

CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 DECEMBER 2014



*In this issue:
Charity Dinners,
Match Reports
and more...!*

*Christmas
Festivities
at the Club*



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HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB
MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: To be recognised as one of the leading sports clubs in the world.

Mission: To deliver quality services on the principles of accountability, consistency and transparency. To develop an organizational culture that recognises the importance of staff contribution and commitment. To facilitate the development and participation of recognised sporting activities.

Values: Being accountable – to communicate, consult and provide information.
Living within our means – to plan ahead within available resources. Developing a culture of service – to encourage commitment, integrity, courtesy and responsiveness.
Managing for performance – to set the direction and develop the necessary skills.

Aims: To provide the services the Membership needs. To improve the quality of Club life. To up-hold the Constitution and Bye-laws. To encourage Members to play their part in the Club.

General Committee

- President : Dermot Agnew
- Vice President : Fook Aun Chew
- Vice President : Nick Hunsworth
- Vice President : Bobby Lawson
- Vice President : Iain Valentine
- Chairman : John Shanahan
- Hon. Secretary : Mike Wood
- Hon. Treasurer : Alan Morgan
- Constitutional Affairs : Jeff Lane
- Development : Neil Roberts
- Discipline : James Niehorster
- Membership : Maurice O'Brien
- Sports and Recreation : Philip Woolf
- Hockey Officer : Niccola Russo
- Lawn Bowls Officer : Mike Worth
- Rugby Officer : Damian Babis
- Soccer Officer : Neil Jensen
- Squash Officer : Adam Wilson

Management

- General Manager : Mark Pawley
- Director of Operations : Tony Sealy
- Director of Food and Beverage : Dominique Artigolle
- Financial Controller : Ricky Chan
- Executive Chef : Danny Lai
- Facilities Manager : Evan Tao
- Membership Services Manager : Kerry Ogle
- Human Resources Manager : Angela Chan
- Executive Housekeeper : Tracy Tseung
- Front Office Manager : Shirley Lo

Club Magazine

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. Designed by Karen Chan-Mulvenna. For information and requests for placement of advertisements in "Club" please call 2830 9503. The opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Hong Kong Football Club or the General Committee. The Club reserves the right to edit and clarify all content. The copyright of all materials is held by the Hong Kong Football Club.

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The Thoughts of the Chairman



John J Shanahan,
Chairman

The Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) of the Club was held on the 6th November 2014. I would like to thank all Members that attended and who, together with their Spouses and Partners, stayed on after the meeting to enjoy the Member’s Cocktail Party. I also thank you for re-electing me as Chairman for another two-year term.

I welcome to the Committee four new members; **Alan Morgan** as Honorary Treasurer, **Jeff Lane** as a General Officer, **Neil Jensen** as the Soccer Representative and **Mike Worth** representing Lawn Bowls. The Chairmanships of the five Standing Sub-Committees have been confirmed by the General Committee as follows:-

Chairman of the Constitutional Affairs Sub-Committee: **Jeff Lane**

Chairman of the Discipline Sub-Committee: **James Niehorster**

Chairman of the Development Sub-Committee: **Neil Roberts**

Chairman of the Membership Sub-Committee: **Maurice O’Brien**

Chairman of the Sports & Recreation Sub-Committee: **Philip Woolf**

Our major project for this year is to progress the Masterplan Redevelopment as soon as we sign off on the new lease, which we hope will be at some stage this month if all goes well. As I stated at the AGM, a major component of the Masterplan Redevelopment will be a complete refurbishment of the Main Kitchen and the Second Floor facilities and that there will be some short term pain for some long term gain while the refurbishment works (to the Second Floor) are being carried out. We will be bringing to your attention the proposed plans in the very near future.

As we rapidly approach Christmas, we will be holding the **Annual Christmas Fete** on the afternoon of **Saturday 13th December** on the Main Pitch and you will need to book your tickets in advance. We also welcome back the **Welsh Male Voice Choir** on the Main Pitch at 7:00pm on **Monday 15th December**. And, don’t forget to book your tickets for the best **New Year’s Eve Party** in Hong Kong at the Club on **Wednesday 31st December**.

Finally, may I, on behalf of the General Committee and myself, wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

JOHN J SHANAHAN
Chairman

Obituaries

We were saddened to hear the news of the recent passing away of our long time Member, **Mr John Maloney**. Our thoughts and prayers go to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

**SATURDAY
13th DECEMBER
2PM - 6PM**



HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

Christmas Fete

BRING THE FAMILY ALONG TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES WHERE YOU CAN ENJOY SEASONAL ARTS AND CRAFTS, GAMES AND ACTIVITIES. DON'T MISS THE DELICIOUS TREATS, FANTASTIC MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT!

VENUE: MAIN PITCH

MEMBER: ADULT \$250, CHILD \$120

GUEST OF MEMBER: ADULT \$350, CHILD \$170

CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS OLD FREE OF CHARGE

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL!

To register for the Christmas Fete, please fill in a booking form available at Reception, 1/F Sports Desk or the HKFC website and hand it to Reception or fax to: 3110 1176

Wristbands, which allow entry to the Fete, can be collected at Reception from Monday 8th December 2014 to Friday 12th December 2014.

Wristbands cannot be collected on the day of the event.

Please submit all booking forms no later than Sunday 7th December 2014.



Please note that high heels may not be worn on the Main Pitch.

From the Desk of Mark Pawley



Mark Pawley,
General Manager

You should have received a copy of the Club's Festive Events schedule in October, which I hope has been/will be a useful aid for planning all your Christmas and New Year activities at the Club with family and friends. Please note too, that the shop on the G/FI Lobby, selling food and beverage items, has recently gone through a transformation, or two, and is now called the **Christmas Goodies Counter** and is kitted out with a number of festive goodies whilst retaining a number of day to day food and beverage items. The Counter is well worth a visit! For your information, set

out on Page 10 of the magazine, are the Christmas Opening arrangements for the F&B outlets, over the Festive period.

Apart from our Festive events, we have a packed December full of special promotions. On **Thursday 18th December** we have the **Burgundy vs Oregon Pinot Noir Wine Dinner** which, I am sure, will appeal to many of you and, carrying on with the "American" theme, please note we have the **Napa Valley Silver Oak and Twomey Wine Dinner** on **Thursday 15th January 2015**.

In the Restaurant, Wagyu Beef is back along with Lobster in a '**Wagyu Beef and Lobster Fiesta**' which runs all month except Sundays. Not to be outdone, the Coffee Shop will have the ever popular **Family Hot Pot Dinner Buffet and Clay Pot Corner** which will run throughout December from Fridays to Sundays (except for the 26th and 28th December). The Sportsman's Bar will have **Mulled Wine** on tap (well, not quite on tap) and also be providing a **Turkey and Ham Platter** for those of you that need "extra" festive nourishment!

Last, and by no means least, on behalf of the Management and Staff of the Club, may I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club!

MARK PAWLEY

General Manager

New Reciprocal Club



GRANITE CLUB
TORONTO, CANADA

2350 Bayview Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario, M2L 1E4

Main Club Tel Number:
416-449-8713

Website:
www.graniteclub.com

Email:
membership@graniteclub.com

TORONTO'S FINEST SINCE 1875.

Rich in the light of past achievement, steeped in traditions of good fellowship and good sportsmanship, the Granite Club today ranks high in the roster of the world's most select Clubs.

Notice to Members: Increase in Monthly Subscription in 2015

At the Annual General Meeting held on the 6th November 2014 an increase in monthly subscription was approved which will come into effect on 1st January 2015.

1. Monthly Subscription for Full Members, Corporate Members (including Corporate Nominees) and Associate Members (Sports Preferred Associates, Lady Associates, Family Member Associates and Consular Associates) will be increased from HK\$1,400 to HK\$1,450.
2. Monthly Subscription for Sports Debenture Associates and Junior Associates (between the age of 21-28) will be increased from HK\$560 to HK\$580.

Please note that the new monthly subscription rate will be reflected in the December 2014 statement.

BURGUNDY VS OREGON PINOT NOIR WINE DINNER

It's beginning to look a lot like France...

Burgundy was the inspiration for many of the Oregon winemakers. But can the student now become the master? The Oregon pinot noir has hints of black fruit and soil, with complexity and a fine body. The Burgundian pinot noir are famed for their hints of red berry, and fleshiness, and their remarkable structure.

Join us as we compare the highly acclaimed wines from Adelsheim Vineyard in Oregon, to the wines from the Burgundy Domaine of David Duband.

Venue: The Restaurant
Date: Thursday 18th December
Time: 7.30pm Arrival and welcome drink 8.00pm Dinner
Price: \$800 per Member, \$850 per Member's Guest

Pre dinner drinks and canapés

Domaine Meyer-Fonné Crémant d'Alsace Brut Non-Vintage

First Course

Hokkaido Scallop Carpaccio with Lemon Olive Jelly and Baby Cress
Chablis, Domaine Corinne et Jean Pierre Grossot 2009, Burgundy, France
Versus
Chardonnay, Adelsheim 2012, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA

Second Course

Duck Confit with Walnut Sauce and Pomegranate Glaze Cabernet Leek Risotto
Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, Domaine David Duband 2012, Burgundy, France
Versus
Pinot Noir, Adelsheim 2011, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA

Third Course

Tapenade Crusted Milk-Fed Veal Medallions and Tomato Fondue
Gevrey Chambertin, Domaine David Duband 2009, Burgundy, France
Versus
Elizabeth's Reserve Pinot Noir, Adelsheim 2011, Willamette Valley, Oregon, USA

Fourth Course

Assorted French Cheese Platter with Dried Fruits
Nuits-Saint-Georges, Domaine David Duband, 1er Cru Les Pruliers 2010, Burgundy, France
Versus
Bryan Creek Vineyard Pinot Noir, Adelsheim 2010, Chebalem Mountains, Oregon, USA

Coffee or Tea
Petit Fours



Please contact the Restaurant at +852 2830-9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com or fax +852 2576-7598

* All the above wines will be served in limited quantity

** Cancellations or amendments must be faxed or emailed to the Restaurant and must be made before 5th December 2014 otherwise, full payment will be debited to the Member's account, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

CHRISTMAS HIGHLIGHTS

at a Glance

Christmas Carols Performance

by the

HONG KONG WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

**At the Sportsman's Bar
Monday 15th December
from 7pm until 7.45pm**

Seating will be arranged at the South Stand (facing the Main Pitch) on a 'first come first served basis'.

A light early Dinner Buffet will be available at the Sportsman's Bar and Coffee Shop from 5.30pm.

Mulled Wine, Minced Pies and soft drinks will be made available at the end of the Carol Singing at the Sportsman's Bar to all those in attendance.

*** A la Carte menu in both the Sportsman's Bar and the Coffee Shop will be strictly limited on that day from 4.30pm to 7.30pm*



Christmas and New Year Programmes

The F&B Department has lined up a number of exciting Christmas and New Year activities. Please refer to the Christmas Brochure available on our website.



Turkey and Festive Takeaway

Available from 1st to 30th December



Sit back, relax and let the professionals take care of the hard work.

A variety of delicious dishes including U.S. Tom Turkey and Glazed Bone Ham can be ordered for takeaway for the perfect party at home or at the office.

Special Christmas Hampers

Share the joy of the festive season by sending hampers to your loved ones, relatives, friends or business partners. Hampers can either be picked up at the Club or arranged for delivery to the lucky recipients!

Order forms are available at Reception and can also be downloaded from our website.



Christmas Goodies Counter

The Kiosk will be offering a selection of festive food and beverage goodies. Stop by the Christmas Counter for gift ideas for your family, friends, colleagues and clients!

SPECIAL EVENTS

on Festive Days

24th December (Wednesday)

COFFEE SHOP

Christmas Eve Lunch Buffet*

12noon – 2.30pm
Adult \$348, Child \$218

Christmas Eve Dinner Buffet*

6.30pm – 10.00pm
Adult \$478, Child \$328

**Santa Claus will be offering presents to all children*

RESTAURANT

Christmas Eve Semi-Buffer Lunch

12noon – 2.30pm
\$388 per person

Christmas Eve 6-Course Set Dinner

7.00pm – 10.30pm
\$720 (includes a complimentary glass of Veuve Clicquot Champagne)

Please note that there will be no A la Carte for either Lunch or Dinner in the Restaurant and Coffee Shop.

