

CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 MAY 2019



SOCCER SEVENS

20 YEARS

Friday 17th
to Sunday 19th May



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23



27



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GENERAL COMMITTEE

- President : Nick Hunsworth
- Vice President : Fook Aun Chew
- Vice President : Bobby Lawson
- Vice President : Iain Valentine
- Vice President : John Shanahan
- Chairman : Mike Wood
- Hon. Secretary : Neil Jensen
- Hon. Treasurer : Alan Morgan
- Constitutional Affairs : Jeff Lane
- Development : Maurice O'Brien
- Discipline : James Niehorster
- Membership : Neil Roberts
- Sports & Recreation : Karin Loram
- Hockey Officer : Charles Poulton
- Lawn Bowls Officer : Mike Worth
- Rugby Officer : Don Rider
- Soccer Officer : Stephen Tew
- Squash Officer : David Cross

MANAGEMENT

- General Manager : Mark Pawley
- Director of Operations : Tony Sealy
- Director of Food and Beverage : Dominique Artigolle
- Director of Finance : Ricky Chan
- Asst. Financial Controller : May Chang
- Executive Chef : Jason Kelly Lynn
- Facilities Manager : Evan Tao
- Membership Services Manager : Kerry Ogle
- Human Resources Manager : Angela Chan
- Executive Housekeeper : Lily Huynh

CLUB MAGAZINE

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. Arranged by Brian Chun. 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



Michael J. Wood
Chairman

Dear Members,

Rugby week brought with it the usual high volume of traffic through the Club as we welcomed many friends and guests from overseas. The Rugby Tens took place in warm weather attracting large crowds and we were fortunate to have a number of high profile personalities present who, amongst other things, took part in the "Rugby Legends Tackle Cancer" event helping to raise a record HK\$300,000 for the Hong Kong Cancer Fund.

As always we are indebted to our staff for all their hard work in managing the needs of our Members and Guests during this period.

After the dominance of Rugby in April we look forward to a number of other sporting events in May including:

- **Yau Yee League Cup Finals – 4th May**
- **HKFC International Soccer 7s (Juniors) – 11th to 12th May**
- **HKFC International Soccer 7s – 17th to 19th May marking the 20th anniversary of the event**
- **Hong Kong Dragons Australian Rules Football Club – AFL International Tournament – 25th May**
- **HKFC Masters Squash Open 2019 – 31st May to 2nd June**

I provided a brief update on the 2/F renovation issues in the February addition. As at the present moment 85% of all defects have been completed with the remaining 15% scheduled for completion by the end of June. Modification works to the Sauna and Steam Rooms will commence on 2nd July and a detailed programme is currently being prepared and design sketches are intended to be made available ahead of this. Finally, artworks and furnishing for the 2/FI lobby area are in the process of being finalized.

On a continuing "Green" theme of the Club's Premises, during the past 12 months 20 filtered water fountains have been installed throughout the Club thereby diminishing reliance on plastic bottle and, as a result, **when the current stock of plastic bottled beverages runs out we will no longer sell, or have available, plastic bottled beverages in the Club.** It is intended that glass bottled water, and/or jugs of water will be available in the various Outlets but not water served in plastic bottles.

Following on from various member representations it has been decided to **ban smoking at the Coffee Shop Patio and also at the Swimming Pool Complex**

at the covered area at the right hand side by the racetrack with effect from 1st June 2019. In addition, from that date cigarettes will only be sold at the Sportsman's Bar.

There have been continuing strong calls from some Members for a total ban on smoking within the Club but the General Committee still feels that for many, smoking is still part of the social environment. For clarity's sake, with effect from 1st June 2019 smoking will only be allowed in the external areas adjacent to the Sportsman's Bar and the external front area of the Club and the Smoking Bye-laws will be amended to show these changes. I would also ask that when smoking, please be aware that "**courtesy of choice**" applies, and be mindful of those around you.



(From left to right) Club Chairman - Mike Wood, Jason Leonard, Club President - Nick Hunsworth

It was our pleasure to welcome **Jason Leonard as a new Honorary Member of the Club.** Jason is one of the most high profile England players in the past 30 years holding the record for the most caps for England. The picture was taken during the brief presentation whilst Jason was in Hong Kong recently. Jason also "starred" in the Rugby Legends Tackle Cancer event at the Rugby Tens!

Michael J. Wood
Chairman



HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB **RACE BOX** at the Happy Valley Race Course

The Club maintains a Box at the Happy Valley race course which is available for Members to book in advance.

COST:

Standard buffet: \$610 per head.

Admission badge: \$60 per head.

■ UPGRADE PACKAGE(S) AVAILABLE

Please note that if you choose an upgrade package that this will then apply to each person under the same booking.

- Upgrade package: *(additional beverage – incl. selected red and white wines, imported beers and spirits)*
extra \$100 per head
- Upgrade package: *(half doz oyster)*
extra \$135 per head
- Upgrade package: *(assorted sashimi platter)*
extra \$135 per head

F&B ARRANGEMENT:

The Race Box is provided with a Buffet and unlimited drinks which includes:

- *Soft drinks, mineral water, house beer, orange juice, tea and coffee.*

Beverages are available from 6pm, and
Dinner Buffet is available from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

BOOKING:

Booking Forms are available at Reception and from our website www.hkfc.com.hk.



For Sale **CORPORATE SUBSCRIBERSHIPS**

The HKFC is currently offering 50 Corporate Subscriberships for sale, at a price of HK\$3.3m each, to help fund the future renovation of the HKFC.

On purchase of a Corporate Subscribership a company becomes a Corporate Member and is entitled to nominate an individual and their immediate family to enjoy the benefits of membership of the HKFC.

More information can be obtained by contacting Kerry Ogle, Membership Services Manager on 2830 9502 or by email to membership@hkfc.com.

For information on HKFC facilities please view the website at www.hkfc.com.hk

Interested parties should submit a written application to:

The Membership Services Manager
Hong Kong Football Club,
3 Sports Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong



香港足球會
HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

From the Desk of Mark Pawley



Mark Pawley,
General Manager

The Chairman has mentioned Rugby Week in his article and I would just like to say well done to all on the Organising Committee for the GFI HKFC Rugby Tens for putting on a cracking tournament and the very best of luck to the Organising Committee of the **HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens which will be held on the 17th May to the 19th May this the 20th Anniversary of the tournament.**

As regards the Soccer Sevens don't forget the **Sportsman's Dinner on Thursday 16th May with Guest Speaker Dean Saunders with a special Guest appearance by World Cup Winner Marcel Desailly.** Please see on page 6 the Outlet Opening times for the Coffee Shop, Restaurant and Sportsman's Bar over the Soccer Sevens weekend.

