

# HONG KONG NETBALL ASSOCIATION

## Council Meeting

7.00pm, 29 May 2018 (Tue)

Room 1-2, Olympic House

Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

<u>Attending:</u>	<u>Apologies:</u>
Cheng Lai Fun (FC) Christina Yue (CY) Emma Gregory (EG) Shannon Lee (SL) Sherryn Hancock (SH) Sophie Li - HKU (SLi) Louise Moon – Kowloon (LM) Georgie Boost – Valley (GB)	Chanelle Candy (CC) Danielle Taylor (DT) Emma Sharrock (ES) Gloria Jung (GJ) Jennifer Dax (JD) Katharine Wood (KW) Lorraine Pak (LP)
	<u>Absent:</u>

Meeting commenced at 7.17pm

### MINUTES OF MATTERS DISCUSSED

#### 1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from the previous council meeting confirmed.

#### 2. President's Report (SH)

External audit started on May 29 and will be ready for AGM. Financial records are ready, but no reports can be shown yet.

Internal audit will be conducted in July. This is done every 4 years by LCSD. It is mainly checking and following up on procedures and records. Some examples of items to be checked are timesheets, financial records, scoresheets, etc. A lot of preparation has been done so this audit should be much better compared to the one 4 years ago.

LCSD funds events/programs to a percentage that they will subsidize eligible expenses up to a limit. This limit is defined through the category of the event/programs. The remaining spending will be covered by HKNA. HKNA source of funds includes sponsorship, membership fee, courses, etc. As more and more events/programs are in line, HKNA will need to find new ways to earn money. If clubs have any idea to help HKNA earn money, please let HKNA know.

In addition, on finding new ways to earn money. HKNA will also need to think of ways to give more value to the lower division teams as they actually pay the same fee as everyone else in the league. One example could be having lower division games in the indoor courts too. EG noted that more teams need to play outdoor in the second half of the season due to LCSD recalling some of the courts for other purposes. CY and SH mentioned that we need to show LCSD commitment and improvement so that they will give us more. However, we need to keep in mind that to get more funding, we need better rankings, and in order to get better ranking we need to invest more to strengthen our ability.

Representatives present in the meeting today should share discussions and information back to their clubs. SH will also mention about sources of funding in AGM.

### **3. Treasurer Report (CY)**

CY noted that we have submitted all records and accounts to our auditor. The audit report should be ready before the AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> June. We foresee that reports will be similar to last year with better financial standing due to various sources of funding.

### **4. Office Manager's Report**

Festival of Sports: FOS were held successfully over the two days. The venue for opens was fine. A suggestion for next time is that HKNA can be more proactive and advertise the venue by posting information on social media about how to get there. CY noted that there is such information on HKNA website, but not many people are aware of it and some information may not be updated. Another feedback received is that 8AM games are a bit too harsh for the U13s. For next year, it is suggested to give the earliest timeslot for other age group or men's.

A/B/C Grade tournament: GB inquired why there are only 4 teams in each grade tournament. EG answered that lesser teams joined because it is in the weekend that teachers are not able to go with the teams.

Development tournament: FC noticed that there are a lot of new faces in the development tournament. This shows that our promotion to the local grassroots school is successful. CY noted that the schools either approaches HKNA on their own or we proactively reach out to schools. Schools that approached HKNA includes schools with teachers of netball backgrounds and also schools that have previously played netball. HKNA proactively reached out to schools by pulling out data from Educational Department to look for suitable schools, for example, schools with most of their student going to a secondary school with netball.

### **5. Coaching and Development Report**

U14s has successfully ended on 26<sup>th</sup> May.

MOU with Netball Australia and Netball Western Australia to help on umpires' development. Previously, we looked for help from Singapore but not much response was given. The longer-term aim is to get umpires in the international level. The short-term aim on development is to give out more B badges and to potentially give out A badges in Hong Kong. HKNA will be sending 2 umpires and 2 mentors to Perth from 29 June to 9 July to participate in a workshop and explore on the possibility of development. The MOU can also be extended to cover coaching pathway, but more focus is now on the umpires' development.

Foundation coaching course is full. GB noted that a lot of coaches have their foundation coaching accreditation has expired. Hence, they could not register for the development coaching course. SH asked club representative to pass back the message to their clubs that interested people should still register and if there are a lot of applicants, HKNA will consider opening another Foundation coaching course.