26th December (Friday)

COFFEE SHOP

Forever Favourites Lunch Buffet

12noon – 2.30pm
Adult \$308, Child \$188

Forever Favourites Dinner Buffet

6.30pm – 9.30pm
Adult \$280, Child \$148

RESTAURANT

Forever Favourites Family Sparkling Brunch

11.00am – 2.30pm
Adult \$398, Child \$198

Forever Favourites Seafood Family Dinner Buffet

6.30pm – 9.30pm
Adult \$408, Child \$198

25th December (Thursday)

COFFEE SHOP

Noël Lunch Buffet*

12noon – 2.30pm
Adult \$448, Child \$258

Christmas Celebration Dinner Buffet*

6.30pm – 10.00pm
Adult \$478, Child \$328

**Special entertainment, party favours and Santa Claus will be offering presents to all children during Lunch and Dinner.*

RESTAURANT

FULL Noël Deluxe Family Brunch with Sparkling Wine and selected Wines*

11.00am – 2.30pm
Adult \$548, Child \$268

Noël Deluxe 6-Course Set Dinner*

7.00pm – 10.30pm
\$720 (includes a complimentary glass of Veuve Clicquot Champagne)

**Special entertainment during Lunch; party favours and Santa Claus will be offering presents to all children during Lunch and Dinner.*

Please note that there will be no A la Carte for either Lunch or Dinner in the Restaurant and Coffee Shop.

1st January 2015 (Thursday)

COFFEE SHOP*

New Year's Day Lunch Buffet

12noon – 2.30pm
Adult \$308, Child \$180

New Year's Day Dinner Buffet

6.30pm – 9.30pm
Adult \$348, Child \$208

**Please note that there will be a limited A la Carte menu for Lunch and Dinner.*

RESTAURANT

New Year's Day Sparkling Family Brunch

11.00am – 2.30pm
Adult \$428, Child \$238

New Year's Day Family Seafood Dinner Buffet

6.30pm – 9.30pm
Adult \$428, Child \$238

RESTAURANT

WAGYU BEEF AND LOBSTER FIESTA

**every evening for Dinner (except Sunday)
6.30pm to 10.30pm**

The Restaurant presents "Wagyu Beef and Lobster Fiesta" Set Dinner.

Wagyu Beef is synonymous with high quality beef, and Boston Lobster is considered the king of crustaceans.

Our Executive Chef, Danny Lai has selected the succulent Wagyu Beef and Boston Lobster in order to prepare a variety of dishes with different cooking methods for your enjoyment.

Book now to sample the delectable delicacies!

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com



Photos for reference only

COFFEE SHOP

**FAMILY HOT POT
DINNER BUFFET AND
CLAY POT CORNER**



**Friday to Sunday
(except 26th to 28th December)
from 6.00pm to 9.30pm**

Winters are not the same without our Hot Pot and Clay Pot favourites in the Coffee Shop.

Our Family Hot Pot Dinner Buffet includes a variety of seafood, meats and vegetables in an al fresco setting. Come along with your family and friends for a leisurely meal.

Please call the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 for more details.

RESTAURANT

**DINNER WITH
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Wednesday 24th and
Thursday 25th December**

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with live performances on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th December.

Chef Danny has prepared a "Noel" 6 Course Set Dinner.

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

**RESTAURANT AND
CHAIRMAN'S BAR**

SUNDAY BRUNCH

from 11am to 2.30pm

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

DRESS CODE: Club Casual.

No Collarless T-shirts, no Flip Flops or sandals with socks, no short Casual Shorts (Knee length – no beach wear). Ladies are required to dress to a comparable standard.

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

FRESH OYSTERS

every day from noon to 10.30pm

- 6 oysters and 2 glasses of Sparkling for \$160
- or 12 oysters and 2 glasses of Sparkling for \$265



CHAIRMAN'S BAR

WINE CAROUSEL

every day from 6.30pm to 10.30pm

From 6.30pm till 10.30pm daily, you can enjoy 2 hours of free-flowing wines specially selected to match the season at a set price of **\$178 per person**. Alternatively you can select any two glasses of wine for only **\$88**.

All these wines can be purchased from our takeaway list. Forms are available on our website or at Reception.

COFFEE SHOP

WINTER COMFORT FOOD

**for Lunch and Dinner
throughout the month of December**

As the weather gets colder, stop by the Coffee Shop for some hearty comfort dishes made from seasonal produce and warming spices.



SPORTSMAN'S BAR

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS PERFORMANCE
BY THE WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR**

Monday 15th December
from 7pm until 7.45pm

Please refer to details on page 6.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
YOUTH RUGBY FESTIVAL**

Thursday 1st January

The crowds are always large with cash bar and food outlet around the pitch! Let's kick off New Year's Day with a Bang and support the local and overseas rugby players with games starting from midday.



On the F&B Front

**NOURISHING WINTER
TURKEY AND HAM PLATTER**

Get nourished with our delicious turkey and ham that Sportsman's Bar Staff will be specially preparing for Members to enjoy in the winter weather.



*A Spicy Taste of
Winter*

**MULLED
WINE**

AVAILABLE AT THE
SPORTSMAN'S BAR



*Christmas
Quiz Night*

Thursday 11th December
In the Sportsman's Bar

From 7pm - 10.30pm
- Buffet starts at 7pm
- Quiz starts at 8.30pm sharp (Quiz master will not wait)

Price: \$360
(Inclusive of Bubbly on arrival, Mulled Wine, Buffet,
Quiz and many prizes)

Maximum of 6 persons per team
(with at least one being a Club Member)



CHRISTMAS ALE

Enjoy the season with a festive bottle of "Christmas".

A full flavoured and lightly spiced 7.0% strong ale.



On the Sport Front

Sport continues to be shown on our screens with the **Rugby Magners League, Heineken Cup and the Amlin Challenge Cup.**

Premier League Soccer this month promises some very good matches as the top teams are fighting for first place going into the New Year.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S EVE OPENING ARRANGEMENTS

CHRISTMAS OPENING ARRANGEMENTS

Christmas Eve, 24th December

The Coffee Shop will be closed from 5.00pm to 6.00pm in order to help with the set-up for the evening meal. Please be reminded that there is no A la Carte Menu available after 6.00pm.

Christmas Day, 25th December

The Coffee Shop will be open from 12.00 noon and will be closed from 5.00pm to 6.00pm as with the above to help with the set-up for the evening meal. There will be no A la Carte Menu available all day because of the Christmas Day Lunch and Dinner Buffets.

The Sportsman's Bar will be open at 12.00 noon on 25th & 26th December with full A la Carte menu available.

The Captain's Bar will be closed all day on 25th & 26th December.

NEW YEAR'S EVE OPENING HOURS

As in past years the opening hours for our Food and Beverage Outlets will be changed for New Year's Eve as per the following schedule:

- Coffee Shop – closed from 5.00pm (last orders will be taken at 4.15pm)
- Restaurant – closed from 3.00pm
- Chairman's Bar – open as usual from midday
- Captain's Bar – closed from 5.00pm
- Sportsman's Bar – closed
- Family Lounge Bar – closed from 5.00pm

A little behind in your festive planning? The **Sportsman's Bar is available for private functions from 11am until 3pm, Monday to Friday**. For more information on packages and bookings please email our Catering and Event Department on: catering@hkfc.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY 2014

2014 NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

WEDNESDAY 31st DECEMBER
SPORTS HALL

New Year's Eve is fast approaching, and once again, the Club has organized what is known as one, if not, the biggest party in town!

The ticket is inclusive of a very extensive dinner Buffet with regular favourite, as well as unlimited standard drinks all night, Champagne at Midnight and a fabulous Breakfast early in the morning.

In addition, we will be bringing a live band from the U.K which undoubtedly will help make this Eve party a memorable night.

Ticket Price

\$1,500 (per Member)
\$1,998 (per Guest)

Booking form is available at the Front Desk and can be downloaded from our website.

You can also email: catering@hkfc.com



JANUARY PREVIEW

NAPA VALLEY

SILVER OAK AND TWOMEY WINE DINNER

Silver Oak is single-minded in the pursuit of exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon. For 40 years, Silver Oak has produced delicious and distinctive Cabernets from their Napa Valley and Alexander Valley wineries. Using the same philosophy that has guided Silver Oak since its founding in 1972 by Raymond T. Duncan and Justin Meyer, Silver Oak continues to make exceptional, food-friendly wines that are deliciously drinkable upon release. The family established Twomey Cellars in 1999 to pursue the discovery of varietals in California beyond Cabernet Sauvignon.

The family continues to carry Ray and Justin's vision forward, with Ray's son Tim serving as Executive Vice President managing sales and marketing strategy, and his son David serving as the winery's President and CEO, overseeing production and operations. Winemaker Daniel Baron, developed his passion for Merlot during the early 1980s while working in Pomerol and Saint-Émilion, carries out their vision of producing wines that eloquently express their vineyard and vintage.



SILVER OAK

TWOMEY

Date: Thursday 15th January 2015

Venue: The Restaurant

7.30p.m to 7.50p.m: Pre-Dinner Drinks

8pm to 11p.m: Dinner

Price: \$588 per Member and

\$638 per Member's Guest

Includes a 4-course Set Menu and 5 wines

Limited Seats Available

Come and join us for a four-course pairing of elegant wines from Silver Oak and Twomey to compliment and please your palate!

Reception

Canapés

Twomey Estate Sauvignon Blanc, 2013, California

Menu

1st Course

Crispy duck spring rolls, garlic saffron aioli, confit fennel, orange, cranberry relish

Twomey Pinot Noir Russian River, 2011, California

2nd Course

Slow-cook light smoked Norwegian salmon, roasted beetroot, honey kumquat, lobster cream

Twomey Merlot Napa Valley, 2009, California

3rd Course

Braised Veal Cheek

Celeriac root puree, lentil, artichoke barigoule, red wine sauce
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 2009, California

Last Course

Cheese Platter

Baguette, dried fruits, fig chutney

Silver Oak Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 2009, California

Coffee or Tea

Petit Fours

"Life is a Cabernet."
— Silver Oak Cellars



HKFC Perrier International Squash Tournaments

Two unique squash tournaments were played at the Football Club in October, when over consecutive weekends, players from The Indonesian National team, The British Army team, The HK Sports Institute and our own Club competed in both Mens and Ladies singles competitions.

The Tournaments came about through the desire of the Indonesian National Team to play in a testing tournament as part of their build up to the 2015 SEA games and the fortuitous identical timing of the visit by the British army.

The Club offered excellent hospitality to both touring sides, which included temporary membership and daily training facilities, whilst Chris Clark (a long time friend of the Club) was instrumental in running the logistics of the tournament. In addition to the extensive support of the Club, Vincent Wan provided very generous sponsorship via Perrier, which greatly added to the success and enjoyment of the event.

The format of 16 players each playing 4 matches produced some excellent squash, with every game vital in achieving final position. In the first session played on Sunday 5th October, special mention should be made of the British Army team who arrived spot on time and ready for action, despite the fact that they only arrived from the UK the previous night!

With a number of victories, the Indonesian team quickly asserted just how good they were, signaling their intention to take the majority of the silverware in both competitions. Individually, mention should be made of **Lincoln Chan** (HKFC) who battled out a long match against Eris Setiawan (INA) narrowly losing 3-2. Earlier, 11

year old **Renee Wu** (HKFC) played an exceptional match against the British Army No1 Rosie Hamilton, eventually losing to this very strong player 3-1.

The second session was played out on Saturday 11th and being finals day, the squash just got better. In the Ladies final, Catur Yuliani (INA) came back from 2-0 down to win the match and cited the size of the Perrier Trophy as her inspiration! Meanwhile, Chan Ho Ching (HK Sports Institute) came back from 2-0 down to take 3rd place from Yessy Gitawati (INA). This still left 3 of the 4 lady INA squad finishing in the top 5.

In the men's competition, special mention should be made of **Ho Fai**



All Players on arrival for first session (Sunday 5th October).



HKFC team: Back Row: Rajesh Nihalani, Malcolm Kerr, Lincoln Chan, Ho Fai Chiu, Tim Fan. Front Row: Nicol Cheung, Anthea Yung, Renee Wu, Vivi Sclosser, Kristy Chung (Absent from photo: Ursula Sze)



11 year old Renee Wu (HKFC) stretching out to beat Elaine Radcliffe (British Army) 3-0



Catur Yuliani celebrates victory in the Ladies Final, coming back from 0-2 down against British Army No1 Rosie Hamilton.



Syauma Siswa (INA) responding to pressure from Rich Green the British Army No.1, who he went on to win 3-0.



Ho Fai Chiu (HKFC) keeping the pressure on, near the end of his Mens Final match against Ade Furkon (INA), which he won 3-1.