Outwith the Soccer Sevens and all the others sporting events that will be at the Club during May there will also be a number of food and beverage promotions and events. Nonetheleast of these, of course, will be

Mother's Day on Sunday 12th May which we will also celebrate on Monday 13th May as this is a Public Holiday. Page 11 outlines exactly what we have on Mother's Day(s). Worth noting too is that on Saturday 11th May we will be hosting a Mother's Day Gift Fair in the Lockhart Room. This is followed in the Lockhart Room where over the weekend of the 25th and 26th May, there will be a Wine Fair, where I note, there is "Free" Tasting!!

We have a **Wine Tour of Italy, wine dinner in the Restaurant on Friday 24th May** and for whisky lovers we will be holding a **Glenmorangie Master Class in the Happy Valley Suites on the evening of Thursday 30th May.** With both of these events please do book early to avoid any disappointment.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club.

Mark Pawley,
General Manager

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Website: www.boxhillgolfclub.com.au



Newcastle United

Leicester City

Aston Villa



Wolverhampton Wanderers



HKFC CITI



SOCCER SEVENS



West Ham United

Rangers

20 YEARS



Brighton & Hove Albion



Fulham

Kashima Antlers

Portimonense

17-19 MAY 2019

2019年5月17至19號

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB, 3 SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY
跑馬地體育路3號香港足球會

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EXCLUSIVE OFFER! Pay with your Citi Credit Card to receive a 40% discount.

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WWW.HKSOCCESEVENS.COM



SOCCER 7S

at the Club **17th – 19th MAY**

IN THE RESTAURANT

Friday 17th May	Saturday 18th May	Sunday 19th May
12.00noon – 3.00pm (F&B Last Order 2.30pm) Carvery Semi-Lunch Buffet	12.00noon – 3.00pm (F&B Last Order 2.30pm) Carvery Semi-Lunch Buffet	12.00noon – 3.00pm (F&B Last Order 2.30pm) Sunday Family and Friends Set
6.30pm – 10.30pm (F&B Last Order 10.00pm) A-La-Carte Menu	6.30pm – 10.30pm (F&B Last Order 10.00pm) A-La-Carte Menu	6.30pm – 10.30pm (F&B Last Order 10.00pm) Sunday Family and Friends Set

IN THE COFFEE SHOP

Friday 17th May	Saturday 18th May	Sunday 19th May
Opening Hours 7.30am to 10.30pm	Opening Hours 7.30am to 10.30pm	Opening Hours 7.30am to 10.30pm
7.30am – 10.30am Breakfast	7.30am – 11am Breakfast	7.30am – 11am Breakfast
12.00noon – 2.30pm Lunch Buffet*	12.00noon – 2.30pm Lunch Buffet*	12.00noon – 2.30pm Lunch Buffet*
6.00pm – 9.30pm Dinner Buffet*	5.30pm – 9.30pm Dinner Buffet*	5.30pm – 9.30pm Dinner Buffet*

*"Soccer Sevens" A la Carte menu

IN THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

Friday 17th May	Saturday 18th May	Sunday 19th May
Opening Hours 4.00pm to 1.00am	Opening Hours 9.00am to 1.00am	Opening Hours 9.00am to 12.00 midnight
-	9.00am – 11.00am Breakfast A la Carte	9.00am – 11.00am Breakfast A la Carte
4.00pm – 10.45pm A la Carte Menu*	11.00am – 10.45pm A la Carte Menu*	11.00am – 10.45pm A la Carte Menu*

*"Soccer Sevens" A la Carte menu

MONTHLY FOCUS

MOTHER'S DAY

SUNDAY 12TH MAY AND
MONDAY 13TH MAY
(BIRTHDAY OF THE BUDDHA)

RESTAURANT

PRIVATE DINING ROOM

COFFEE SHOP

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

HAPPY VALLEY SUITES

A Wine Tour Of Italy

From The North To The South

VENUE : THE RESTAURANT
DATE : 24TH MAY 2019
TIME : 7:30-8:00PM (PRE-DINNER DRINK) | 8:00PM (DINNER)
PRICE : 538 PER MEMBER
598 PER MEMBER'S GUEST
LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

Logos: Celvino, GEPALCO, RONCO, GELSO, HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB, Grattamacco, PALA, PROPRIETA SPERINO.

GLENMORANGIE
SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

GLENMORANGIE MASTER CLASS

EXPLORE THE 10TH PRIVATE EDITION
WITH DREW MILLS

THURSDAY, 30TH MAY 2019 | 7pm - 8:30pm
Venue : Happy Valley Suite 1

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROMOTIONS

RESTAURANT

- Carvery Semi Lunch Buffet (Mon-Sat)
- Sunday Family and Friends Set (Lunch and Dinner)

SPORTSMAN'S BAR

- Home to the Roasted – Spring Chicken

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

- Afternoon Set Tea
- Curry Lunch – Monday to Saturday
- International "Sunday Brunch Buffet" – in the Happy Valley Suites and the Chairman's Bar – every Sunday

HAPPY VALLEY SUITES

- International "Sunday Brunch Buffet" – in the Happy Valley Suites and the Chairman's Bar – every Sunday
- Glenmorangie Master Class – Explore the 10th Private Edition with Drew Mills – 30th May

LOCKHART ROOM

- Wine Fair – 25th and 26th May

GENERAL PROMOTIONS

- Mother's Day Gift Fair – Lockhart Room – Saturday 11st May
- Home Delivery Butcher Service

COMING SOON IN JUNE 2019

- In June, book the **Restaurant Private Dining Room** for Lunch or Dinner and enjoy complimentary Champagne
- Yoshi No Gawa Sake Dinner – The Restaurant – Friday 21st June
- Summer Fashion Bazaar – Lockhart Room – Saturday 15th June

LUNCH AT THE CLUB

THE RESTAURANT

Monday to Saturday
from Noon to 2.30pm
Semi Lunch Buffet
2 Courses/3 Courses

Sunday
from Noon to 2.30pm
Family and Friends Lunch Set

THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

Saturday, Sunday
from 11am to 2.30pm
• **A la Carte**
• **Salad Bar**

Public Holidays
from 11am to 2.30pm
• **A la Carte**
• **Salad Bar**

THE COFFEE SHOP

Monday to Friday
from Noon to 2.30pm
International Lunch Buffet

Saturday, Sunday and
Public Holiday
from Noon to 2.30pm
International Lunch Buffet

THE CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Monday to Saturday
from Noon to 2.30pm
• **A la Carte**
• **Daily Curry**

DINNER AT THE CLUB

THE RESTAURANT

Monday to Saturday
from 6.30pm to 10pm
• **A la Carte**

Sunday
from 6.30pm to 10pm
Family and Friends Dinner Set

THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

Monday to Sunday and
Public Holidays
from 5pm to 10.45pm
• **A la Carte**
• **Salad Bar**

THE COFFEE SHOP

Monday to Friday
from 6pm to 9.30pm
International Dinner Buffet

Saturday, Sunday and
Public Holiday
from 5.30pm to 9.30pm
International Dinner Buffet

THE CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Daily from 6pm to 10pm
• **A la Carte**
• **Oysters**
• **Daily Curry**



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INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**
HONG KONG



The **RIGHT START** for **BRIGHT FUTURES**

A play-based Nursery and Reception curriculum nurturing creativity and imagination, setting the foundations for a successful education.

- Award-winning, purpose-built primary school with state-of-the-art facilities.
- Full day Nursery and Reception programme 8am - 3pm.
- Highly experienced, fully qualified teachers.
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SUNDAY

Family and Friends

In The Restaurant

Lunch and Dinner

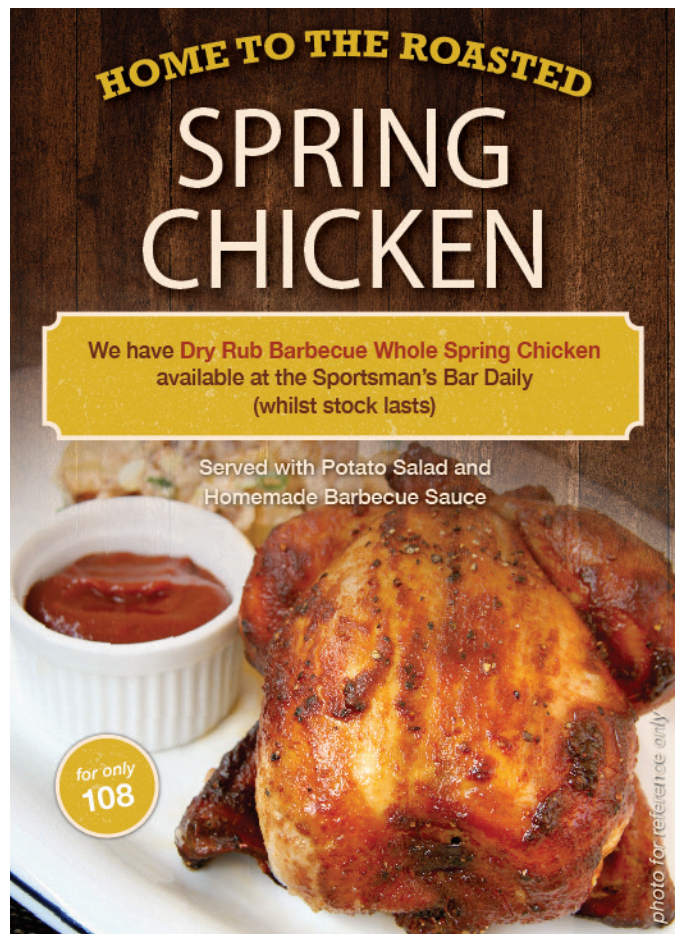
Try our Sunday Lunch and Dinner, enjoy a complimentary Antipasti Buffet, including Salads, Cold Cuts, Cheese, Marinated Vegetables, Cold Seafood and our homemade Daily Soup.

Enjoy a selection of medium sized starters to be shared family style on your table for easy dining with friends and family. Select one Main Course from our menu including six different mains all prepared in the Italian Kitchen. To finish, a dessert platter will be served for your indulgence Tea or Coffee.

298 per adult

Let's not forget the Children, a special "Bambino" menu is also available.

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



HOME TO THE ROASTED

SPRING CHICKEN

We have Dry Rub Barbecue Whole Spring Chicken available at the Sportsman's Bar Daily (whilst stock lasts)

Served with Potato Salad and Homemade Barbecue Sauce

for only 108

photo for reference only



Mother's Day Gift FAIR

母親節禮品展

FASHION, HANDMADE JEWELLERY, ORGANIC COSMETICS, BABY GOODS AND SO MUCH MORE..
時尚服飾, 手工首飾, 有機化妝品, 嬰兒用品等

THE BEST OF NICHE BRANDS UNDER ONE ROOF
以及更多其他貨品

SATURDAY 11TH OF MAY
10AM-7 PM, THE LOCKHART ROOM
2/F, HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB
5月11日 (星期六) 早上10:00 時 至 晚上 7:00 時

MOTHER'S DAY



SUNDAY 12TH MAY AND
MONDAY 13TH MAY (BIRTHDAY OF THE BUDDHA)

RESTAURANT

LUNCH

12noon to 3pm (*F&B Last Order 2.30pm*)

Sun 12th - **FAMILY SET LUNCH***

358 per Adult, 98 per Child (age 3-11)

**Complimentary Giant Tiger Prawn per Adult*

Mon 13th - **SEMI-BUFFET LUNCH**

2-course: 162 / 3 course: 190

Kids Menu: 91per Kid

DINNER

FAMILY SET DINNER*

Sun 12th - Mon 13th

6.30pm to 10.30pm (*F&B Last Order 10pm*)

358 per Adult, 98 per Child (age 3-11)

**Complimentary Giant Tiger Prawn per Adult*

DRINKS PACKAGE: 131 per person with free flow package of Prosecco, Italian House Wine and Bottle Beer

PRIVATE DINING ROOM

LUNCH

Sun 12th - Mon 13th

12noon to 3pm (*F&B Last Order 2.30pm*)

Minimum F&B spending 3,000

DINNER

6.30pm to 11pm (*F&B Last Order 10pm*)

Sun 12th - Minimum F&B spending 6,000

Mon 13th - Minimum F&B spending 4,500

COFFEE SHOP

HOLIDAY BUFFET LUNCH

Sun 12th - 11.45am to 1.30pm / 1.45pm to 3.30pm

238 per Adult

119 per Child (age 8-11), 78 per Child (age 4-7)

Mon 13th - 12noon to 2.30pm

184 per Adult

92 per Child (age 8-11), 60 per Child (age 4-7)

HOLIDAY BUFFET DINNER

Sun 12th - 5.30pm to 7.30pm / 8pm to 10pm

238 per Adult

119 per Child (age 8-11), 78 per Child (age 4-7)

Mon 13th - 5.30pm to 9.30pm

184 per Adult

92 per Child (age 8-11), 60 per Child (age 4-7)

CHAIRMAN'S BAR AND HAPPY VALLEY SUITES

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH BUFFET

Sun 12th - 11.30am to 2.30pm

418 per Adult Member, 438 per Adult non-Member

(with unlimited flow of Sparkling Wine,
Red/White/Rosé Wine and Beer)

180 per Child Member (age 4-11)

200 per Child non-Member (age 4-11)

MOTHER'S DAY DINNER BUFFET

Sun 12th - 6.30pm to 9.30pm

388 per Adult Member, 418 per Adult non-Member

170 per Child Member (age 4-11)

190 per Child non-Member (age 4-11)

DRINKS PACKAGE: 90 per person with unlimited flow
of Sparkling Wine, Red/White/Rosé Wine and Beer

There will be a special gift for all Mums (on 12th May only).



CARVERY
SEMI LUNCH BUFFET
IN THE RESTAURANT

Monday to Saturday from 12noon to 2.30pm

Salad, Antipasti and Homemade Daily Soup Buffet	Selection of 6 main courses to choose from <i>(Including our Famous Prime Rib with Yorkshire pudding, gravy and selected Vegetables)</i>	Chef's Selected Dessert
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2 Courses / 3 Courses
(included Regular Tea or Coffee)

MENU CHANGES EVERY 10 DAYS

photo for reference only



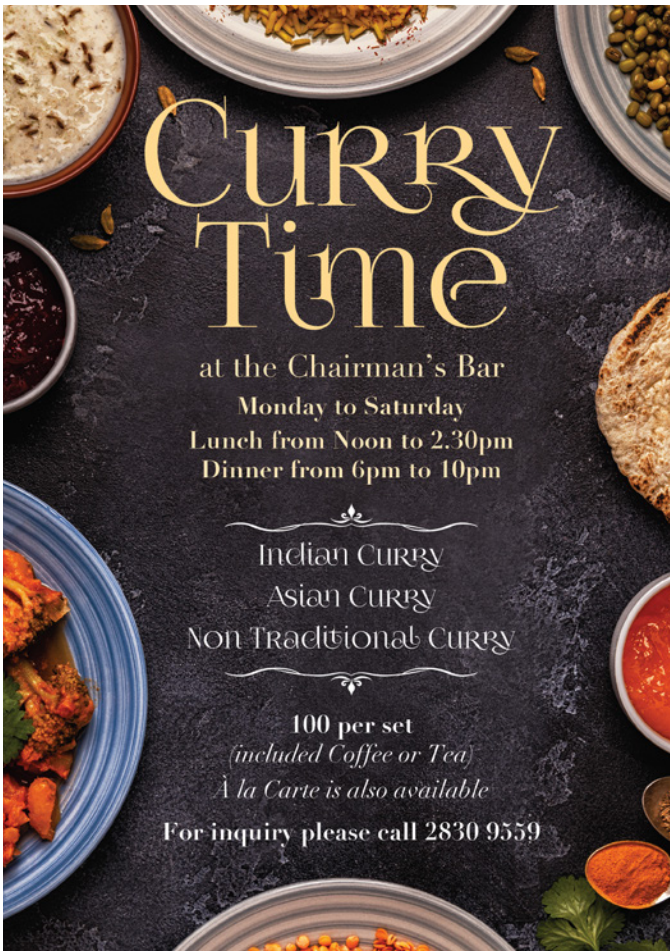
AFTERNOON SET TEA
in the Chairman's Bar

Daily from 3pm to 6pm

Enjoy an afternoon set tea with family and friends. Set tea includes home-made canapés, savouries and pastries with your choice of tea or coffee.

100 per person
(minimum of two orders per table)
(Set Tea is subject to the venue availability)

photo for reference only



CURRY TIME
at the Chairman's Bar
Monday to Saturday
Lunch from Noon to 2.30pm
Dinner from 6pm to 10pm

Indian CURRY
Asian CURRY
NON Traditional CURRY

100 per set
(included Coffee or Tea)
À la Carte is also available

For inquiry please call 2830 9559



INTERNATIONAL "SUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET"

in the Happy Valley Suites and the Chairman's Bar every Sunday from 11.30am to 3pm

The Club's family friendly Sunday Brunch in the Happy Valley Suites and the Chairman's Bar welcomes Members and their Guests.

398 per Adult Member, 418 per Adult non-Member
(with unlimited flow of Sparkling Wine, Red/White/Rosé Wine and Beer) or

308 per Adult Member, 328 per Adult non-Member
170 per Child Member (age 4-11),
192 per Child non-Member (age 4-11)
(with unlimited flow of chilled juice)

Enquiries or reservations:
please call 2830 9559 or email: bar@hkfc.com

Dress Code Reminder:

- Club Casual - No Collarless T-Shirts, no Flip Flops, knee length casual shorts are acceptable but NOT sports or swim shorts.
- Ladies are required to dress to a comparable standard
- No hats and other headwear for men (Except national, ethnic or religious costume)
- No soiled clothing and sleeveless shirts or singlets for men



Crown Princess

Southampton embark /disembark

12days British Isles

England - London (Southampton), Liverpool | **Guernsey** | Ireland - Cork, Dublin | **Northern Ireland** - Belfast | **Scotland** - Glasgow, Invergordon, Edinburgh | **France** - Paris/Normandy

Date: 6, 18*, 30* Jun | 12*, 24 Jul | 5*, 17*, 29* Aug | 10 Sep

- Experience the British Culture by visiting England, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland

#will not visit Liverpool, overnight at Dublin; port order varies
* Orkney Islands (Kirkwall) replaces Liverpool

Inside	Balcony
HK\$16,334 _{up}	HK\$21,599 _{up}

Majestic Princess

Shanghai embark /disembark

8days China & Japan

China - Shanghai | Japan - Tokyo (Yokohama), Shimizu, Osaka, Kochi

Date: 18 Aug

- Latenight at Tokyo & Osaka
- Enjoy the spectacular scenery of Mount Fuji while visiting Shimizu

Inside	Deluxe Balcony
HK\$9,547 _{up}	HK\$12,667 _{up}

Majestic Princess

Sydney embark /disembark

13days New Zealand

Australia - Sydney | New Zealand - Fiordland National Park*, Dunedin, Akaroa, Wellington, Tauranga, Auckland, Bay of Islands

Date: 30 Sep | 1, 14 Nov

- Arrive to the mysterious Milford Sound while travel along the Fiordland National Park

Inside	Balcony
HK\$12,200 _{up}	HK\$15,398 _{up}

Emerald Princess

Rome embark / Barcelona disembark

11days Grand Mediterranean

Italy - Rome (Civitavecchia) | **Montenegro** - Kotor | **Croatia** - Dubrovnik | **Greece** - Athens, Santorini, Katakolon | **France** - Corsica, Sete

Date: 2, 24 Oct

- Travel the Mediterranean relaxedly during fall season

Inside	Balcony
HK\$13,330 _{up}	HK\$18,298 _{up}

Ruby Princess, Star Princess

Seattle embark /disembark

7days Alaska Inside Passage

United States - Seattle | **Alaska** - Ketchikan, Glacier Bay National Park*/Tracy Arm Fjord*, Juneau, Skagway | **Canada** - Victoria

Date: Jun - Sep (departure on Saturdays and Sundays)

- Ruby Princess sails to Glacier Bay National Park; Star Princess sails to Tracy Arm Fjord.
- A must see UNESCO World Heritage - Glacier Bay National Park

Inside	Balcony
HK\$8,520 _{up}	HK\$14,370 _{up}

Diamond Princess

Yokohama embark /disembark

9days Circle Japan

Japan - Tokyo (Yokohama), Ishinomaki, Hakodate, Maizuru, Hiroshima, Kanmon Straits* | **Korea** - Busan

Date: 9 Sep

- Latenight at Hakodate and Busan; get on an aerial lift to the Mount Hakodate and visit Busan's famous, The Bay 101, for the amazing nightscape of both cities.

