

HONG KONG NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Council Meeting

7.00pm, 18 September 2018 (Tue)

Room 1-2, Olympic House

Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

<u>Attending:</u>	<u>Apologies:</u>
Christina Yue (CY) Danielle Taylor (DT) Emma Gregory (EG) Lorraine Pak (LP) Megan Prideaux (MP) Olivia Burgess (OB) Sophie Li (SLi) Sherryn Hancock (SH) Helen Mutter (HM) for Katharine Wood Michelle Davies (MD) Bethan Howell (BH) for Anna Wilson Ursula Holloway (UH) Gessy Li (GL) for Cheng Lai Fun	Katharine Wood (KW) Renee Howie (RH) Anna Wilson (AW) Cheng Lai Fun (FC)
	<u>Absent:</u>

Meeting commenced at 7:16pm

SH welcomed council members introduced to council members the scope of work of HKNA, including the coaching development, various competitions including the Ladies' League, Junior league, Mixed League and Men's league, Joint-U tournament etc., umpiring development – in junior league and supervisors watching umpires in ladies' league. CY supplemented that there was also grassroots school program, partly subsidized by LCSD and from membership fee from JNL. SH mentioned that the government is focused on results in order to increase funding, so as to lessen the burden on relying on the various leagues. It was also brought to attention that most tournaments organized by HKNA is majorly subsidized by the government, but HKNA had to contribute 10-30% of the cost. Therefore, it was necessary to leverage membership fee to cover costs. Council members were to deliver the message into clubs and any questions are welcomed.

MINUTES OF MATTERS DISCUSSED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from the previous council meeting confirmed and approved.

2. President's Report (SH)

Financials

No updates as the report was not ready yet. SH will send the report out via email once it is ready.

Asian Championships

It was an extremely good competition in which Hong Kong beat Singapore for the first time since 1993. HK came very close in the last few years but had not manage to defeat Singapore. Hong Kong lost to Malaysia and Sri Lanka but results were encouraging as Hong Kong kept Sri Lanka at its

lowest score with 9 point gap, which was the lowest among the rest of the teams. The team unfortunately had two players down, Mandy Tai and Kalani Brown during the tournament, both with ACL injury. Mandy was injured during practice while Kalani was injured during the game against Malaysia. With only 10 players sharing the court time, fatigue kicked in sooner towards the end of the tournament. DT also expressed that it was a pity that both players were in the starting line-up and in the defensive end. SH added that there were a lot of highlights during the tournament, for example Krystle Edwards playing defense as she usually plays shooter. CY provided an update on the injury. Mandy followed up with the MRI scan from ER and would visit the specialist the day after. She will have more updates after visiting the specialist and would schedule the surgery. Kalani was more mobile and she is away on holiday. Sports injury was covered under the sports insurance but LP reported that the insurance company did ask if ACL injuries was common. In terms of media coverage, snippets of the games were broadcasted on HKNA's Instagram live story. The team also made the INF webpage, with Rebecca Miller's intercept against the Sri Lankan shooter. Since INF's website had a web traffic of 20million people, it gave the HK team great publicity. DT raised up putting a note to Singapore's commentator, as he repetitively mentioned our team's age and it was inappropriate. SH clarified that the commentator had done it as a compliment as he was impressed that women at our team player's age still played at an international level but CY mentioned that the commentary did affect the confidence of our team players.

NETFESTHK

SH gave brief background information that NetFest is one of the biggest netball event in Hong Kong and was first held last year with the government's support to celebrate the 20th anniversary handover. NetFest 2018 was successfully held on the 15th September despite the hot weather and players still enjoyed themselves. The second day of the event had to be postponed to 29th September due to the typhoon. Clubs to take note that entries had been re-opened for juniors, ladies and mixed fast 5. SH and DT showed great appreciation towards Connie, Lorraine and Christina for hosting the event and that it was ran with great efficiency. CY shared that over \$5000 donations were received on the day of event. It was proposed that merchandise could be used to raise money for national teams. Merchandise included the dresses and netball key-rings, exercise bands, towels etc. It was noted that cash could only be accepted in the form of donation and no change would be given. Prior notice would be given for girls and parents to prepare money for donation. EG raised that previous issue with money donation was to have someone in charge of looking after the money.