All Trophy Winners with Tournament Organizers. (from L to R): Chris Clark(Organizer), Sandi Arishma (INA), Ade Furkon (INA), Ho Fai Chiu (HKFC), Catur Yuliani (INA), Rosie Hamilton, (British Army), ChanHo Ching (HK Sports Institute), Steve Gollop (Organizer)

Chiu, who in winning the Men's tournament pushed the very strong Mens Indonesian National team into 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th places respectively. A tremendous achievement, especially when you consider that he only dropped 1 game in the whole tournament.

Top 3 positions:

Ladies:

Catur Yuliani (INA)

Rosie Hamilton (Army)

Chan Ho Ching (HK sports institute)

Men's:

Ho Fai Chiu (HKFC)

Ade Furkon (INA)

Sandi Arishma (INA)

The whole tournament was played in the best of spirits and I would also like to thank the markers who volunteered for the final Saturday and significantly enhanced the afternoon for the players and organizers.

It all ended with over 50 attending the awards dinner in the evening where the Trophies were presented and very appreciative speeches were made by Sandy Surjo for the Indonesian National Team and Major General Tyrone Urch CBE for the Army, both of whom were very happy with the progress of their respective teams during their stays in Hong Kong and extremely complimentary towards HKFC. After the formalities, team challenges (initiated by the Indonesian Team) and some drinking continued long into the night!

We hope we can host similar events in the future, we should be very proud of the hospitality extended by all at the Club to our visitors. Having helped in their preparation, we now wish the British Army victory in their future matches against the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy, and for the Indonesian National Team, we wish them every success in the 2015 SEA games.

■ Steve Gollop

Squash Kit Must Travel



John Kok sporting the Squash Kit at Uganda's Bwindi Impenetrable National Park

As Squash Section members are aware, this new season sees the continued Squash Kit Must Travel competition. We are delighted to announce that the winner of this year's competition will receive avant-garde dining for two people at Felix restaurant in the Peninsula Hotel to the value of HK\$1,500.

This month's magazine's best entry is from **John Kok**, who proudly displays his wares, so to speak, outside the Buhoma entrance to the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in Uganda. John had the picture taken after returning from some gorilla tracking and trekking in the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, together with his guide, Omax. Well done to John, a new location to add to our impressive list!

In order to enter the competition, get a picture of yourself in your squash team kit while on holiday/travel/business at the most remote or outlandish locations - get your suitcases packed, dust off those imaginative thoughts and get travelling- please submit any photographs to publicity@hksquash.com and you could well win that dinner!

Squash Section Handicap Cup

The Squash Section's annual handicap tournament ended in October after two months of frenetic squash activity. This year's event saw a new scoring system introduced to challenge the stronger players even further in a test of patience, concentration and endurance as they battled to overcome a score differential against their opponents.

64 players entered from across the spectrum of Men's Division 2 to 15, Ladies and Juniors, battling it out for the title of 2014 Squash Handicap Cup Champion.

Tim Fan (Division 2) has claimed this title for the past 3 years, but with a handicap score of -63 every match was an uphill struggle. Some exceptional displays of solid squash saw him reach the semi-finals, but he met his match in **Julian Tanner** (Division 6) and could not overcome a start score of -47 v +4.

In the other half of the draw, **Andrew Ward** (also Division 2) fought well to reach the semi-finals. Wardy met **Mike Shilton** (Division 10) in the semi-final with

a start score of -53 v +5, and we saw Mike triumph to reach the final.

The final saw Julian and Mike starting on -8 v 0, and could have been over very quickly as Mike had beaten Julian recently in a



Handicap Cup Winner – Julian Tanner with Jon Pipe (tournament convenor)



Handicap Plate Winner – Eric Ho with Jon Pipe (tournaments convenor)

regular scoring game! However Julian dug deep and over an hour later came off court the victor, 3-1 in games. Congratulations to Julian as the 2014 Squash Handicap Cup Champion, and to Mike as runner-up.

In the plate, **Eric Ho** reached the final by over-turning huge point deficits of -55 and -56 against **Rachel Sutcliffe** and **Iris Sung** respectively, both putting up a good fight and taking Eric to the wire. In the final, Eric played **Allen Lam** and had a start score of -33 v +3. In an epic battle that lasted over 100 minutes and Eric winning over 225 points, Eric took the title of 2014 Squash Handicap Plate winner. A very big well done to Allen who brought along his fan club who cheered every point along the way, and put in an excellent performance and out-played Eric in several rallies!

Thanks to all who entered and made it another great tournament, and congrats to all the winners and runners ups! ■

Upcoming Dates For Your Diary

January 2015
HKFC MASTERS SIXES EVENT
 (date to be confirmed)

.....
 28th January – 1st February 2015
INTERNATIONAL JUMBO DOUBLES
 Tanglin Club, Singapore

.....
 Wednesday 11th February 2015
ANNUAL SQUASH SECTION
CRICKET MATCH v HKCC (at HKCC)

Squash Section Committee for 2014 / 2015



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Chairman



Lee Robinson
Treasurer



Rob Jones
Secretary



David Murray
Membership Officer



Marc Meldrum
Publicity Officer



David Cross
Men's Captain



Fred Teng
Junior Squash
Chairman



Rachel Sutcliffe
Ladies Captain



Vinod Harjani
Social Officer



Steve Gollop
Match Convenor



Jon Pipe
Tournament
Convenor



Adrian Ng
Tour Convenor

Derby Days

With all three first-round Club derbies now played, we take a brief look back at each – would there be any upsets? Would there be any overly-“friendly” tackles? Or rather, how many would there be? Read on to find out...

As vs Bs Premier Division, Friday 17th October

There seems to be nothing that revs the B team up more than the prospect of a hard-fought battle against the As – aside from perhaps a hard-fought fine session in the Sportsman’s – and the team were able to do both in a special Friday evening encounter that allowed for plenty of socialising afterwards and then a rare full weekend’s recovery (from the match, of course...)

As expected, strong tackles went in from both sides, **Danny Bernal** leading the way as he often does, the Bs showing a resilience which proved that the days of big Premier Division derby defeats are indeed long gone. However, the A team is one that has been scoring freely for much of this season and this form saw them go into the half-time break 3-0 up.

This was to be no easy ride though, the B team pressured hard and forced a number of defensive errors from the As, resulting in two corner conversions out of two from new German import **Japhi Biedermann**, who flicked with pace, power and precision.

With the game won at 5-2 the final whistle blew, but not before the Bs earned themselves another penalty corner and the chance to go out in a blaze of glory. Japhi was denied a hatrick as his third flick of the evening was saved by the returning **Andrew Boulton** for his first Premier League appearance for HKFC in years, but up stepped **Harry Travers** – presumably

with mind already set firmly on the bar – to scramble the ball in and add a third to the B’s tally for the night and claim them a second-half victory.

Ds vs Es Second Division, Sunday 21st September

It was a family affair in this Second Division encounter as HKFC veteran **Simon Shepherdson** of the Es faced off against son **James Shepherdson** of the Ds. Who would have bragging rights at home that evening?

The Ds started very strongly and there was only one team in it to begin with. Great work down the right-hand side produced a number of promising attacks, which soon resulted in a short-corner and an early goal from **Conor O’Donovan**. Unfortunately for the Ds this initial pressure fizzled out after the first quarter and the team were punished for taking their collective foot off the pedal when the Es nabbed a goal just before the half-time whistle courtesy of **Martin Harris**.

The Ds entered the second half with great intent to tighten up passing and to use both wide channels more effectively, but in the end resorted to simpler tactics of chasing the little white thing around the pitch.

Despite an excellent display from the Es defence, the Ds created enough pressure to earn further short corners, and one of these was converted by

Steve Bruce, proving decisive as the Ds went on to win the game 2-1.

The game could have gone either way and the Ds should perhaps count themselves lucky that they picked up 3 points on a day that they were probably the second best team on the pitch.

For now, it’s James 1-0 Simon.

Fs vs Gs Third Division, Sunday 2nd November

For the opening 15 minutes the Fs dominated, and were good value for a one-goal lead when **Eugene Cheuk** swept in a loose ball from under keeper **Neil Norman**’s pads on the 20-minute mark. So far, so to script.

However, with 10 minutes to go in the first half, the game was turned completely on its head. The Gs brought on fresh legs, made tactical changes and following a surging run from **Brian Schwarzwald** the ball broke kindly for **Mark Kan**, who calmly scooped the ball into the F’s net for the equaliser. Just moments later **Guy Higgins**, clean through and unmarked, finished with aplomb to put the Gs 2-1 up.

At the start of the 2nd period the Fs threw the proverbial kitchen sink at their opponents in an attempt to clawback the one-goal deficit. Despite their efforts what followed was, more or less, one-way traffic for the Gs, and the team made it 3-1 when a turnover led to **Chris Windle** nudging the ball over **David “DT” Taylor**’s line by a matter of millimetres.

As the game-clock ran down, **Quentin Burrows** rolled back the years with a drive into the Fs circle. With three defenders closing in on him, he cut-back a no-look pass to captain **Jim Dore** who then proceeded to launch a 100mph Exocet missile into the roof of the goal. The net bulged and the

resulting roars of the team, along with the fans in the stands, were loud enough to wake the neighbours surrounding the Valley of Dreams.

Final score: Fs 1-4 Gs. ■

From the Men's C Team: The Art of the Perfect Half-Time Team Talk

The tradition of oranges at half-time is one that few teams still follow, yet the art of the perfect half time pep talk remains based on a balancing act between analysis and motivation.

On Sunday 2nd November the Men's C team were facing Dutch A in a potentially pivotal game for their season. The C Team had started the season well with 3 wins before succumbing to two single goal defeats to fellow promotion ambitious teams SSSC B and Khalsa B. A win against the students of 144U left them with 4 wins from 6 games and facing a Dutch side with 2 wins from their 6 games.

The game started well for the Club side with some fluid passing leading to another fine strike from **Dan Smith**, the C's leading scorer this season. However, the Dutch were in the mood and started to apply pressure, with the Cs falling into the trap of giving away the ball with regularity in the middle of the pitch through loose and over-ambitious passing attempts. The pressure told and the Dutch latched on to two defensive errors and, with their tails up, converted a well-worked short corner move to score three goals in the last ten minutes and go into the halftime break 3-1 up. The momentum was certainly with the Dutch.

Half Time

As a captain or coach halftime can, on occasion, be a time to change formation, tactics and personnel, alternatively, after a good 35 minutes it may simply be a case of maintaining momentum. Fortunately, the Cs can count on both a passionate captain and

an insightful coach in their ranks. For captain **Matt Truman** halftime was the time to show some leadership, "No-one else says a word". Two minutes later and the team had had a dressing down of seismic proportions – let's just say that some of it would not be suitable for print. No single players were picked out and none needed to be, everyone knew that the last 15 minutes had not been up to scratch; as a team we had let ourselves down. Motivational and emotional talks can get great results in any sport but sometimes you need to hear the brutal honest truth of performing well below your full potential. Having handed over to Club coach **Chappie** to get the technical details across - points of attack, structure in defence, width, transitions, ball speed and composure - it was back to Matt to rally the troops, raised the heads and get the team back on the pitch with a sense of urgency, purpose and confidence, knowing that our best hockey would turn this game around.

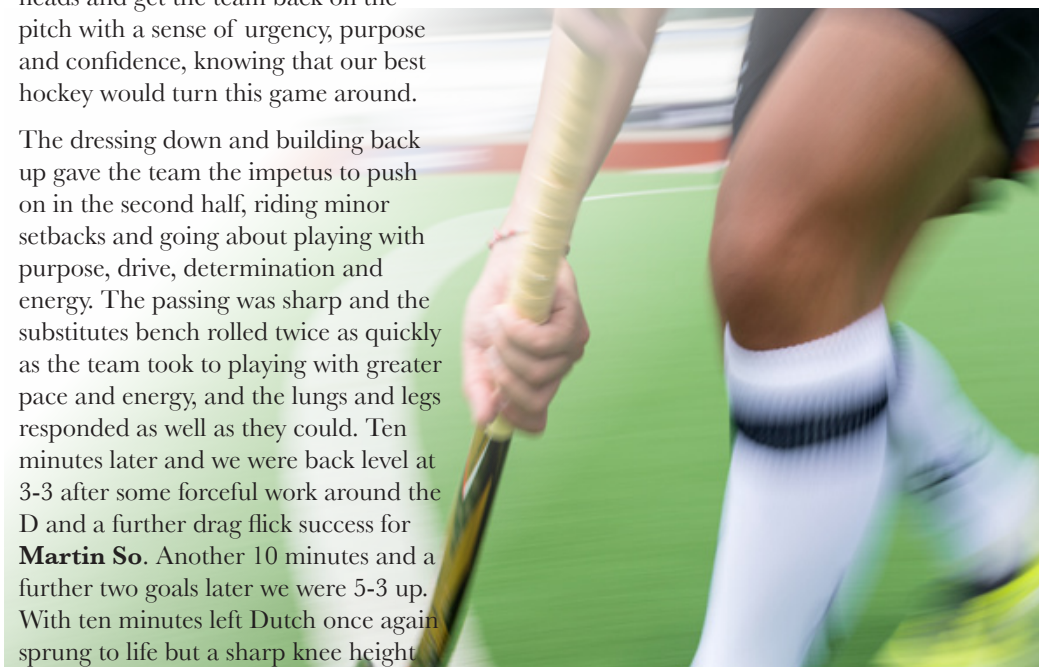
The dressing down and building back up gave the team the impetus to push on in the second half, riding minor setbacks and going about playing with purpose, drive, determination and energy. The passing was sharp and the substitutes bench rolled twice as quickly as the team took to playing with greater pace and energy, and the lungs and legs responded as well as they could. Ten minutes later and we were back level at 3-3 after some forceful work around the D and a further drag flick success for **Martin So**. Another 10 minutes and a further two goals later we were 5-3 up. With ten minutes left Dutch once again sprung to life but a sharp knee height

save from **Chris Page** was enough to deny them and maintain the lead through to a frenetic end.