## **6. League & Umpiring (EG)**

### **Ladies League 2017-18**

Please refer to the consolidated feedback file. Most feedback received are positive. The competition system is competitive. In the beginning, people are worried that their teams will lose in the second half due to being promoted and to play against originally higher division teams. However, this were proven wrong as some teams that were promoted also won the grand final.

Some clubs raised concern over the umpiring level. The council noted that umpiring supports were available in every venue, but umpires should have asked Jenny Chadwick earlier so that Jenny can specifically arrange. Before the start of next season, EG and Jenny will look into the umpiring list and see whether it is possible to upgrade umpires so that they will not need to worry on not having umpires in the team for second half of the season.

### **Umpiring**

SH and EG received verbal complaints on mixed league. It is noticed that some umpires do not know how to control a game. SH has previously watched a Division 1 game and had to pull off a male player due to intentional physical contacts. SH suggested to have workshops to teach umpires on what to do to control a game and also to remind them how to give our warnings and cautions. EG mentioned that umpires know the rule, but in general, they are too scared and do not have the confidence. For finals, SH suggested to have no umpires umpiring for their own division's game. EG rebutted that it is hard to do so as teams will need to pay for this and good umpires are mostly playing. Additionally, it is now too late as semi-final is next week. Another suggestion for next season is to have umpiring for mixed league be in line with ladies' league umpiring list.

As a follow up from our previous meeting, EG will look into the possibility of making umpiring-warning/black-list procedure. The aim is to penalize umpires that have the ability to do the job but does not. Different views regarding this as it will be hard to execute. EG will discuss with Jenny, Khan, Tracy during the umpiring development tour.

### **Ladies League 2018-19**

Valley suggested to use mixed venues for divisions to help with umpiring. However, EG noted that this is not possible due to the complaints received last year. Valley also suggested to have a bonus point system that will be carried forward to the second half. The council disagree with this but will continue the small trophy award for next season with earlier announcement. A small trophy for the first half season winner is a good idea as it encourages the team to perform well in the first half.

In general, clubs and teams are okay with the new competition system. Hence, it will be continued for next season. Dates for the next season will be announced in AGM.

JD and EG proposed changes to HKNA Ladies League By-Laws. Please refer to "Proposed changes to HKNA Ladies League By-Laws for 2018". This will be review and confirmed on a later date.

### **Mixed League 2018**

There was a lot of issues with players playing for more than one team. For next year, will need to reinforce that players are only allowed to play for one team.

Players have different perspective about mixed league that some play socially, some play competitively. This causes first round to be very difficult for the teams due to difference in ability and experience. Some suggested to have different pool for those who want to play socially and those plating competitively. However, it is hard to group teams based on ability in the first round as teams changes every year. Will possibly try to do so next season by going through the experience list.

### AGM

AGM is scheduled to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018 in Olympic House 2F Theatre Hall. Clubs representative to remind their club teams to send 2 players each to attend the AGM.

Due to unsatisfactory attendance by club representative resulting in poor communication, SH will mention in AGM that representative of clubs in the council should be able to come to at least 80% of the games. SH will also briefly mention job descriptions for nominated members to think about. Detailed explanation will be given on August where SH will hold an orientation for council members.

### A.O.B.

#### **Bid for Asian Championship 2020**

LP suggested that we bid for Asian Championship 2020. SH and CY agreed to have another meeting to do proper budgeting to make sure that we can afford to hold a proper tournament as only 70% of the expenses are subsidized by LCSD. This championship will not be a world cup qualifier, so the dates are flexible.

#### **Netball festival 2018**

Netball Festival 2018 is scheduled to be on 15 to 16 September in Aberdeen Outdoor Sports Ground. We have secured some sponsors and is still working on some other sponsorship opportunity. FC and CY have previously drafted a sponsorship guideline which is now used to approach sponsors. Will also talk to restaurants or vendors around to make sure they are open and see if can get some deals.

For Saturday, it is proposed to have the Netfest from 12 to 8pm. We will need to provide overnight security so the later it ends, the better it is. However, Saturday morning will be wasted, so EG suggested to see if it is possible to have Family Fun period with some performance. For Sunday, will start earlier to allow us to finish early and have enough time to pack.

HKNA will be collecting old netball shoes and kits during the Netfest. These old shoes and kits donation will be sent over to South Africa.

#### **Membership with 2XU and Escapade**

CY has previously discussed with 2XU and Escapade to see if it is possible to set up a collaboration where HKNA members can enjoy discounts in the two mentioned stores. FC and CY will follow up and hoping to have it ready for AGM.

**Meeting adjourned at 9.52 pm.**

**Prepared by**



CHENG LAI FUN

**Approved by**

