

**HONG KONG NETBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**7.30pm, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019**  
**Lecture Theatre, 2/F Olympic House,**  
**So Kon Po,**  
**Causeway Bay, Hong Kong**

Meeting commenced at 19.33 pm

Sherryn Hancock (SH), President of the Association welcomed members and declared a quorum was present in accordance with Article 64 of the Memorandum and Articles. We are not printing any documents, and documents will be available online accessible via a QR code. SH introduced the members of executive committee and noted that Emma Gregory, one of the executive committee members, is not present. Accordingly, the meeting was commenced.

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19th June 2018 has been provided with the AGM notice, posted on the website and available via the QR code.

Proposer: Rachel Bryant (Valley)

Secunder: Jenny Buck (DB)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

2. The report of the President, Sherryn Hancock was presented.

SH drew attention to some key highlights from a very busy year:

- Asian Netball Championship Singapore 2018: Hong Kong have some outstanding result in this championship. We defeated Singapore in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round pool games, which is the first time in a long while. Also, resulted with the lowest deficit among all games of the tournament against Sri Lanka, the Champion. Hong Kong finished 4<sup>th</sup> after being defeated by Malaysia in the 3<sup>rd</sup> placing game.
- Four Nations Tournament Hong Kong 2019: The participating teams were Gibraltar, Malaysia and Thailand. We were actually aiming for to have 2 international team outside Asia to participate in the tournament, but Botswana pulled out.
- Hong Kong-Singapore Cup 2018: This was a non-raking game, but a valuable experience for Hong Kong. We were honoured that Tang Kwan Yee and Khan Murray received their

- A-badges during the event. Now, both umpires are ITID (International Talent Identified Umpires) who will be umpiring across Asia and possibly international games.
- 2018 Men's Netball Tri Nations: Hong Kong won silver medal in the competition held in Singapore.
  - U21s: Our U21s team will be playing in Asian Youth Netball Championship 2019 soon in Japan. This championship will be a youth world cup qualified with top 3 teams going to Fiji in 2021. The team has been to 2 training camps in Singapore and Perth.
  - U14s: We have the highest number of trialist for the U14s program since the beginning of the program, which is fantastic to see as it signifies the growth of netball in Hong Kong.
  - U16s: 2 teams went to Singapore for the U16s training tour.
  - We will be nominating Veronica Arnold (VA) as the president of Asian Netball Federation for another 2 years. SH noted on VA's great work for netball in Asia.
  - SH thanked our sponsors and partners. HKNA will not be able to achieve this much this year without them.
  - As mentioned, we are proud to have 2 umpires badged A during the HK-SG Cup in 2018, and recently, Regina Wong received her A-Badge in Perth. We also have massive amount of badging this year with 1 B-Badge and 13 C-Badge. Big thanks to Tracy Skipp and Jenny Chadwick for the supports
  - Locally, we have significant amount of increase in number of teams in our Ladies League, Mixed League and Junior League.
  - SH thanked:
    - o The support from the committee.
    - o The support from LCSD, HK Coaching Committee and ASDF
    - o The hard work from our office staffs
  - SH noted that Connie Wong will be leaving HKNA office but luckily, she will be staying in Hong Kong and will continue to be a part of our netball community. SH thanked Connie for all her contribution and wishes her all the best with her future endeavours.

It was proposed to accept the report of the President.

Proposer: Melanie Potgieter (Life member)

Secunder: Jenny Chadwick (Life member)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

3. The report of Conveners – League, Development, Umpiring and Coaching were presented along with the report of Office Manager.

Jenny Chadwick (Umpiring)

“Thank you to the team of people that helped out on umpiring development”

Ursula Holloway (League)

- Exact dates of league 2019/20 are confirmed and shared with the attendees of the AGM. More details on venue will be announced later.
- Thank you to Jenny Chadwick, Sherryn Hancock, Lorraine Pak, Haley Ho, Hong Kong Football Club & LCSD (for courts), all umpires and all players.
- Special mention to Sophie Li for her effort on getting sponsors for each division

Proposer: Danielle Taylor (Sonics)

Seconder: Veronica Arnold (Life Member)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

4. The Auditors report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019 was distributed.

As shown in the financial statement, we bear a small loss. However, this is expected as we operate as a non-profit organization. If anyone have further questions, please do email SH.

It was proposed to accept the Auditors report and Audited Financial Statements

Proposer: Shammin Azim (Mighty Eagles)

Seconder: Jenny Campbell (Sonics)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

5. Executive Council Members for 2019/2020 election.

There being no objections to any candidate, the executive council members were elected in one single resolution.

Position: President

Nominee: Sherryn Hancock (DB)

Position: Vice President

Nominee: Emma Gregory (Sonics) & Connie Wong (Life Member)

Position: Treasurer

Nominee:

We did not receive a nomination for treasurer this year. Club representative are encouraged to go back to their respective community to promote the vacancy. Nominee will preferably a bookkeeper or accountant. If we are not able to nominate a treasurer soon, we will need to outsource which will mean extra cost for HKNA.

Position: Secretary

Nominee: Christina Yue (HKCC)

Proposer: Mel Schroeder (DB)

Secunder: Jenna Potgieter(DB)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

There being no objections to any candidate, the remaining council members were elected in one single resolution.

Nominee:

Anna Wilson (Kowloon)

Suzie Keady (HKFC)

Erika Makino (HKU)

Rachel Bryant (Valley)

Renee Howie (Valley)

Ursula Holloway (SK)

Sarah Grimmer (HKCC)

Lorraine Pak (HKNA)

Proposer: Kate McNicholl (HKCC)

Secunder: Tessa Lave (DB)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

6. The Auditor for the coming financial year 2019/2020 was announced.

It was proposed to accept the auditor for the coming financial year 2019/2020.