Inside	Balcony
HK\$10,479 _{up}	HK\$16,173 _{up}

 For more itineraries



SKY PRINCESS
mediterranean season

Non-refundable deposit for selected promotion sailings. Please note that prices are listed per person, non-air cruise-only and based on double occupancy. Fares INCLUDE Taxes, Fees & Port Expenses. Terms & Conditions applied. Princess Cruises reserves the right to add, edit, modify, delete any contents without giving any prior notice.

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Hong Kong Football Club
Wine Fair
FREE TASTING

in the Lockhart Room
Saturday 25th and
Sunday 26th May
from 1.30pm to 6.30pm

Wine enthusiasts, rejoice! Enjoy a variety of
exquisite wines from around the world at
special prices only during these 2 days.

For more information please contact
Ken Lo at Kiosk@hkfc.com



new

Probably the best
alcohol free beer
in the world.

Carlsberg 0.0%

LOW
Calories

AVAILABLE IN ALL OUTLETS



MARTIN MILLER'S GIN
ENGLAND · ICELAND

AVAILABLE NOW
AT THE
SPORTSMAN'S BAR

**MARTIN
MILLER'S
ON TAP**

THE WORLD'S MOST AWARDED GIN
OF THE LAST 10 YEARS

AVAILABLE NOW IN THE CHAIRMAN'S BAR



We think that

**APEROL
SPRITZ**

is the perfect cocktail to bring
some happiness

Come early and enjoy it for 45 per Glass

**APEROL
Spritz**

A Wine Tour Of Italy

From The North To The South

The Indigenous Grape Varietals Of The Country

WELCOME DRINK

Col Vektoraz—Prosecco Superiore di Cartizze Dry Valdobbiadene DOCG NV *RP90+

Veneto, Italy

TARTAR OF SICILIAN RED PRAWNS

Served with Avocado Hummus and Chia Seeds

Ronco del Gelso—Friulano “Toc Bas” Isonzo DOC 2016 *WE90

Friuli, Italy

SEAFOOD RISOTTO

Tomato, Mussels, Clams, Prawn, Squid, Cod Fish

Grattamacco—Bolgheri Vermentino DOC 2016 *JS91

Tuscany, Italy

8OZ GRILLED US RIB EYE

Served with Black Garlic Mashed Potato, Sautéed Broccoli and Cherry Tomato

Proprieta Sperino—Uvaggio DOC 2012 *RP90/WE90

Piedmont, Italy

Grifalco—Aglianico del Vulture DOC 2015 *JS91/RP90

Basilicata, Italy

FIG GELATO WITH ALMOND FRANGIPANE

Pala—”Assoluto” Passito Isola Dei Nuraghi IGT 2013 *RP92

Sardegna, Italy

VENUE : THE RESTAURANT

DATE : 24TH MAY 2019

TIME : 7:30-8:00PM (PRE-DINNER DRINK) | 8:00PM (DINNER)

PRICE : 538 PER MEMBER

598 PER MEMBER'S GUEST

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE



Please contact the Restaurant at 28309562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

All the above wines will be served in limited quantity.

Cancellation or amendments must be emailed to the Restaurant and must be made before Wednesday 15th May 2019.

Otherwise, full payment will be debited to the member's account. Unless there are exceptional circumstances.

A la Carte options will not be available that evening.



GLENMORANGIE MASTER CLASS

EXPLORE THE 10TH PRIVATE EDITION
WITH DREW MILLS

THURSDAY, 30TH MAY 2019 | 7pm – 8:30pm
Venue : Happy Valley Suite 1

188 PER PERSON
(28 SEATS ONLY)

Including Snacks – 50 refund upon
the ordering of any whisky on the night

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Cancellation and No Shows: Only written cancellation is accepted. No Shows will be charged in full.
- All fees confirmed are not refundable for any cancellation less than 10 working days prior to the function.
- Bookings are on first-come-first-served basis, however we are limited to 28 people in the room.
- Under the law of Hong Kong, intoxicating liquor must not be sold or supplied to a minor in the course of business.
- The event is subject to change without prior notice.



Hosted by Mr. Drew Mills
Head of Brand Education, Moët Hennessy Diageo Hong Kong

Mr. Mills has been tasting, teaching, and enjoying whisky for over 15 years. A student of Ian Williams (Oban, Johnnie Walker), he is an expert in the malt whisky from Scotland's largest whisky portfolio.

He is a truly engaging orator, who's approach is to engage in a 'whisky conversation', encouraging dialogue and conversation. The perfect host for an intimate evening with the world's most exceptional single malt whisky.

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MALVERN
COLLEGE PRE-SCHOOL
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Malvern College Pre-School Island West

*Pre-admissions are now open
for 2019-20*

Malvern College Pre-School Island West will open in August 2019. Our new school will follow in the footsteps of its sister school in Coronation Circle by using a bilingual Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and a Forest School programme.

Interested parents please join our "Malvern Meet" for more information.

Date: Saturday, 1st June 2019

Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Venue: Hong Kong Football Club

RSVP: <http://www.malvernpreschool.hk/>

Contact Us:

+852 3898 4668

<http://www.malvernpreschool.hk>

Email: mcpsadm@malvernpreschool.hk

<https://www.facebook.com/MalvernPre-schoolHK/>

G/F and 1/F, Viking Court, 165-166 Connaught Road West, Hong Kong



Malvern College Pre-School Island West has submitted its application for school registration with the Education Bureau. Prospective parents should note that all offers for admission are conditional on the Education Bureau's issuance of a certificate of provisional registration.



KNOW YOUR SOURCE

As you know Hong Kong Football Club has a new Online Butcher programme setup to home deliver premium quality meat and seafood to those that care about the source of their products. These days it is important to know where your meat is coming from to assure the highest

level of safety and traceability. All of our new premium products available online for delivery 5 days a week are all traceable back to the farms they are produced on with full transparency and are flown in fresh from their source weekly. Simply place your order Mon-Fri before 12noon for next day delivery.

So if you care about where your meat and seafood are sourced you need to check it out online at www.hkfc.com.hk/farmers-market

Home Delivery Butcher Service

We are pleased to announce a new partnership for an initial 3 month trial basis with Farmer's Market, Hong Kong's number 1 online butcher, to provide members with top quality meat and seafood products, home delivered at an exclusive discounted rate.

Members may order online via www.hkfc.com.hk and have everything charged to their Club account!

Order Monday to Friday before 12pm for next day home delivery. There is no minimum spend and orders over \$500 are delivered FREE. Farmer's Market supplies 100% antibiotic and hormone free products, sourced from a small number of farms that have the highest possible animal welfare standards.

You can be confident of receiving top quality produce each time you order!

ORDER NOW
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Delivery Tuesday-Saturday



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JUNE PREVIEW

YOSHI·NO·GAWA SAKE DINNER



Date: Friday, 21st June 2019

Venue: The Restaurant

Time: 7:30 - 8pm (Pre-dinner drink)
8pm (Dinner)

Price: 538 per Member
598 per Member's Guest

Limited Seats Available

JUNE PREVIEW

RESTAURANT PRIVATE DINING ROOM



Situated on the 2nd floor at the entrance to the Italian Restaurant, The Private Dining Room is the ideal choice for a social event.

The Private Dining Room offers flexibility for any occasion and we can customize your dining experience according to your needs. Maximum seating capacity is 14 persons.

In June, book the Restaurant Private Dining Room for Lunch or Dinner with complimentary Champagne.

Please contact us at 2830 9562 or email: restaurant@hkfc.com for reservation now.



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for Lunch or Dinner
(Can be enjoyed with your meal or take away)*

- Make a booking for Lunch and get 2 complimentary bottles
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Simply quote this offer over the phone and we will take care of the rest.
(Offer valid from Monday to Thursday throughout June 2019)

With LIU Tsz-Ling

I had the privilege to catch up with HKFC Ladies Division 1 player **LIU Tsz-Ling**, currently ranked 38th on the PSA world ranking tour and also a dominant player for the HKFC Ladies Division 1 where she is ranked number 1. This is the second year she has played for the HKFC Ladies Division 1 team where in the 2017/2018 season, she was part of the winning team that won the double (league and the playoffs), this was the first time that the HKFC Ladies Division 1 team has accomplished such a feat, under the watchful eye of player/convenor **Carmen Lee** – let's see if they can do it again this season.

Stuart Gates: How long have you been playing squash professionally

LING: I turned professional about 10 years ago and it was in 2016 when I broke into the world's top 30 for the first time, I am now currently ranked 38th.

Stuart Gates: How have the last few years been for you on the tour and outlook

LING: 2018 was a challenging year for me, I didn't participate at the Asian games but this allowed me to refocus on my squash, get fitter and stronger and look forward to 2019. So far this year, I have played in three tournaments, the J.P.Morgan Tournament of Champions where I made it to the top 32, the CSC Delaware Open where I lost in the final 2-3 and most recently the PSA World Championships where I lost to world number 10 **Tesni Evans** 1-3 in the second round

Stuart Gates: Tell me about your training

LING: I am part of the HK Sports Institute elite programme, where we focus on gym work, drills, fitness and also squash psychology which is so important as squash can be such a mental game.

Stuart Gates: What is it like playing in the HK Squash league and at the HKFC

LING: In the Ladies Division 1, I get to play against some excellent players so it gives me a chance to give back some of my experience to them. Also there is a good team spirit and atmosphere under the watchful eye of my convenor, Carmen who continues to give everyone in the team the support that is needed. The courts at the Club are excellent, fast courts and the feedback from international players who come thru HK and play on the courts is also super positive.

LIU Tsz-Ling and Carmen Lee



English Scoring Tournament

When the legendary **Jahangir Khan** won the first of his squash World championship titles in 1980 at the age of 17, he used a racquet made of laminated wood with a hitting area of 240 square cm. Khan went on to win five other World championship and was unbeaten for 555 top class matches, a record still unsurpassed. Many ageing squash players look back on this era with fondness. It was a time of wide boys, tight shorts, Fred Perry's and big hair. A success perm had more to do with coiffure rather than the current notion of convincing a bored millennial to stick at his job.

All of this has changed.

Racquets have taken a turn as well, altering in shape and size as the use of new materials firstly steel and aluminium and then graphite composites enabled racquets to be stronger, lighter and more flexible. The modern racquet is half the weight of its wooden predecessor and has a hitting area of more than twice the size making the sweet spot more attainable for the average Club player. What this means is that with lighter racquets, hitting techniques could be

improvised and you can still achieve the power required for desired length and accuracy. With shorter games possible, thanks to the PARS scoring system – introduced in 2004 to make the game more exciting and less defensive – players are now able to put their feet up in the bar more quickly after matches. 'Catgut' has been replaced by 'beer gut' as aficionados of the game no longer need to rely on fitness and attrition for competitive success.

So, how would today's players perform using wooden racquets? Would the attrition game make a comeback? The Squash Section decided to put this to the test by staging an English scoring tournament employing a diverse range of pre-2000 racquets. Two opposing sides under ex-chairmen '**Big Dave**' Cross and **Thomas 'Tankers' Tang** took to the courts. In all 30 matches under the old hand in-hand out ruling were played out. Players were encouraged to don kit befitting of the age of the wooden racquet. The effect of cotton T-shirts, circulation confining shorts and Green Flash gym shoes – common in the days when squash courts were banished to wooden shacks on



the Club periphery as poor cousins to tennis – would be tested on players accustomed to dry-fit fabric and designer trainers. The aim was to match players of comparable standards against one another and see whether a wooden



Malcolm appropriately dressed for the event

racquet versus a modern racquet would make a difference and to see which ex-Chairman could have bragging rights at the end of the day.

The competition started off brightly for the Tankers side with a dominance in the lower ranks, most of whom conveniently reverted to conventional racquets whilst their opponents didn't. But in the course of the day, Big Dave in true Churchillian style rallied his troops to bring the event to a nail-biting finish with matches standing 14 to 15. In the last match, **Eric Ho** had to beat **Andrew Ward** to level the matches and the honours. Despite being 0-2 down, Andrew managed to stage a comeback and eventually overcame his younger opponent 3-2 under the old scoring system with a combination of dogged tactics and resilient grit.