Ladies' League

Appreciation was shown towards Emma Gregory and Jenny Chadwick for organizing umpires. SH mentioned that when Monday's draw was released, they had not realized that it was Mid-Autumn Festival and that players would have to spend time with their family. SH apologized in advance for any inconvenience caused and asked for teams to try their best to accommodate if teams needed to reschedule matches. Courts availability was limited this year as SYSMP and WCH would be under renovation. There would be free courts on 15th Oct, it would be possible for games to be rescheduled on that day.

Clubs were reminded of the Captain's meeting held at 7:30pm the following day.

Upcoming events:

HK-SGP cup: 7th & 8th December at SYSMP

An Australian umpire would be brought over to look at badging of umpires and to run an elite umpiring course on 9th Dec. LP explained that the court would be remade to arrange seating around the court. Teams would stay at the Island Pacific Hotel. 70% of the event cost would be funded by the government, while HKNA would cover 30% of the cost. Clarifications would have to be made regarding whether the government would fund 90% of expenditure when the HK-SGP cup is held in SGP.

Four Nations

Four Nations would be held in February. Participating Countries include Botswana (22), Malaysia (25) and Gibraltar (31). It is hoped that HK (27) would be able to improve its ranking through the tournament. Rankings of the participating teams were close and if HK win a higher-ranking team, HK's ranking could be improved. [() * denotes current INF Ranking]

3. Treasurer Report (CY)

There is no update as we finished the audit report last time and still have not got time to update and go through the entries. CY and SH hoping to be able to update the council by next meeting.

4. Office & Events Manager's Report

Report Attached.

Asian Netball Championship

Crystal Yeung and Shirley Sin were sent to Singapore to act as bench officials for ANC. Both had experience from being bench officials in Four Nations and Tri-Nations for several years. They were the only bench officials not from Singapore and worked from preliminary rounds to finals. It was a great exposure for the girls and helped them gain experience for up-coming tournaments. Positive comments were received from Netball Singapore. Crystal was evaluated as a great bench manager and official, while Shirley had to work on her timing more. Shirley was a great scorer and hence did not have much chances working as a timer in HK. In Singapore, they were able to rotate among all the positions. The two girls would continue to help out as bench officials in future netball events.

Annual Plan

Inputs on annual plan are welcomed, deadline on 30th Sept. Hantang Netball Club is the first ever community sports club under LCSD scheme. HKNA would take in any other clubs that qualify. Requirements include having a constitution and a society's registration. The year 2018-2019 is for monitoring the setup of the club, and in 2019-2020, programs would be subvented by CSC scheme. Programs for local communities would be incorporated into the Annual plan.

Upcoming Tournaments include:

- HKNA Inter-school tournament – A, B, C grade
- Joint -U
- Festival of Sports – end of April/early May, 19th/26th May

SH recommended to participate in the opening ceremony where HKNA could set up a booth to introduce netball. It was uncertain if HKNA would be invited to participate.

5. Head of Netball Development Report

No report received.

6. League & Umpiring (EG)

DT clarified that the two seasons of the League would be noted as Season 1 and Season 2. Entries were received last Tuesday. EG and UH spent 5 hours discussing and contacting clubs. EG emphasized that the Premier League would not take place until Season 2. Therefore, if teams are put into Div. 3, they may end up in Div. 4 after the start of the Premier league. Teams were moved down as they could not confirm division. The importance of the team registration form was stressed as the team's ability was graded based on the forms. Clubs were reminded to be as specific as possible about playing history. For

example, if players have played in elite basketball etc. Teams that won the division the previous year would have to have at least 5 or more players from the same team to be able to move up the division. The mechanism of reshuffling teams in the Season 2 was to cater any teams that were misplaced in Season 1.

CY raised the issue of Form C on behalf of FC. Form C was to be made online, to combine with opt in option on promotional materials from sponsors such as 2XU and escapade, as well as players' disclaimer. The form should be completed before the first playing date.