Only time will tell if the halftime talk which turned a first half loss of 3-1, to a second half win of 4-0, will be a turning point for just that game or the whole season, but you can be sure that the feeling of turning round a game, grabbing a victory through a will to win and ability to play as a team, makes for a much better Monday morning then was looking likely at half time. It's worth remembering that sometimes the most important 5 minutes in a match is the 5 minutes you spend NOT playing.

"It's about knowing when to go ballistic!"
Gordon Strachan

■ **Sam Edwards**



From the Ladies Hockey Captain



Rhona Barr,
Ladies Captain

I love Saturdays when I can play hockey, then sit and watch the games on before and after mine with a nice cold beverage in my hand. Though I'm not getting to watch as much hockey as I would like (someone scheduled most of my games at Boundary Street!) I hear some fantastic results each week. There are thrilling wins, hard fought battles and close games; teams on winning streaks and some fighting tooth and nail to hold off the competition. I'm delighted to report that most games are ending with a positive result.

Most teams will have finished their first round of games by now and it's looking like half the teams are in contention. At the time of writing, the A's are sitting pretty at the top of the Premier, undefeated with big wins over Valley and Shaheen - it's going to take a lot to knock them off the top! The B's on the other hand, are having a tough season with some close calls and unlucky losses - I predict a turnaround on the horizon, with all their hard work paying off.

In the 1st division, the defending champions, the C's, had an exciting game against their rivals this season, HKCC A. They were, in the end, unfortunately beaten 4-2, and pushed into 2nd place in the table, sharing the same points as Recreio B; definitely one to watch! The D's are sitting comfortably mid-table with a game

in hand, after some tough and unlucky draws and a fantastic win over Elite. Their new coach has had a fantastic influence on them and they are looking like a different team.

Looking at the 2nd division, the title could go, potentially to 4 different teams, with both the E's and the F's in contention. They are on the same points as the team in 2nd and only 1 point behind the team in 1st. The F's are, controversially, sitting above the E's with a game in hand. The result of the local derby will be very important!

Last, but not least, the glorious and gorgeous G's are on a winning streak! They've won their last 4 games, scoring 10 goals, leaving them in 2nd place. Though I hope I don't jinx it - may the goal scoring and winning streak continue!

Whilst I'm dwelling on all the silverware we could potentially win this season, I wish the Bangkok tourers the best of luck in defending their title. It is fabulous to see such a wide variety of players taking part, representing 5 different teams within the ladies section. Good luck!

And finally, enjoy the Christmas party! I'm looking forward to the great costumes, a good old ceilidh and seeing you all there! ■

Ladies E Match Report

Saturday 1st November, 4.30 pm Boundary St, HKFC E v LHT A, 10-0

Goals were the objective in this game, the F team are above us in 3rd place with a goal difference of 10 more than us with a game in hand. Double digits were asked for and received.

It could have started very differently with most of the team getting on the wrong bus... all was well though as buses were changed and the official bus driver promoted us to the C team.

With **Di** having pulled a muscle (as a result of over exuberance when cheering **Hannah** as she scored the winning goal in her football

tournament), the Dinos were down to 11 which included **Dani** who was still suffering from the flu.

Arriving at Boundary Street in time, the Dinos set about the normal warm up routine; going to the toilet and exercising our jaw muscles. Imagine our surprise and delight when **Tina** (A team coach and ex New Zealand international player) arrives, all kitted up and declares that she can play 'until 5' when she then had to rush off to KP to coach the A's (they won 5-2, with no goalie). We now had numbers

for a sub!

It was most definitely a game of two halves, with **Tina** as CF, the aim most of the time was to get the ball roughly in her area and to watch as she, **Flo** and **Jo** scored to bring the half time score to 8-0, unfortunately for LHT that they did not have a goalie. What was it at half time that changed for the second half? Was it our impressive score, **Tina's** departure, the determination of LHT or tiredness setting in? Probably all of the above! LHT caught us on the back

KEEP
CALM
AND
HAVE A
CEILIDH

HOCKEY SECTION CHRISTMAS PARTY
SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER

foot on their initial push back by not pushing back at all but running dangerously into our D. It took a while for us to settle and LHT fought gallantly with their speed of taking free hits, a few short corners in their favour and opportunities to score. However, once settled, the second half saw **Dani** dribble silkily through their defence from the top of the D into the back of the net. Our other goal came in the way of a penalty flick that was awarded as a result of a sure goal being stopped by a defender's feet on the goal line. LHT having no goalie, the umpire made the dubious decision to allow the flick to proceed with no helmet despite our protests that a helmet be found. LHT decided to concede the goal.

It was decided that to be awarded MVP (and Dino sweets), you had to be there at the time of the award and **Jo** – for running her guts out again – was MVP! A special mention to **Abi**, **Tina**, **Dani** and **Val** (in goal, keeping LHT at bay). ■



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Club Update



Jimmy Richards holding the Cup

“This season has not started as we hoped,” continue Richards. “I think the games have all been very close. If we had won the first one, it would have been very different after that. I think we have always started quite slowly in the games, which has made things difficult for us.”

But the increasing competition in Hong Kong’s top flight is also playing its part in the results, according to Richards, with the quality of the player pool rising all the time.

“The standard is definitely higher this year. There are a lot more new players coming into the top flight and teams are putting more emphasis on their first teams rather than the teams lower down.”

Richards is looking forward to the opportunity to put things right in the business end of the season and gaining a good level of stability in the Club side is key to success, he says.

“I think things will definitely be better for us in the second half of the season. We have had a look at what’s gone well for us and what we need to work on over this break and if the attitude of the players is positive we can turn it around. It’s been quite tough as we have had a pretty different side every week, so it would be great to have some consistency in the second half.

■ Rob Hartley

Standing out from the crowd in the increasingly competitive Hong Kong rugby scene is becoming harder and harder these days. But one man that has undoubtedly set himself apart is Hong Kong Football Club’s talented captain **Jimmy Richards**. Anyone that regularly watches Club’s games will be familiar with the excitement generated whenever the pacy full back picks up the ball and embarks on one of his probing runs from deep.

Richards’ performances for Club have always been appreciated among his teammates and coaches, but his recent selection in the Hong Kong squad to face Russia means his talents have also been recognised outside Happy Valley.

“I never really came to Hong Kong thinking it would be possible to represent Hong Kong,” says Richards, “but when I found out it was possible, I was very keen as it’s become my home.”

Home previously for South African Richards was Western Province, where he graced the same playing field as Springbok legends Bryan Habana and Schalk Burger. Richards left South Africa in 2006 and embarked on his first adventure in Asian rugby when he played in the top-tier of the Japanese league for the Secom Rugguts before heading to Hong Kong.

So far this season, Club’s results have not been what Richards and the coaches were hoping for, but the fact that losses have only been by narrow margins is creating a strong sense of optimism for the second half of the campaign.





International Rugby Academy New Zealand

HKFC visited the International Rugby Academy New Zealand (IRANZ) from 18th to 25th October, these trips are planned once every two years and this was the 5th trip undertaken. 25 players attended. Nine visitors from other clubs: one from Tin Shui Wai, one from Flying Kukris, five from Tigers and two from Valley. This is a great initiative as we are making these opportunities available to the wider community. Players were from the 1999, 1998, 1997 age groups. Five coaches attended: three from Colts section (boys and girls represented),

one from seniors, and one from HKRFU district development coach. Next trip is scheduled for October 2016.

All the players progressed through the week with a group of top quality coaches led by ex Newcastle Falcons and Hawkes Bay coach **Peter Russell** and including All Blacks legend **Mike Brewer**. The boys were exposed to top level coaching on the paddock and off the field, rugby philosophy and theory was mixed with sports psychology. There was a lot of content force fed in a short period of time. Two games were also organized,

first game against Palmerston North U15 which was a scrappy but close encounter with HKFC being narrowly pipped 34 - 33. All the hard work did pay off in the second game as HKFC beat Te Toa Boys College 43 - 12 showing a massive improvement on the first outing.

The week was topped off by a trip to the ITM Championship Cup final between Manawatu Turbos and Hawkes Bay on Friday night. Friendships made, teams built and a whole lot of rugby knowledge gained.

■ **Norman McElhenny**

Mini Rugby Update

Under 7s

The first tournament of the season was a huge success for the HKFC U7's. Thanks to the USRC Tigers, it was a very well organised and friendly event. As coaches, we were pleased to see the new signs, reminding us all why we were there. "The game is played by children, coaches and referees are all trying their best, it isn't the World Cup." A very positive message which certainly had an effect.

We entered eight teams and all teams did themselves proud. The games were played in a fantastic spirit, with all the children trying their best. The handshakes with their opponents and the smiles afterwards, showed the adults that for the children, at least at this point, it is the playing that is important and not the score.

As coaches, our desire for the children to pass the ball, rather than one quick player constantly running the full length of

the pitch, looked like it was starting to pay off. Although, one particular phase where the ball was passed about six times, to nearly every player on the team, without any real forward direction showed us that the children are possibly taking our instructions too literally!!

Under 8s

Even at this early stage in the season, the boys and girls were able to demonstrate the attack and defence skills they have been working on at our Sunday morning training sessions. In particular, the defensive positional play is showing great improvement across all squads, and there were numerous instances of straight running with passing to supporting players which almost inevitably leads to tries. This was a real treat for the watching coaches and parents alike!



Our newly formed U8 all girls team showed little sign of having never played together as they competed very well in all four of their matches, more than matching the boys' teams with their running and tackling skills and scoring some great tries, again to the great delight of the side-line support.

More importantly, all the kids threw themselves into the games with enthusiasm, energy and an excellent attitude, which made us as coaches happy and proud. This was exemplified when we were short of medals at the end of the day due to our large turnout and a few of the boys (they know who they are) selflessly volunteered to give up their medals on the day. Fortunately, we eventually managed to find some spares so nobody will end up empty-handed for their efforts on the day!

A great start to the U8 festival season and we look forward to further fun at Sandy Bay next time round.

Under 12 Girls

The first tournament of the year is always likely to be an eye opener and this was no exception. The opposition in the Kim Lam Cup competition is huge! Especially compared to our squad where we only have a few girls who played U12 last

year - almost all our girls have made a big step up from U10s. Nevertheless the girls performed well, the results notwithstanding. There was leadership from the front, there was good communication, the girls backed each other up and there was much improved positioning around the field compared with last year; the scrums and line-outs held their own and our backs, when given the chance ran looking for space and opportunity. Onwards and upwards.

by U12 Girls Head Coach, Nick Langford

Under 10 Girls

In the first festival of the season, the U10 Girls got off to a great start to the season. The number of players has grown and three all girl U10 teams represented HKFC at TigerFest. In this festival, the players were applying their technical skills on the field with key "hot spots" terms fully understood. We saw great recycling and presentation of the ball with several - often 6 or 7 - phases. The U10 Girls teams won more games than they lost but all of the girls are having fun, demonstrating team spirit, and are building great friendships and foundations of rugby. ■

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P5 1st team lift Cup in HKJFL Premiership Tournament

P5 1st team won the Cup in the season's first tournament in the U10s HK Junior Football League's Premiership competition. Hosted by Tai Tam Tigers on the south side, twelve of Hong Kong's top U10 teams battled for honours, including two from P5. The 1sts got off to a rocky start suffering a surprise loss in their first match, but a post match debrief (either inspirational or hairdryer in nature depending on source) from coach **Piu Lam** set them back on track, beating the hosts and APSS2 in the remainder of the group matches. Overcoming HK Dragons 1 in the semis, the boys then went on to defeat APSS 1 by 2-1 to win the competition.