Highlights of the day must surely go to:

- **Adrian Ng** and **Teddy Pun's** close match, in which both players showed that size really doesn't matter, when it comes to racquet heads.
- Eye grabbing attire by **Dean Thompson** complete with Gatsby-esque cigarette holder and cravat – which some considered a little bit too retro(!) but nonetheless deserved the prize for best costume.
- **Malcolm Kerr** who valiantly persevered with a Dunlop Maxply, which was probably older than his opponent **Sean Soo**. Malcolm won.
- **Vincent Yu's** idea of retro which involved wearing his old college t-shirt and a pair of eye-wateringly tight shorts designed for slimmer times.
- All of the female players who put one over their male opponents – happy International Women's day, sisters.



Can I go and get changed!



Adrian Ng celebrates his close win over Teddy Pun

- The bystander who was heard to utter, 'blimey have we gone back in time? Is it not too late to place a bet on Red Rum in the Grand National?'

In the end, squash was the winner. But it was a great opportunity for many to harken back to a time of innocence. Wooden racquets apart, these were the days when mobile phones were big enough to be used as weapons of choice by warring triads, rather than today's devices of convenience to hide behind to avoid having to speak to dining partners. When there was a purpose in court etiquette to instil the right virtues on-court and off-court, like courtesy, respect and graciousness whether in victory or in defeat. A time when leisure truly meant leisure and a release from everyday stresses where you could unwind in a competitive but sportsman-like manner. Combatants on court but close comrades off court - an era of heroes and legends. Jahangir Khan would have approved.

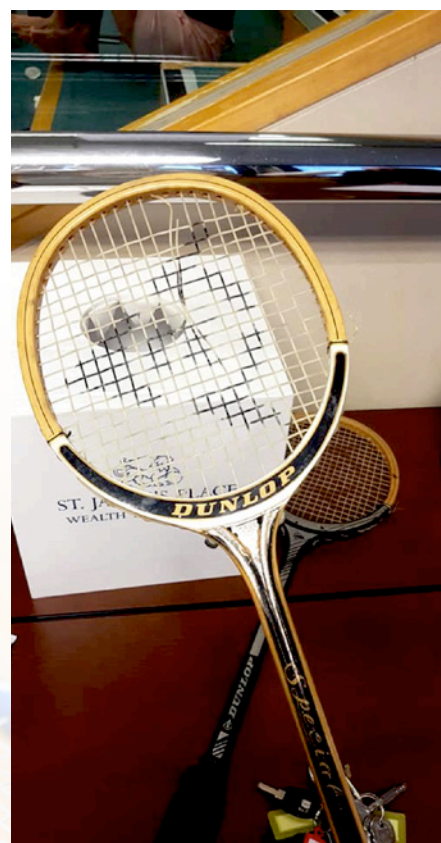
A huge thank you to St James Place, one of our sponsors for their support in keeping the players well hydrated after the event.



KK and William gracing the court in style



Two Tribes Go To War – the two warring ex-Chairmen and Dean who won the best kit award





The traditional group shot

Wing Ding Charity Tournament 2018

Photos by Brett Cameron

It does not seem that long ago when we were enjoying Wing Ding 2017 and here we are again, in 2018, reporting on the 19th edition of this very popular annual tournament. Time may have moved on but the tried and tested recipe for success remains the same; a good organising committee led once again by the major domo **Steve Gollop** and his able lieutenants, twelve teams of ten players, all in various forms of fancy (un)dress and intent on having fun, all in the name of charity. This season the event was held on 24th November 2018, the same weekend as the Hong Kong Open finals which provided the possibility of early exiters displaying their skills in fancy dress; alas, this did not happen (see 'Notes from the donation desk').

Operation Santa Claus (OSC) is the annual charity campaign, jointly organised by the South China Morning Post and RTHK. Over the years, Operation Santa Claus donors have raised over HK\$110 million in funds and encouraged Hong Kongers to share their good fortune with the needy during the winter festive season.



Juniors group shot



Marking these juniors is serious stuff!



Pyjama Party squash



Non-stop action, even off the court.



Face-Painting Booth



Eye, Eye – two satisfied customers

To improve the pre-tournament communication, the organizing committee arranged a series of meetings for team conveners, at the Club to impart all information and instructions in a more effective and efficient manner. There was a good response although this could have been due to the free beer on offer!

For the main event, unfortunately there were, just as in 2017, only twelve teams participating; while there were plenty of potential players from lower divisions keen to play, the lack of players able to play in positions 1 - 4 made it somewhat difficult to field any more teams.

As usual, teams were allocated a colour and the fancy dress theme was based on the colour so this year we had:



The Winners

	Team	Colour
1	Eye	White
2	Blade Revolution	Purple
3	United Services Recreation Club	Gold
4	HK Swingers	Pink
5	HK Cricket Club	Black
6	Spankers	Blue
7	Royal HK Yacht Club	Green
8	Kowloon Cricket Club	Yellow
9	HKFC Vice Squad	Orange
10	Ladies Recreation Club	Red
11	ISRC	Silver
12	HKFC Captain's Select	Tropical

Having introduced the Junior Wing Ding in 2017, this year we went a step further by including the juniors in the main event such that each team now consisted of twelve players with two juniors filling in at 11th and 12th strings. In addition, the event was opened up to juniors from all participating clubs/teams and it turned out to be a huge success overall. Well done **Matty** for keeping all under control.

The juniors were subject to the same rules and their scores were added to the overall total for each team and it was great to see all teams embracing and supporting this approach. More juniors next year please.

In line with the new format, results were incorporated into the main draw.

Following the success of the face-painting side show last year, a booth was again set up in the old store room with all the appropriate paraphernalia and skilled artists; this together with the regular Radar Gun challenge, provided a little bit of distraction while the main event was in progress.

This year we had probably the largest number of raffle prizes, all generously donated by our sponsors; the full list of prizes and winners is on the Wing Ding website.

Standard fancy dress rules were in force again – points for the outfits and a few extra ones for the face painting, awarded by our expert in-house judges.

While the HKFC Captain's Select demonstrated their elegant squash moves against HKFC Swingers, in keeping with the tropical attire, the Ninja Turtles took no prisoners. Incidentally, the Turtles drew a trump card when their convener picked green as their colour; they were able to use the same outfit two years running.

The ISRC tin Men clanked around on and between courts but in doing so, picked up the most points for the best outfit.

Once again, **Blade** held all the aces and walked away as winners, repeating their triumph of the previous year. Time to let somebody else win next year **Phil**.



Full marks for the outfit and face painting!