Umpiring

For Div. 1 games, umpires are named rather than forcing teams to find umpires that are not qualified. Teams would still pay the respective umpire as it was unfair to the umpires as they could have umpired another game where they would have been paid. Should teams have any questions they should approach Jenny Chadwick or EG.

Teams were not required to put in a named umpire as it would deter some teams from registering. Spectators' and teams' attitude towards umpire was brought to awareness and clubs were reminded to respect umpires as the poor attitude towards umpire caused some umpires being unwilling to umpire.

U21

The U21 team had started training in June and their head coach Veronica Arnold had wanted them to be able to play in the league to gain more exposure. However, it was found logistically difficult to involve them in the league as players already play for different clubs. The U21 team could potentially play teams with a bye in Season 2 as there will be an odd number of teams in divisions. Asian Youth Netball Championships would be held next year in June and is the World Cup qualifier, it would be good if the U21 team could have more exposure to competitive games. However, it is also aware that the teams are very competitive in the premier league and the arrangement would try to affect clubs as least as possible.

Umpiring courses

There were no updates. Two courses were ran in August and September. 40 enrollments were received, a few were put on waitlist. There was 1-2 no shows and they were banned from enrolling in courses for the rest of the year. Next umpiring course would likely be in January. Umpires were encouraged to make themselves available to supervise new umpires during JNL.

8. A.O.B.

Positions

Positions were allocated as follows:

Elite Coaching – Danielle Taylor

Umpiring & League – Emma Gregory

Grassroots Programme – Christina Yue

Mixed League – Anna Wilson

Events and Operations – Lorraine Pak

Special Event – Megan Prideaux

Player Development – Olivia Burgess

Operations and IT – Rene Howie

Sponsorship – Sophie Li
Marketing and Media – Katharine Wood
League Convener – Ursula Holloway
Coaching- VANCANT

Next month's meeting would be broken off into sub-groups to come up with define goals and plans.

Mixed League

It was raised that Mixed League should start on either 29th April or 6th May, as 13th May is a public holiday. The reason for Mixed league to finish early (by the start of July) is due to the higher likelihood for teams to forfeit if it overlaps with summer holidays. Since a few public holidays fall on a Monday, EG proposed organising Mixed league on other days of the week as there would be less public holidays. There would also be regular bookings at WCH as Valley trains there regularly.

Sponsorship

DT raised that other than Joint Dynamics working with the HK Opens team, Stride has been providing S&C training once a month for the U21 team since the last Friday of August. U21 is currently composed of a squad of 20 players. A media plan of Facebook and Instagram posts would be formulated to give back to Stride. Joint Dynamics would be informed beforehand as a courtesy.

It was raised whether Joint Dynamics is still considered our sponsor since HKNA had to pay them. SH provided background information about the situation. Joint Dynamics had done a wonderful job with the HK team for the past 2 years. However, it came out of the blue 3 months ago that they requested HKNA to contribute \$500/session to cover the venue cost. Despite wanting to use the government's subsidy as much as possible, the cost could not be paid by LCSD and was therefore was paid through membership fee. Nonetheless, Mitch, the S&C trainer has vested interest in the national team and it could be well recognized that the team has become stronger in ANC. CY supplemented that JD had been very generous and had offered 2 sessions per week of training. This year, they had opened a new branch in Quarry Bay and it would have been a big financial hit. However, now that HKNA is paying, DT mentioned if JD should still be noted as HKNA's "primary sponsor". CY agreed that since they have asked for payment, it would be better to draw a clear line. A sponsorship package with different labels would be formulated. Other sponsors include affiliates, cash sponsorship. The government also has a matching fund. When there is a \$50,000 cash sponsorship, the government would provide HKNA with the same amount as incentive.

HK team survey


An anonymous survey would be sent out to HK team members to collect their feedback from the Asian Netball Championship tour to Singapore. Doing it on paper was preferred but there were concerns whether it would be anonymous. It was therefore agreed that the survey could be done via Survey Monkey, DT/SH to follow up.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Prepared by



Checked by



Approved by