Meanwhile P5 2nds, coached through to the final of the Bowl by **Neil Jewsbury**, sought to produce an upset as they faced HK Dragons 1. Having gone behind and with the minutes slipping away, the team looked to force the match to penalties. But, as what looked like a last minute equalizer slipped wide of the post, it was to be runners up medals instead.

A good day out, and a flying start to the season by P5, was celebrated with a noisy bus ride back to the Club!

P5 HKFC1 : Thomas Blanken, Harry Brammer, Arun Jaswal, Matthew Lam, Garrett Lee, Wilf Murphy, Sam Riedal, Daniel Roberts, Rintaro Sekino and Nicolas Stevenson.

P5 HKFC 2: Alex Bater, Liam Bromhead, Josh Cohen, Luke Evans, Lizzie Hau, Gareth Ho, Atif Javed, Oliver Jewsbury, Oli Manders.

Coaches: Neil Jewsbury, Piu Lam, Mark Bromhead, Will Hau.

■ **George Tullis, P5 Head Coach**

Crusaders Soccer



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We are already a month into the HKFC Crusaders season, the numbers have grown even more with additional players registering for the Monday evening sessions and the chatter within the tournament squad is "When's the next tournament?" and Captain **Sean Browne** berating Head Coach - **Nigel R Merritt** - for being lazy and not as a minimum, at least organising a European Tour!!

Well ... European tours aside ...we now know that the next exhibition match for the HKFC Crusaders is ... the Operation Santa Claus charity day at the Stanley Ho Sports Centre in Pok Fu Lam on Sunday 30th November . More on that in future articles.

The Prudential Assurance Company have yet again lent their support, endorsement and generous sponsorship to the HKFC Crusaders for another season and we'll hopefully be featuring an interview with the CEO - **Mr Derek Yung** - in next month's magazine.

At a recent Richard Keys and Andy Gray charity dinner (a fund raiser for ISF) at the Club, a video of the HKFC Crusaders was shown to the assembled crowd (numbering just under 500) and you could hear a pin drop as the event attendees marveled at the passion, dedication, enthusiasm and skill of the HKFC Crusaders players and long may that last!

We'll be interviewing a few of the HKFC Crusaders as the season progresses, so watch this space!!

■ **Nigel R Merritt -
HKFC Crusaders Head Coach**

Sportsman's Dinner raises *HK\$385,000* for Charity *ISF*

Around 450 sports fans attended a Sportsman's Charity Dinner in aid of THE INDOCHINA STARFISH FOUNDATION (ISF) at the HKFC Sports Hall on Thursday 30th October. Guest after dinner speakers were the legendary soccer TV pundits ANDY GRAY AND RICHARD KEYS.

The pair were the face and lynchpins of SKY SPORTS for over 20 years, moving to Qatar satellite network Al Jazeera's beIN Sports channel, after an acrimonious parting of the ways with Sky Sports. They still host a soccer magazine programme on Talksport on UK radio.

Gray and Keys, who were largely responsible for introducing British football fans to the in-depth, forensic play-by-play analysis that is now standard on worldwide Soccer TV programmes, regaled the audience with their witty anecdotes and often controversial views about the state of soccer generally. No stones were left unturned including the hosting of the World Cup in 2022 in their adopted home Qatar.

The event was jointly organized by the HKFC Soccer Section and the HK Rangers Supporters Club, generously supported by their sponsors, Cathay Pacific, Upper House by courtesy of Swire Properties, Baker Tilly and Montrose Fine Wines.

Aside from an excellent night of humour, entertainment, good food and wine, the winners on the night was the INDOCHINA STARFISH FOUNDATION, which helps some of the poorest, most disadvantaged children in Cambodia.



The football shirts auctioned, the heads and tails game, and pledges, raised a total of HK\$385,000 during the evening — an extraordinary show of generosity from all those who attended!

The organizers acknowledge and thank all their sponsors for their fantastic support and encouragement, the HKFC Management and Staff for being excellent hosts, and to all the attendees for giving so much to such a worthwhile cause.

Finally to Andy Gray and Richard Keys for coming to Hong Kong to make the evening so memorable — our grateful and warmest thanks.

You focused on what you've always done best; talk football! You are welcome back anytime!!

■ *Ally Macleod*



Captain's Report



Stephen Tew,
Soccer Section Captain

Hello, hello it's that time of year again...how time flies...

This month **Freek Schipper** catches up with professional footballers **Jack Sealy**, **Andy Russell** and **Michael Campion** who have all been a part of our youth development system and senior sides. Big thanks to Freek for the article and to the guys for their time.

Mike Wilson pens the first of a new feature sharing his greatest Club XI taken from his 18 years as a player.

We will hold the traditional festival of **Football on Boxing Day** with the event starting early morning with games taking place from U-10 all the way through to the traditional battle of the auld enemy **England vs. Scotland**.

Watch out for more details from your coaches, the Section website and around the Club.

Lastly, wishing you all a great Xmas and happy new year.

Cheers,

Tewy



Jack Sealy in his Junior Soccer days (middle bottom row)



Michael Campion (top left)



Andy Russell as a youngster

Interview with Jack, Andy and Michael

Around 600 players currently participate in the Junior Soccer programme down the Club, which offers children aged 5 to 18, boys and girls, the opportunity to learn how to play the "Beautiful Game." While some of them might just play for fun, others might be dreaming of playing professionally in front of thousands of fans. For great examples of those that have gone all the way, they have to look no further than some of their own coaches such as **Jack Sealy** (U18s), **Andy Russell** (U16s) and **Michael Campion** (U16s).

All three started out playing for the Club at a very young age and are now full-time professionals in the Hong Kong Premier League. Jack (27- Right Back) and Andy (26 – Centre Back) are teammates at local powerhouse South China AA while Michael (30 – Centre Midfield) plays for current table-toppers Sun Pegasus.

We sat down with the three of them and talked childhood memories, league titles, own goals, Anto Grabo, Bobby Lawson and much much more.

HKFC Junior/Colts

1. First memory of playing for the Club as a Junior/Colt?

JS: Coming on as 12 year old (still the youngest player to play in the Yau Yee League) for Colts in the YYL Fourth Division. The sleeves on my shirt were coming down to my wrists, because believe it or not, I was actually much smaller than I am now.

AR: My earliest memory is when **James Beacher** and I used to play behind the goals at the Club when our dads played together. I would wear my full Liverpool kit and James his full Sheffield Wednesday kit. Looking at how James's football career has progressed recently I can only guess we must not have practiced shooting, dribbling, tracking back, heading, movement, tackling, passing and crossing. I guess we just must have stood around and had a laugh. I do remember my Colts debut. I always used to be on the bench in the early days and out of nowhere Bob (**Bobby Lawson**) was naming the team and started me left wing! Safe to say I was back on the bench the next week.

MC: Posing for the very first Mini soccer photograph at the 'old football club' in the early 90s, before our present clubhouse was built. All us kids had just received brand new kits from the late, great **Henrik Lorenz** and were giddy with excitement.

2. Best memory of playing for the Club as a Junior/Colt and why?

JS: Hearing the words "Jacky, GET WARM" from Sir Bobby Lawson because you knew he was serious and you knew you were about to come on. Also, scoring my first goal for Colts aged 14, and seeing Sir Bobby skip over to me like a Gazelle and nestle me in his bosom, while simultaneously cutting off any air flow. And I must also mention playing on the same team with my brother **Mike** and my Dad.

AR: As a junior the list is endless. My fondest memories are always of the tournaments we used to play on Saturday afternoons. For Colts it's impossible to pick one particular

moment from the 2002/03 season which seems to be one great memory as a whole. It was my first full season playing week in week out and we just lost out on winning the Yau Yee league, finishing second to Wanderers. I got to play with some of my boyhood idols such as **Matt Shutt** and **Mike Wilson** and was introduced to the concept of team nights out and Christmas parties.



Andy Russell and Martyn Russell

MC: Some people can recount to you exactly, play by play, every game they've ever played in. I on the other hand, honestly remember very little from my football past. Scoring six goals in a Yau Yee League game for Wanderers just after my 17th birthday is one that sticks in the mind though. I think my Dad was genuinely annoyed with me as he had to pay for two of those massive hat-trick jugs in the Sportsman's Bar afterwards - I'd scored four the previous week so his Club bill was getting ridiculous. Funnily enough, I have never scored a hat-trick for the Club since I started paying my own bill...

3. Best coach at the Club as a Junior/Colt and why?

JS: There were many greats at Junior Level such as **Tommy Vincent**, but I'm going to have to go with **Anto Grabo**. We drove him mad (which may be why he's got less hair now), but despite the shouting and the swearing, he managed to coach us week in week without fail, and lead our group to numerous Cup wins at every age group.

AR: I have to go for two people here. Firstly, **Paul Sayer** who despite ill health did an incredible amount for our age group when we were in Mini Soccer and I am very thankful and never forgot the opportunities he provided for myself and the other lads.

Secondly, **Anto Grabo**. Looking back we drove him mental constantly messing around and having a laugh. However Anto certainly did get his own back one session. For some reason he had us practicing free kicks with a full wall with Anto being the one taking the free kicks. I will never forget as he blasted the ball straight into **Ed Haynes's** stomach who fell to the ground in agony! I certainly regret it now and wish I had knuckled down and got as much as I could out of those sessions. Anto was/ still is so talented as a player and has such great passion for the game. I wish I had made better use of his coaching and expertise in those early days.

MC: It would be unfair to choose one over others. I've played for **Bobby Lawson, Tony Bratsanos, Martyn Russell, Tony Sealy, Paul Foster** and many others have helped me along the way too. I'm grateful to them all and feel that I've taken something from every coach.

HKFC First Team

1. What do you remember of your debut in the First Team?

JS: I remember being nervous playing with players like **John "Pimmy" Pimlott** and **Ashley Dyer** as I really looked up to them. But after about 10 minutes I wasn't sure why...

AR: I made my first team debut when I was 16 and it was very daunting. I remember feeling a little bit out of my depth and a real need to try and improve as much as possible.

MC: I honestly don't remember. Sorry!

2. Best memory of playing for the First Team and why?



Michael Campion (top left)

JS: On a personal level, scoring a hat trick against Fire Services when I was 16 and on a team level, winning the League and Junior Shield. Also, actually being able to speak to everyone on the team and taking part in good team banter.

AR: It would have to be when I scored in the Junior Shield final at Mong Kok stadium. We ended up winning the game 3 or 4-0 and it just rounded up an amazing season where we won the league, Junior Shield and the Singapore 7's.

MC: I do remember part of my debut season as a 17 year old, coming on as a late sub in a game against South China at Mong Kok Stadium. I think we were a couple of goals down by that point (as you'd expect) and I collected a loose ball on the edge of our own box and just thought "sod it, I'll run with it!" I travelled with it at pace, I'm surging in to their half now and I can hear the crowd urging me on, and just as I'm deciding which way to go round their last man I get completely taken out from behind by one of their Brazilian lads tracking back. A real professional foul.

But it didn't really matter, I had felt for just a moment, what it was like to be in a decent stadium and felt that noise a crowd makes as a player bears down on goal. It was an adrenaline rush and I was hooked. I wanted more. I still do. For the record, I think **Grainger** or **Deadly (Ashley) Dyer** put the resulting free kick on to Boundary Street.

3. Most memorable teammate in the First Team and why?

JS: Big call, but I'm going with **Ashley Dyer**. We had 1 season where he played right back (obviously as far away from goal as possible) and I was playing right mid field which turned into a dream partnership! That's a load of rubbish.... the real reason is because he used to look after the young guys such as **Andy Russell**, **Torin Didenko** and myself on team nights out by buying everyone fish bowls and making us look 'cool' with the girls because we hung out with older men.

AR: Going to have to go for two people here. Firstly, **Richard Lant** who at the time was my teacher at school and I couldn't break out of the habit of calling him Mr. Lant on the pitch. I had such great admiration and respect for him as a player and learnt so much from playing alongside him.

Secondly, **John 'Pimmie' Pimlott**. I would have only been 16/17 at the time and we went on a few team nights out and **Ashley Dyer** and **Pimmie** would always sort out the younger lads especially with a few fish bowls down in Kangaroo. I used to feel like a million bucks on those team nights out! When I was growing up playing junior football I always looked up to **Pimmie** (mainly because I really used to fancy his missus....) so it was great to be his team mate.

MC: I've been blessed with plenty over the years, but I enjoyed playing with **Anto Grabo** the most. He was better than me of course, but we were always on the same wavelength it was just so easy. A midfielder's dream.

HKFC Coach

1. How is being on the 'other side' now you're a coach at the Club instead of a player?

JS: I still don't really feel like a coach to be honest, I still feel like one of the players. But its funny making comparisons between myself and other guys I used to play with at that age, and seeing exactly how we used to act at training. As a coach you try and help, give advice and mould a team the way you want them to play, but in reality, a lot of the kids playing at the Club just want to play and have fun with their friends, so you have to make sure to get the right balance between serious, hard work and fun.

AR: I have only just started being a coach down the Club, however so far so good. Hopefully over the course of the season we can make great improvements and have some of the U16 team pushing for a place in the Colts.

MC: It feels a bit strange sometimes having come full circle at the Club, but I genuinely enjoy coaching. I'm in my fourth season with the U16s now and having been in the same boat as the kids, I think that's a positive thing. They can relate to myself, Jack and Andy.

2. What do you enjoy most of being a coach at the Club?

JS: Being a proper part of the Soccer Section again and not just being the Sections number 1 fan and gate crasher at all the Section events! Also seeing the development of the kids, some more than others, from the beginning to the end of the year.

AR: I suppose I am in a fortunate position in that I have gone right through the system, which they are in the process of going through right now. In addition I have good experience both playing University football and football outside of Hong Kong so I feel I am in a good position to support and offer

advice as to what it takes to continue playing competitively when moving on to University.

MC: My goal is to help guide the boys to become better men, not just better footballers. I'm fully conscious of the fact that 99% of what I say to them will just be discarded, they are teenagers after all! But if I can say just one thing, or show them something that really resonates with them and sticks in their mind for years to come, then that's success to me.

3. How has the Section changed since you first started playing here as a kid?

JS: Honestly, the Section hasn't changed one bit since I started; apart from that they've stopped selling Orange Lucozade in the Sportsman's Bar. The coaches are still putting in a huge effort to make sure the kids have a pathway to the 1st Team and beyond and they deserve a lot of credit for all their hard work over the years.

AR: There are a lot more teams now and in general it is a lot better organised than when I was growing up. However its funny because when you coach now you can see the kids are exactly the same as we were when I played junior football. The things we used to do that used to make **Anto** tear his hair out, the kids do now to make me tear my hair out!

MC: It's like night and day. Mini Soccer has grown and grown. The HKFA Henderson Youth League set up is on the whole very good, providing regular, competitive football at every age group from 12 to 18. This just didn't exist when I was a kid. It's practically the reason why Colts was formed, to fill that giant void kids entered when they hit 12 years of age.

Professional Career:

1. Highlight of your professional career so far?

JS: Although I've only been playing professionally for 4 years, I've been fortunate enough to play in some pretty big games, which I'm quite proud of such as the Barclays Asia Trophy against Manchester City and Tottenham in July 2013, getting my first official cap for HK National Team against Myanmar in October 2013 and most recently playing against Argentina in the HKFA 150 Year Anniversary Celebratory Match in October 2014.

AR: If I had to choose one specifically it would be winning promotion via the Play offs with Chorley FC.

MC: Probably turning out for the HK national team in 2012 up in China. There were 25,000 or so watching and

the noise was deafening. To be honest, I've been very unfortunate with injuries over the last few years, which has prevented me from achieving as much as I hoped to. I'd like to think that my best moment is still to come.

2. What are your ambitions as a player?

JS: As the Tony Hibbert of HK Football, I suppose I need to get a few more goals to my name. I'd also like to continue playing for the National Team as much as I can, and possibly get a move to a team abroad.

AR: This is my first season playing professionally in Hong Kong as I have been playing in the UK for the last 7 years. I want to establish myself as a regular in the South China team first and then hopefully my form will warrant a call up for the national team.

MC: I've learnt over the years that it's better to keep grand plans to yourself. Let's just say that I haven't achieved my biggest goal in professional football yet. If I can stay clear of injuries, keep working hard and get a slice of luck then hopefully I'll get there and I can talk about it.

If you are aged between 12-19 and are interested in personal one on one or small group coaching sessions with Andy, please contact him on: **Andrew_russell5@outlook.com** ■



Michael Campion



Jack Sealy



Andy Russell at the Soccer 7's



Michael Campion in action for Sun Pegasus



Jack playing against Argentina and marking Di Maria Man United Star.



Andy Russell playing for South China

Mike Wilson's HKFC 11

Having the unusual privilege of representing every single one of the men's teams in the Soccer Section (both competitively and socially) during my 18 years of membership at the HKFC I feel uniquely placed to give a run-down of my HKFC best 11. So here goes:

Goalkeeper: Rudi Hollander

The wardrobe, a man mountain of a goalkeeper who does not only command the goal but is also surprisingly agile for his size. If you have ever been in the Club while the first team is playing you can usually hear him shouting at someone on his own team from the pool.

Centre Back: Richard Lant

Probably the best centre half I have seen at the Club. Lanty is a no nonsense centre half who seldom lost a header or 50/50 tackle, represented the first team into his 40s. He made the game easy for anyone playing alongside him and is a born leader. Also the proud owner of the sharpest elbows in world football.

Centre Back: Gary Gheczy

Gary has been an integral part of the first team for the last few seasons and is a classy player who likes to bring the ball out from the back and has an uncanny eye for goal for a centre half. This season has seen him form an intimidating partnership with Scotsman John Ramage that has rarely conceded goals.

Centre Back: Allan Fraser

Lead the first team since moving to Hong Kong in 2006, former Celtic player Allan Fraser was equally adept at the back as he was up front. Was not only a great player for the first team but was also a fantastic leader both on and off the pitch until he decided to step down at the end of last season to help develop the youngsters in the Colts.

Midfield: Rob Scott

This selection might surprise a few people but if you haven't had the opportunity to watch this young man play, you should do. For the last few years he has been terrorizing the teams in the 1st division with his pace, skill, crossing ability and eye for goal. The fact that he is only in his mid-20's gives the first team some great hope for the future as well.

Midfield: John Pimlott

Salford boy John Pimlott was one of the players I enjoyed watching the most in the 1st Team when I moved to Hong Kong. A tough tackling midfielder who loved the physical side of the game but also possessed a good first touch, two great feet and could pick a pass. Pimmy was also notorious for missing the goal during the warm up and completely taking out an unsuspecting bystander.

Midfield: Mark Grainger

The Soccer Section's own Andrea Pirlo (with the hair to match). What a great midfielder to watch, box to box in his prime and a range of passing that was to be admired. Was still representing the second team well into his 40s but it was his time in the 1st team where he really shone, playing alongside Hung Jai Lo they commanded the midfield during the some of the 1st teams most dominant years.

Midfield: Hung Jai Lo

When Hung Jai first joined the Club after leaving one of the pro teams in the HKFA 1st division he could only speak a few words of English (which were mainly taught to him by Ashley Dyer and consisted of the phrase "Dodgy Barnet"), but he let his football do the talking. Another great passer of the football who wasn't afraid of a tackle, Hung Jai embodied what the Section stands for both on and off the pitch. He was an ever present in the first team until stepping down last season to focus on helping develop junior football both inside and outside of the club.

Attacking Midfield: Nick Sandor

The term "white line fever" has never been more appropriate for one person, the nicest

person you could possibly meet off the pitch, the angriest man who hated everyone and anyone on it! That aside, Nick was hugely talented, could score and create goals, close control like you could not believe and a passion to win which was nothing but infectious. Nick was only a member of the first team for a few years but one of the most gifted players the Club has had in recent times.

Centre Forward: Paul Wilkin

Wilko scored goals for fun, a classic number 9 who could find the net with both feet and his head. During his time in the first team he was the Club top scorer at for all but one year When I beat him to the title! (Due to the fact that he broke his leg at Christmas and was injured for 6 months)

Centre Forward: Anto Grabo

If you are a member of the Soccer Section you know Anto Grabo, the man is a legend not only at the Club but throughout Hong Kong as well. Makes the game look effortless, scores goals for fun and one of the best coaches I have had during my time at the Club. I have had the pleasure of playing with Anto on a number of occasions and one time told me "pass me the ball and I will score, it is simple", never a truer word spoken from arguably the best player to represent the Club at any level.

Manager: Bob Lawson, Tony Brats and Tony Sealy

The trio of Bob, Tony Brats and TS were my first coaches at the Club and made me realize what an absolute privilege it was to play down here. I have been fortunate to play for the Club for over 18 years, but without them and the formation of the Colts I don't think I would have had the incredible experience I have been fortunate to have.

Notable mentions:

Mike and Jack Sealy, Andrew Russell, Eddie Chambers, Alex Ramirez, Phil Dowding and Ashley Dyer. ■



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In 2014, our students were awarded places at the following schools:

Winchester College (5 students including one scholarship),
Eton College, Harrow, Wycombe Abbey, Downe House,
Cheltenham Ladies' College, Badminton, Benenden,
Charterhouse, St Swithun's, Headington, Oundle, King's College,
Canterbury, Wellington, Clifton College, Magdalen College,
Rugby, Stowe, Radley College, Westminster, Sevenoaks,
Tonbridge, Epsom, Dragon School, Summer Fields, Port Regis,
GSIS, DGS, DBS, ESF Schools.

Universities: Oxford, Cambridge, UCL, King's College London,
Imperial, NYU, University of Hong Kong.



The 8th Consecutive Championship of our Ladies in Division One

It was a new record in the bowling history of Hong Kong that a single club has won the championships in Division One eight times in a row. Our ladies did it. Well done, ladies! Our A team ladies secured the championship before they played their last game. In addition, our C team ladies also secured their championship in Division 3 before the last game and they will be promoted to Division Two the following season. They were all overwhelmed with joyfulness and

excitement. They started their three waves of celebration after the last two games and at the End of Season Party. Champagne corks were popping away continuously throughout the celebrations. **Tim Leung** sponsored 8 bottles of pink champagne after the last game for the great success of the ladies and, at the same time, to celebrate **Winnie Au's** birthday. You can share their happiness from the photos of the three occasions. Congratulations to our ladies! ■



Club Ladies and Men's Single's Competitions

Our Club Ladies and Men's Singles competitions were completed in November. **Celena Kwok** and **Wanis Sze** were the ladies' finalists while **Derek Wyllie** and **Warren Cheung** were competing for the Men's singles title. Derek Wyllie was the defending champion. The finals were exciting and tight. They all demonstrated a high level of bowling skills and respectful sportsmanship in the finals. As a result, Celena Kwok won her first title at the Club and Derek Wyllie successfully defended his title. Both of them will represent the Club in the Champion of Champions on the 15th March. Wishing them all the best and success in the coming competition.



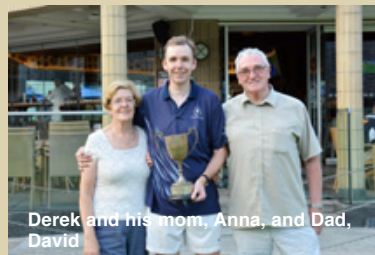
Celena and Herbert



Ladies Champion, Celena Kwok



Club Men's Singles Champion, Derek and runner-up, Warren



Derek and his mom, Anna, and Dad, David



Men's Champion, Derek



End of Season Party held on 7th November 2014



About 78 Section and family members joined the party. We also invited the Classic players from the Philippines and Wales to join the party. Cheers and laughter were all over the Happy Valley Suites. The party kicked off with the third wave of the celebration of our Ladies. Eight bottles of Champagne were popped to celebrate their Eighth Championship in Division One. After the delicious dinner buffet, we started the prize presentation and games. A special crystal trophy with No. 8 logo was presented to each A team lady as a souvenir of their great effort and success over the past years. The most touching moment was the presentation of a beautiful bouquet of flowers to **Camilla** by the ex-Lady Captain, **Lydia Yang**. It was to thank Camilla for her great devotion and contribution in taking care of the A team ladies for so many years.



The evening was mixed with excitement and laughter. Fun games were organised, presents were given to all the winners, and special awards were presented to outstanding bowlers of the year 2014:



LAWN BOWLS

Ladies' Most Improved Player: **Phyllis Wong**
 Ladies' Most Valuable Player: **Terri Tsang**
 Men's Most Improved Player: **Koon Cheng**
 Men's Most Valuable Player: **Wong Chi To**
 Congratulations to these players!