Proposer: Suzie Keady (HKFC)

Secunder: Miriam Thondan (DB)

There being no objections, the resolution was passed.

7. A.O.B.

Why are we implementing monetary fines as penalty to Ladies League?

Monetary fines are implemented to create a higher sense of responsibility and respect to the league system. Previously, it was just points deduction, but this is found to be ineffective. We would prefer to not have any penalties, but unfortunately it is necessary.

How will the monetary fines from ladies' league used?

Collected fines are not put aside for a specific purpose. It will go into a general pool which also includes HKNA membership fee, Mixed League registration fee, Junior League registration fee, etc. Money in this pool will be used to top up expenses that are not covered by the government funding. In our audit report, items that says "HKNA expenses" are from the pool. Example:

- Four Nations: HKNA spend a total of approximately HKD400,000 for the event, and government covered around HKD250,000. HKNA then will need to cover the remaining expense

Teams having difficulties on finding an umpire

As indicated in the team registration form, teams are obligated to have at least one umpire that is eligible. We have not been strict on this requirement as it could possibly reduce our league team numbers by half. There are clubs that have a lot of umpire, and there are some that doesn't have enough for all the teams that they have. Teams are advised to encourage players to get qualified in umpiring.

With the new ranking system of umpires and also team moving divisions, there are confusion on the qualification

Jenny Chadwick sent several emails to all members regarding the live document of umpire qualification that will be regularly updated. Umpires are advised to use this document wisely to check on their updated qualification. HKNA consider the promotion of umpires to higher division very seriously as each division is different to umpire. If

weaker umpires umpire higher division, it will be unfair to both the umpires and players. This is a huge success as people try to move up and we can see that.

#### Team got penalized for umpire lateness

One team hired an umpire to cover the umpiring duty for a game that is scheduled on the Mid-Autumn. The team has repeatedly confirmed with the umpire to ensure game was covered. However, the umpire went to the wrong venue and the team ended up penalized. It was questioned whether the umpire should be responsible for this. It is also suggested that the umpire should possibly be banned for 2 weeks, which is in line with the practice of penalizing umpires for umpiring two games in a row. This suggestion will be reviewed by the committee. This case also came back to the issue that teams should have their own qualified umpire that hiring umpires are not necessary.

#### Goal calculation that disadvantaged a team due to another team defaulting against them twice this season

Scheduled game were cancelled due to rain. HKCC tried hard to reschedule and play the game. However, they just couldn't find a suitable timing for the make-up game. HKCC believes that they're adversely affected as the teams are very close in points in that division. Next time, team that think they're adversely affected should contact HKNA and the case will be reviewed. We could not assume that defaulting is deliberate as the scheduled game was cancelled for rain which is uncontrollable. It is again reminded that teams with cancelled game should try their best to reschedule the make-up game before last week of that half of the season.

#### Issues with finding Div 1 umpires for 9PM games

The issue is evident when points deduction are reviewed. It was previously suggested in FB page that premiership umpires are utilized but it was informed that this would not be possible as these umpires are working hard to be the best in Asia. Hence, they will need to umpire the highest level game. It is suggested to arrange division 1 and 2 teams from the same club to play at the same venue at different time, so that they can cover each other umpiring duties. This will also allow umpires that is working up to get promoted to have the opportunity to umpire higher division games. Jenny Chadwick responded that this really depends on the availability of venue. We have received different requests regarding similar issues. HKNA will try to accommodate everybody but cannot promise that this will happen all the time as we need to work with the available venues.

#### Interested players could not get into the umpiring course

Request: HKCC would like to arrange, with HKNA permission, to run an umpiring course. The club will provide payment to the facilitator, supply court space and venue on premise.

HKNA have actually received similar requests in the past. It is not impossible, but the problem is on staffing. More than 1 person is needed to run the course, hence, we need to turn down the request. We will run 3 courses in the next month or two, clubs are suggested to encourage their members to register and participate.

Members attended the course but could not finish the qualification process due to cancellation of JNL

Again, it is about staffing issue. There are limited qualified umpires that is willing to sacrifice their time to help out on umpiring support. Club should send qualified umpires to help on supporting new umpires. Need to be emphasized that it is not only about supporting umpires from your own club, but also umpires from the HK netball community.

“Send someone, it will make a huge difference”

JNL will be held on Saturdays before Christmas and Sundays after Christmas. We will continue to keep some slots open for umpires that is seeking for qualification. However, interested umpires must put their names down early on as HKNA will need to arrange for support. Slots for umpiring support will be open right after JNL schedule is announced. Also to be noted that not all JNL games are appropriate for new umpires, so there will be limitation on number of games available.

It is also suggested that umpiring qualification can be done during individual club training. This is hard to achieve as the game will have different requirements:

- need sufficient competitiveness
- plays 4 quarters of 12 minutes without stoppages for training

If anyone is interested to become an umpire support, HKNA is willing to help so please email Jenny Chadwick. Training is needed as it is a different set of skills.

Due to limited number of teams in each division, game time for JNL are insufficient

Suggestion: To have more teams within the same division so that teams have exposure to different teams and also more match time

The challenge of merging two division is that there are big gap between the two divisions. JNL Players that want more exposure can consider playing in the ladies league, but it is to be noted that competition will be tougher.

League Dates are presented on the screen. Ladies League 2019/20 will start later due to multiple public holidays on Monday. Availability of wet weathers schedule will depend on number of teams.

The meeting was declared closed at 21.01pm.

Signed as true copy,

Proposer:

Secunder: