SPORTS COMMISSION

Progress Report of the Community Sports Committee

INTRODUCTION

This paper reports on the work of the Community Sports Committee (CSC) since the last update to the Sports Commission (SC) in March 2014.

PROGRESS UPDATE

Progress Report on Proposals to improve the Arrangements for the Booking and Allocation of Recreation and Sports Facilities under the LCSD

2. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has tightened up the "no-show" penalty on organisation hirers with effect from 1 June 2014 whereby organisation hirers will be penalised by suspending their priority booking status for six months if they fail to take up their booked sessions on two occasions within 12 months, as opposed to four occasions within 12 months previously. Apart from the penalty for organisation hirers, the LCSD will carry out the following measures in coming months -

- (a) new penalties on individual hirers will be implemented on 15 August 2014 to minimise wastage of resources and to curb against possible abuses. The new penalties are as follows
 - (i) Hirer fails to take up their booked sessions without prior cancellation of booking on two occasions within any period of consecutive 30 days, his/her booking right for use of fee charging sports facilities will be suspended for 90 days;
 - (ii) Hirer found to have engaged in unauthorised transfer or touting of user permit, his/her booking right for use of fee charging sports facilities will be suspended for 180 days; and
 - (iii) Hirer found to have abused the concessionary rate, his/her

booking right for use of fee charging sports facilities will be suspended for 180 days.

(b) block bookings taken up by the Home Affairs Bureau and the LCSD will be included in the block booking quotas to improve transparency starting from September 2014.

The 5th Hong Kong Games

3. The 5th Hong Kong Games (HKG) will be held from 25 April to 31 May 2015. A Press Conference was held on 19 May this year at Kowloon Park Sports Centre to announce various arrangements and kick-start the publicity to encourage wide community participation in the Games. The open selection process started in June 2014. The process is being conducted by the 18 District Councils to select athletes representing their respective districts at the 5th HKG, and will be completed by end January 2015. It is expected that over 3 100 athletes will compete in eight sports, namely athletics, badminton, basketball, futsal, swimming, table-tennis, tennis and volleyball. The Vitality Run (活力跑) is a new element of the HKG, which would be suitable for families and people of different abilities. Apart from sports competitions, a series of community involvement programmes will also be organised for the participation by the general public at large.

2014 Sport For All Day

4. The "2014 Sport For All Day" was successfully held on 3 August 2014. "Rope Skipping for Health (跳繩強身) was adopted as the overall theme of this year's event, under the slogan: "Stay active. Rope skipping keeps you fit" (「日日運動半個鐘,跳繩強身好輕鬆」). On the day, a series of free recreation and sports programmes were held at designated venues in the 18 districts, and most of the fee-charging recreation and sports facilities were open to the public for free use to encourage people to exercise regularly. Besides, elite athletes and Sports Ambassadors from district councils were invited to attend the free programmes to further promote community sports and build up a stronger atmosphere across the territory.

KEY ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

5. The key items that the CSC will address in the coming months include –

(a) overseeing the preparation of the 5^{th} Hong Kong Games; and

(b) following up on improvements to the procedures for booking recreation and sports facilities.

ADVICE SOUGHT

6. Members are invited to note this update and the key action items set out above.

Sports Commission Secretariat August 2014