Another highlight of the evening was the 'Lucky Draw'. We want to thank the following Section members who generously donated 'Lai See', red wine, tunnel tickets and many other presents for this part of the party. They were **Wing Chan, Kenneth Pang, Louis Ko, Derek Wyllie, John McNie** and **Daisy McNie**. Thanks a lot for their great support to the Section. ■



Most Improved Player Phyllis Wong



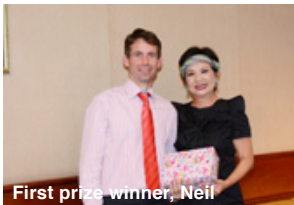
Most Valuable Player Terri Tsang



Most Improved Player Koon Cheng



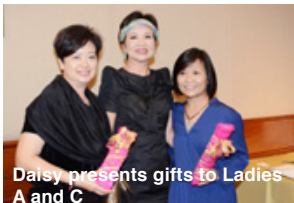
Most Valuable Player CT Wong



First prize winner, Neil



Lucky draw winner



Daisy presents gifts to Ladies A and C



Lucky draw winner



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Karin Loram,
Netball DSA Chairwoman

Chairwoman's Report

Merry Xmas and Happy Holidays!

We have already passed the first half of the season with several HKFC teams placed in the top of their divisions. Great work so far ladies!

Make sure you keep up the hard work and training over Xmas and remember that we are back into it with our first game starting early on the 5th January.

Juniors have also been working hard with the first 10 week term behind them and they look forward to starting the JNL again in January, this time over on Aberdeen side.

The juniors celebrated their hard work with a Pizza Party by the pool on 3rd November, and as you can see from the photo, they had a blast! The DSA would like to give a big shout out to **Cheryl White** in her help with putting it all together in record fast time.

In international news, the Fast5 Netball World Series was held in November.

The FAST5 Ferns presented Irene van Dyk a fitting farewell when winning their third successive title after posting a 35-31 win over Australia in the Grand Final in Auckland. England placed third, Jamaica fourth and South Africa cemented fifth place.

Lastly, please make sure you are up to date with your community hours. If you haven't performed any yet, then please ask your captain how you can make up some hours. Look out for coaching and umpiring courses being offered during the Tri - Nations late January 2015, so you can get in early.

Check out the shots of some of the teams in action from Takumi Photography. ■



HKFC Typhoon

Photo Courtesy of Takumi Photography



HKFC Club



Juniors Pizza Party



HKFC Club



HKFC Typhoon



Gary Player Charity Dinner

A Golfing Legend Visits the HKFC

On the evening of 6th November 2014, the Golf Society and the Club as a whole was honoured to host the golfing legend, **Gary Player**, for a dinner and charity fund raiser in the Club's Restaurant.

At the tender age of only 79, Gary Player had just arrived in Hong Kong at 11pm the previous night from Shanghai, and had already played (and walked) a round of golf at Fanling, inspected race horses at Sha Tin, been to the gym at his hotel and was still on fine form to pose for countless pictures and chat with enthusiastic admirers when he arrived at the Club by 7pm that evening.

Gary Player must be one of the greatest sportsmen of all time in any discipline. He has won 165 tournaments over six decades on six continents, including nine majors, and is only one of five golfers ever to win a career Grand Slam of all the 4 majors. He has also had an amazingly distinguished senior golf career, and at 79 shoots below his age almost every time he plays golf which is beyond the wildest dreams of any normal golfer to achieve even once in a lifetime.

Beyond golf, Gary is a huge fan of horse racing, breeding many top race horses. Perhaps more importantly, through his Player Foundation, Gary has raised over US\$50m to help underprivileged children and impoverished communities worldwide.

Following a pleasant cocktail and an excellent dinner, Gary was invited to speak and take part in a Q&A session by **Fergus McCoig** who kindly "volunteered" for the job of MC at short notice.

Once Gary took the stage, there was no stopping him as he regaled the audience pretty much non-stop for the next 45 minutes with interesting and amusing stories of his time with the likes of Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Lee Trevino, how to fix Tiger Woods career, fitness, healthy eating and his general views on the world. These covered gun laws, politics, child rearing and how to succeed among others. But it was the passion and humour which he conveyed when expressed his views that captivated everyone's attention!

Gary's session ended with a quick fire auction of some very special golfing memorabilia from his Major winning career. This was very well supported. Combined with the silent auction of a stay in his Thai villa kindly donated by **Dallas Reid** and a lucky draw, an overall total of over HK\$200,000 was raised as a donation from the Society to the Player Foundation as our way of showing Gary our appreciation.

The evening ended with an exchange of gifts by Gary to the Golf Society of a beautiful framed selection of great signed pictures capturing Grand Slam Golf Major winning moments from Gary's stellar career and by the



Gary presents David Richards with Signed Augusta Flag



Gary presents Golf Majors Grand-Slam Gift to Ian



Gary with Golf Society Committee AH IP FM GP JS DA DM DR RN



Top:
Gary and JP Cuvelier

Middle:
Ian presents HKFC Gifts to Gary

Bottom:
Gary thanks Becky Thomas for her
generous donation!



Gary with Darren McEntee and event sponsor iTrainer

Society to Gary of HKFC mementos. Unlike most of Gary's golfing opponents, the Society thinks we may have won that match!

Gary was genuinely touched by the tremendous reception he received in Hong Kong from the fans he met. He was also extremely impressed by the quality and range of sporting facilities and activities in the Club. Moreover, Gary was charming, engaging with everyone present and full of vitality, setting an example to us all! We are sure everyone who attended the event came away inspired by his incredible energy, an awareness of his amazing sporting record, and his huge desire to take advantage of his achievements to give back and make the world a better place.

Although Gary had to leave at 9.30pm to make his flight to South Africa that night, the party went on into the wee hours.

The Society and all participants who included representatives of the other Societies we play, the HK Golf Association and the HK Golf Club, are all most grateful to our member **JP Cuvelier**, a long time friend of Gary's, who invited him to give up his valuable time to visit us and provide such a truly memorable and historic evening to the Club.

The Chairman of the Society, **Ian Petersen**, wishes to thank Committee Members **Darren McEntee** and **Dallas Reid**, Event Organiser **Phil Head** and MC **Fergus McCoig**, as

well as **Winki Ho** and the rest of the Club's Catering/F&B team for helping to make this event such a success.

We also thank iTrainer for its generous sponsorship as well as **David Richards**, **John Kelsey-Fry** and **Becky Thomas** for making our charitable auction such a success and everyone who contributed donations to the lucky draw.

But of course our Society's greatest thanks go to the legendary sportsman, Gary Player himself for providing us with this wonderful opportunity.

See you at the 19th hole. ■

Ian Petersen
Chairman
HKFC Golf Society

Kau Sai Chau South Thursday 23rd October 2014

Only 8 intrepid golfers ventured onto the South Course of Kau Sai Chau on what was my 2nd golf outing as event organiser. Was the course too easy or short for most of our Golf Society members? If this is the case then I'm afraid to say that we didn't do the course justice as there was only 1 score in the 70's, and high 70's at that!

The first group consisting of myself, **Patrick Watts**, **Nick Rickett** and **Christophe Baleyte** decided to play a team better ball competition amongst ourselves, myself and Patrick losing the front 9, 2 down. Thankfully some erratic tee shots from Christophe allowed us back into the match to halve it with 4 to go and we sneaked a 1 up win. Well done to my partner Patrick for making a nett hole in one on the stroke index 1 hole, amazing!

With only the fun prizes up for grabs (no stableford or best gross prizes for less than 12 players) nearly everyone in both

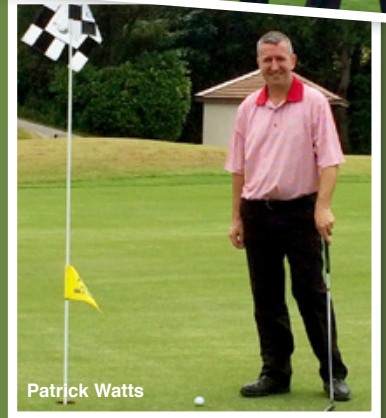
flights had a good chance of winning some golf balls.

Longest Drive Men	Phil Head
Longest Drive Ladies	Mary Soo
Nearest Pin Hole 2	Patrick Watts
Nearest Pin Hole 5	Phil Head
Nearest Pin Hole 11	Nick Rickett
Nearest Pin Hole 16	Christophe Baleyte

Gross Scores for the Day

Phil Head	77
Nick Rickett	85
Christophe Baleyte	88
Patrick Watts	93
Allan Hay	92
Mary Soo	92
Dominic Ng	102
Angela Koo	115

Another fantastic day on the golf course...



Patrick Watts



Phil Enjoying the HKFC Salmon for lunch!

Yinli Golf Society Outing

Friday 7th November 2014



8 eager golfers set off from Wanchai bus depot at the rather early time of 6.30am, passports in hand and all ready for a golfing adventure in China. This was my first trip to Yinli and I had heard mixed reports of the odd course layout, double greens and out of the way location. All of this however was not going to dampen our spirits, even though it was drizzling and rather dark, after all we are playing golf on a school day!!!

As there was no stableford of gross scores tournament the first 4 ball consisting of myself, **Mike Hamlyn**, **Andrew Wood** and **Jonathan Li** decided to play a team better ball match with myself and Mike pairing up. The front 9 was very closely contested which finished all square with a memorable birdie putt from Woody from off the green. The back 9 saw Mike and I take the lead 1 up with the help of a net eagle from Mike but we were all square at the 16th. Woody lived up to his name by ricocheting twice off the trees and

back onto the fairway and Mike and I succumbed to a 2 down loss. A very hard fought match, well done Woody and Jonathan.

A special mention must go to Woody for securing 3 of the 4 nearest the pins and to **James Luk** for pipping Phil for the 4th on the very long and tough 210 yard par 3 15th and for doing the same to Mike for the longest drive on hole 13.

The Course was in fantastic condition and every hole was very different with the majority being dog legs, which really tested our skills. The greens were in immaculate condition and fast and there really were 2 of them for each hole!!!

The complimentary lunch was very well received the Hainan chicken being exceptionally palatable.

All in all a great day of golf and worth the 2 hour transit.. We will be back...

■ *Phil Head, Golf Event Organiser*

Final Scores

Phil Head	77
Andrew Wood	84
Jonathan Li	92
Mike Hamlyn	97
Rick Ho	96
Peter Mak	98
James Luk	100
Norman Wong	105

Longest Drive

Hole 13	James Luk
---------	-----------

Nearest Pin

Hole 3	Andrew Wood
Hole 8	Andrew Wood
Hole 12	Andrew Wood
Hole 15	James Luk

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- AC 7 04MAY YVRHKG 1300 1705 Arrive 05MAY
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- ~ Daily breakfast at the hotel

*Marathon/Race entry fee is excluded. Price is subject to change without prior notice.

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*Marathon/Race entry fee is excluded. Price is subject to change without prior notice.



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Chairman's Report

Tennis Results

Winter leagues are in full swing, following their promotion to the A+ division the Ladies are holding their own and will maintain their status, a great achievement. Men's A+ also have some good results and steady progress in the top division. Ladies B also continue their fine form. Our Men's B have made the play-offs for the first time in their history, C's are 5-0 and optimistic they too can make the play-offs, not forgetting the D's who are also in line to make the play-offs. A busy end of season for the men's B, C and D.

Men's League

A+: 2 wins, 4 losses
 B: 6 wins, 1 loss (semi-finals)
 C: 5 wins, 0 losses
 D: 5 wins, 1 loss

Ladies League

A+: 4 wins, 4 losses
 B: 4 wins, 1 loss

Ladies Morning

Premier: 3 wins, 4 losses
 Div 4: 3 wins, 4 losses

Junior League

B: 6 wins, 1 loss

Other News

The committee extends their appreciation to **Katherine** for taking over the Ladies Captaincy and **Gus Henderson** for stepping in as Treasurer following the departures of **Celina** and **Trevor** respectively. Both Celina and Trevor have been committee stalwarts and will be missed, many thanks for your contributions to the Tennis Society.

Clear Water Bay Invitational Tennis Challenge

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon on 25th October, a team of six ladies and five men captained by Job Tang went to Clearwater Bay to take part in the Clearwater Bay Golf and Country Club Interclub Tennis Challenge 2014. This was the second time HKFC had been invited to this event and together with Kowloon Cricket Club (KCC), there were three participating clubs competing for the trophy.

It was perfect weather for a full afternoon of tennis: windless, cool and dry. It was a mix-around doubles draw where our ladies and men paired in random with different divisions and genre. A special mention to our two

teenage players, Mason and Richard, who played with great spirit and energy during the afternoon against their older opponents.

