lock in a slot for umpiring support at JNL. HKFC is asking what would be done in the coming season. EG noted that umpires are not taking the opportunity as umpiring support slots has been available for the first few weeks at JNL but not much response by then. In view of securing umpires for the matches, we could not leave the slots open until last minute as it would be difficult to find umpires in a tight period in view of their travel times.

CW suggested that for next year, we can allocate a certain percentage for different clubs that plays in the Monday League for a limited time. If these slots are not taken, it will be open further. CW also noted that some eligible Umpiring Supports might not be informed of they are needed to help with JNL practical. EG will make a list of eligible supports for April sub-group meeting, which will also be attended by AC and Jenny Chadwick. We will need to consider holding workshops for training up more Umpires Support.

Coaching Courses

HKFC also enquired about Coaching Courses – CW had expressed that No coaching courses are scheduled at the moment. DT had expressed that Robin Manihera was busy and not be able to help running courses. CW will explore the possibility on setting up Development Coaching courses in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 9.21 pm.

Prepared by



Approved by