As reigning champions, HKFC unfortunately could not pull this off for the second time and had to settle as runners-up. The eventual winners were KCC with 17.5 points, HKFC 14 points and CWB 13.5 points. The evening finished with a sumptuous BBQ dinner where all the clubs had the chance to mingle with each other and the trophies were given out.

Thanks to all the players who turned up to represent the HKFC.



Dates for Diary

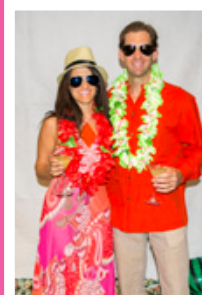
Dear fellow Tennis Society members and HKFC Members. Our upcoming events for the rest of 2014 and mid-year 2015 are set out on the adjacent table. We have an event happening each month, so please mark the dates in your diary and look out for further information as the event gets closer.

2014	
13th Dec	Christmas Party Junk Trip
2015	
24th Jan	Australian Open Tennis Social 2pm – 6pm
28th Feb	Club Championships Adult / Junior
Mar	Social Tennis Doubles Ladder –(TBC)
17th Apr	Start of Season BBQ
25th Apr	Charity Cup
16th May	HKFC Invitational Club Challenge
30th May	French Open
18th Jun	AGM
4th Jun	Wimbledon Social

Tennis Society Annual Party

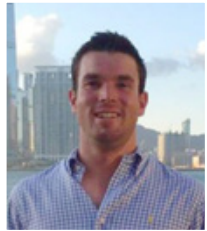
The 4th annual Tennis Society Party was held in early November at the Club's Restaurant. The theme this year was 'Bright Colours/ Hawaiian Theme'. The Party was well supported by Tennis Society members and friends, dressed in their finest colourful outfits. Everyone was treated to a fabulous three course meal and five hours of free flowing alcohol throughout the evening. The highlight of the evening was having two traditional Hawaiian dancers entertain us, and they provided some much needed lessons to our male contingent.

There were also some fabulous prizes given away on the night, ranging from tennis racquets, tennis bags, tennis lessons, wine and a music player. Thanks goes to: Australian Tennis Aces who donated a lot of the prizes for the evening; Treasury Wines who supplied 12 bottles of wine for prizes; and Ms Celina Leung who donated the music player. Also, a big thank you to everyone who assisted during the evening. The Tennis Society looks forward to seeing everyone there again next year.



Swimming and Triathlon News

Message from the Swimming Captain

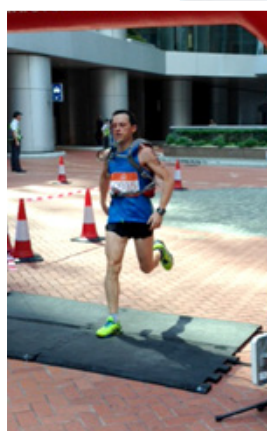


Sean Whipkey,
Swimming Captain

The Hong Kong Football Club just completed one of the most important races of the season, the Clean Half Extreme Marathon Swim. This is a 15km open water ocean team race that starts in Stanley Main Beach and finishes at Deep Water Bay Beach. The race consisted of over 50 team's with 5 swimmers each, who tag in and out to compete in this relay style competition. Each team has a support boat, where the waiting swimmers rest, cheer, and prepare to race. It is not only the most looked forward to race of the year, but one of the most competitive in Hong Kong. The Football Club had four mixed teams entered, each with five swimmers. This year, the conditions were some of the roughest in history, with 1-2 foot swells in certain unprotected parts of the race, and unfavourable current direction. The Football Club was able to finish with our best result yet, with our top 2 teams coming in second and third place respectively...with a time of 4 hours 16 minutes and 4 hours 17 minutes! Congratulations to all of the swimmers who competed in this epic competition.

I would like to offer my congratulations to all of the Hong Kong Football Club Swimmers and Triathletes on a successful 2014 racing season. The Football Club had its best year on record, with a number of team victories, and

countless individual podium finishes in the pool, in the ocean, on the road, and on the track. Enjoy the off season and get excited for a big 2015! ■



Hong Kong Triathlon Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October 2014

The Hong Kong Triathlon is the main triathlon event in Hong Kong and it was held out at Disneyland this year.

Saturday 25th October was the kids triathlon and well done to all the HKFC Tri kids who took part; **Doddy Tullis, Charlotte Hall, Neena Fjelddahl, Tatum Sadler, Sophie Hall, Hamish Hulme, Lily Sheary and Rachel Sheary**. They all did a great job completing the 195 metre swim, 5km bike and 2.3km run. We hope to see them all back next year!

Sunday 26th was the adult Olympic course event with 16 members representing Hong Kong Football Club. Congratulations to podium finishes; **Richard Hall** (1st) and **Steven Purcell** (3rd in the sprint).



(More on the Hong Kong Triathlon) from Michael Sadler

The conditions were perfect, with flat and smooth seas and very little current, helping us put coach **Lloyd McBean's** hard work into action, with some very fast swim times from members.

The bike stage was where the biggest time was made or lost, and there were very strong performances from **Steve Purcell** and **Tim Kremer**.

Which really left it down to who could tough it out on the run. It was a relatively flat but very fast run course, mainly hugging the coast, and there was no chance to let up and recover. Excellent team work from **Nicola Russo** and **Anne Marie Balfe**, who ran together and must have set personal records for the distance.

And at the end of the day the results reflected the hard work and training that everyone had put in, with numerous podium placings across all categories and age groups, and much silverware brought home for the trophy cabinets. And special mention must go out to **Richard Hall** who had the fastest confirmed overall time in the race. ■

More pictures from Hong Kong Triathlon...



East Aquathon by Anna Olsen and Susan Lowrey

The participants faced a challenging race starting with a 1.5km ocean swim, followed by a gruelling hike over The Twins and Violet Hill to Park View, and ending with a 7.3km 'downhill' (with a significant amount of uphill!) run to Quarry Bay; 16.3km in total.

Athletes from HKFC showed great grit and determination and came away with plenty of silverware. The pair's team of **Craig Nortje** and **David Gething** achieved the fastest overall race time of 1.48.28, finishing first in the team category. **Richard Hall** came third in the men's event with a time of 2.00.55. **Claire Chapman** crossed the line as the 2nd fastest woman in a time of 2.19.06 and **Susan Lowrey** finished the third fastest woman with a time of 2.23.37. **Anna Olsen** and **Sean Abbott** came third in the mixed pair's event with a time of 2.27.01. ■

Taiwan Iron Man by Iain Veitch, who came 6th in the professional field and 6th overall

The pro wave was an early start (6am) so I was up at 3:30 am and drove down to the start area to get everything organised.

I always get pre-race nerves but these were especially bad as training had not been ideal and I was potentially going to suffer the embarrassment of being last out of the water in front of the onlooking crowds.

Swim - went reasonably well for me. The course was quite long (2.3k as opposed to 1.9) so while the time was not great I at least didn't finish last. I think I came out in around 12th/13th.

Ride - the transition to the bike was rather slow due to getting into kit (HKFC kit needs tweaking) but once under way the bike was decent.

I thought I would lose time against the lead guys as they were working together but I managed to make up a few places and finished in 7th overall.

Run - the previous years run had been a nightmare in the heat and also because the first half is quite hilly so I was not looking forward to it. It turned out to be as expected and a really lonely last leg. I only managed to pass one other chap and saw no one else for the entire 21k. The last 7-8k were plagued with cramp but otherwise the run was ok.

I would have loved to have beaten one or two of the top professionals but had to settle for some of the lesser scalps and at least not being beaten by any of the other amateurs with a time of 2.27.01. ■

Ten Pin Bowling



Marian Au,
BIG Secretary

The 8th Hong Kong Interclub Ten Pin Bowling League 2013-2014 concluded with the prize presentation dinner,

which was held on 19th September. Our veteran **Emy Clarke** repeated the story from last year and swept all four female awards this year, including Highest Game Score, Highest Match Score, Highest Average Score and Most 200's.



HKICTB game against LRC on 15th October

Thanks to all BIG team mates for the effort and team spirit, and special honor to Emy for her outstanding performances!

The 9th HKICTB 2014-2015 season kicked off in October, with HKFC BIG starting very well with a landslide victory of 17 - 5 against the Ladies' Recreation Club. With a good start, hard work and practice, and high team morale, BIG is confident to win the Championship this year!

Bowling tips - Improving Your Accuracy

1. Practice your curve

Pro bowlers all bowl with curvature on the ball. Because the pocket you're aiming for is somewhat on an angle, the best way to hit it is to curve the ball in toward the pocket from the edge of the lane. This is why you aim for an arrow to the side of the centre. The best way is to maintain good "handshake" position on your follow-through. After you release the ball, your hand should be up in the air as if you were going to shake the hand of the pin you're aiming toward.

2. Find the right bowling ball

Using a ball that is too heavy or too light can drastically affect your accuracy. Experiment with balls that are slightly heavier than what feels normal and balls that are slightly lighter than you would normally use. Does your accuracy improve in either direction?

3. Find the right speed

Firing the ball from the rocket launcher that is your bowling arm may seem like a good idea at first, but it's not necessarily the most accurate way to throw. Extra force will often leave pins on the floor that softer and more accurate throws will pick up. In general, though, you should throw the ball with as much force as you can throw accurately. Try and reduce the speed of your shot in small increments if you are blowing the pins off the lane. Slower, precise pocket hits will keep the pins on the lane and allow them to mix, improving your chance of clearing the deck and producing a strike.

4. Adjust your grip on the bowling ball

Gripping too tightly, particularly with the thumb, can hook the ball in an inaccurate direction. Insert your fingers into the ball first. If you've got an appropriately fitted bowling ball, they should go in as far as your big knuckle. Use your non-bowling hand to steady the ball on your approach. You'll typically want the thumb to release the ball a split second before the fingers.

Book and Movie Library

At the Club

New DVDs

22 Jump Street
 An Evergreen Christmas
 And So It Goes
 Automata
 Belle
 Big School - Season 2
 Castles in the Sky
 Child of God
 Christmas On Salvation Street
 Christmas With Tucker
 Debug
 Drive Hard
 Fed Up
 Fort Mccoy
 Free Fall
 Frozen In Time
 Grace Of Monaco
 Hercules
 Hercules
 Home Is Where The Heart Is
 How To Train Your Dragon 2
 Into The Storm
 Jersey Boys
 Jimmy's Hall
 Let's Be Cops
 Life Of Crime

Mary Queen Of Scots
 Mr. Pip
 Northern Soul
 Overheard
 Penguins - Operation: Special Delivery
 Reclaim
 Seve The Movie
 Step Up All In
 Tammy
 The Anomaly
 The Driver
 The Giver
 The Hundred Year-Old Man Who Climbed
 Out Of The Window And Disappeared
 The Last Passenger
 The November Man
 The Other Wife
 The Prince
 The Smoke
 Two Days One Night
 Unknown Heart
 Walking on Sunshine
 Welcome to New York
 What if
 Who Do You Think You Are
 ... and more!

New Books

100 Days of Real Food
 Big Little Lies
 Autumn Killing: A Thriller
 Care and Keeping of You (Revised): TheBody
 Book for Younger Girls
 Cold and Broken Hallelujah
 Festive in Death Fives and Twenty-Fives
 Forgotten Daughter
 Gone Girl
 Gray Mountain
 Here is the Baby
 Heroes of Olympus Book Five: The Blood of
 Olympus
 Italian Wife
 Listen to Mom
 Martian
 Nana in the City
 Of Marriageable Age
 Percy Jackson's Greek Gods
 Sea Creatures
 Secret Place
 Sisters
 Stone Mattress: Nine Tales
 Suspect
 Thea Stilton 1: The Secret of Wale Island
 Twelve Days of Christmas

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2014 NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

WEDNESDAY 31st DECEMBER • SPORTS HALL

New Year's Eve is fast approaching, and once again, the Club has organized what is known as one, if not, the biggest party in town!

The ticket is inclusive of a very extensive dinner Buffet with regular favourite, as well as unlimited standard drinks all night, Champagne at Midnight and a fabulous Breakfast early in the morning.

In addition, we will be bringing a live band from the U.K which undoubtedly will help make this Eve party a memorable night.

Ticket Price

\$1,500 (per Member), \$1,998 (per Guest)

The Hong Kong Football Club invites you to book now to avoid disappointment as this event is nearly sold out already!



Booking form available at the Front Desk and it can be downloaded from our website.
You can also email: catering@hkfc.com