Never mind the squash, how's this for a perfect shot



Full on action from the Turtles

2018 - Wing Ding Winners

Team Results (Top 3)

- 1. Blade Revolution Again! (Purple) - 1,735 Points
- 2. Team Eye (White) - 1,716 Points
- 3. HK Cricket Club (Black) - 1,670 Points

Wooden Spoon

- Royal HK Yacht Club (Green) - 1113 Points
- Best Player – Donald Tang – Team Eye HK - 167 Points

Best Kit/Outfit Results (Top 3)

- 1. ISRC (Silver) - 300 Points
- 2. HK Cricket Club (Black) - 290 Points
- 3. Blade Revolution (Purple) - 280 Points

And the most important bit

2018 Funds Raised

Position	Team	Raised
1	Spankers (Blue)	HK\$39,337
2	ISRC (Silver)	HK\$31,800
3	HK Cricket Club (Black)	HK\$27,600
4	Utd Services Rec.Club (Gold)	HK\$20,770
5	HKFC Captains Select (TROPICAL)	HK\$11,900
6	Blade Revolution (Purple)	HK\$11,150
7	Team Eye HK (White)	HK\$10,950
8	HKFC Vice Squad (Orange)	HK\$10,400
9	Royal HK Yacht Club (Green)	HK\$9,700
10	Ladies Rec. Club (Red)	HK\$7,050
11	HK Swingers (Pink)	HK\$6,900
12	Kowloon Cricket Club (Yellow)	HK\$6,000
	SILENT AUCTION	HK\$16,000
	RADAR GUN CHALLENGE	HK\$8,820
	Other Donations	HK\$2,200
	Total Raised	HK\$220,577



OOOOhhhh - What I'd give for a can of WD40!



Plenty of interest in the live updates on the new display screens

In a nostalgic moment during the presentation ceremony, this year being the 20th anniversary of the untimely death of Wing, **Nick Rickett** and **Phil Head** raised a titter or two when they recounted tales of early days at the Squash Centre where Wing used to rule the roost with an iron hand. This clearly did not diminish their affection for him.

Next year will be the 20th edition of the Wing Ding so we hope that all teams will join in to make it an extra special one.

Usual thanks to all the committee members, all teams taking part and all those helping on the day.

■ **Channi Matharu**



And The Wooden Spoonists



And they think it is all over.....



The final word from our time keeper as she blows the hooter for the last time..... until next year



Bout Ye

And there we have it, the 2018/19 season has drawn to a close and will go down as one of the most successful seasons in recent memory. It has been a fantastic season on the pitch for the Natixis HKFC Senior Rugby Section with 6 league titles and 4 GC trophies.

Season Round Up

Club began the season with a new first team coach at the eleventh hour in **Jack Wiggins**, a number of new faces who were getting to know each other and the new set up just as the league was already underway. Despite this backdrop, they ended the season winning their first league title in seven years, notching up some big wins along the way and were looking very strong going into the GC semis, unfortunately losing out to a resurgent Sandy Bay on a bad day at the office. A lot has to be said for **Terry Hart's** scrum sessions this season, some of the stats being notched up by Club and Drags as a direct result of his Thursday sessions were brilliant! With recruitment already underway, Jack, **Cam**, **Sparky**, Terry and all the players have laid the foundations to go on and do great things next season.



Dragons retained the league title for around the 400th year in a row and did it in style, with only 1 loss very early in the season (when I was on holiday and had left **Tim Usasz** ("The Russian") and Q in charge for the day...). The Grand Champs final saw Drags lose out to a strong Valley side in a closely fought encounter. **Josh Dillon** coming off with a punctured lung and not letting this get in the way of a night out must be mentioned. This was a hard loss to take for the guys as it was something they had built towards and targeted all season, however the effort that was put in by the whole squad and some of the individual performances on show were simply amazing. It is a testament to the epic battles that Drags and Valley have in the Prem A league each year, well done to the old enemy and we look forward to the next one. We had several new impressive players join Drags this season including **Ben McDonnell**, **Frazer Leishman**, **Hugh McCormick-Houston**, no doubt these lads will be giving the Club side a nudge next year.

The Russian will be leaving these shores over the summer and we wish him all the best. I can honestly say that no one thinks about the team, different combinations, what to do at training, and how to get the best out of the players more than The Russian. I know because I work with him...and I really look forward to being more productive at work when he leaves! Farewell, thank you and good luck Russian.

Thank you to our 2018/19 season sponsors:



Title Sponsor



Scorpions ended up with the most silverware this season. When **Conor Cole** asked me if it was OK for one of their lads to come to the Captain's Dinner dressed as a chicken, I knew that Scorps were going to achieve big things. Guangzhou 10s winners, league winners, GC winners and all-round legends, Scorps for me were up there for the team of the Section this season. Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum (**David Harrity** and **Paul Skurr**) have been the masterminds behind a perfect season using a varied form of training methods including aqua aerobics and "wet sessions" in the Sportsman's, this obviously gets results and the rest of the Section should take note. A healthy rivalry with Typhoons was played out throughout the season, Scorps coming out on top in a thrilling GC final. With Scorps under the pump, down by 4 points and only a few minutes left on the clock, up steps **Andy McEvoy** ("Fandy") to crash his flaccid body over the line, the crowd go wild, Scorps win 13-12.

Select won the league and the cup in grand fashion to send their proud figurehead, **Tony George**, off into the Cambodian sunset with a yard glass of wine in one hand and a GC trophy in the other. All the best Tony and all being well we will see you on the Vandals tour 2020.

Special Mentions

There was some real "club" spirit on show across the Section this year with players pulling together to help teams above or below when needed. Guys like **David Kwok** The Hulk and Big Bad **Ben McCarthy** would frequently put a monster shift in for Scorps and then travel across town to sit on the bench for Drags. This was a common theme across the Section all season and everyone just got on with it, got stuck in and this collective effort produced amazing results.

Sequins epitomised the "one club" philosophy on the last league day of the season. Following a tough season in the same league as Bulls, the final game of the season was really a dead rubber. However, as soon as word got around that Sequins could assist Bulls in winning the league, by beating second place Scottish, the call went out. The Sequins banded together and produced a gritty performance (with Section Chairman **Ben Stobart** playing out of position in the front row) to get the win and take some pressure of Bulls who later that day got the win over Valley and became league champions. Well done to all involved, it was an awesome day for the Section.

In recent years the men of Bulls have built a massive squad, culture and following. They



now have 2 bars, an Italian restaurant, their own unique red socks and a global ambassador in the form of Miss Phuket. Unfortunately this wasn't enough to get them the win over Scottish in the GC final, however they will be happy with the league win and look to build for the double next season. **Sias Potgieter** has been instrumental in pulling the strings over the last 2 seasons and many others also help steer the Bulls ship, including **Rob Darling, Tony Forrester, Simon Young, Roberto Guolo**. Keep it up lads and enjoy Phuket.

Gaz Wilde and the HKFC 10s Committee put on an unbelievable competition this year. Some of the extras that made the week so enjoyable included the RugbyPod Podcast night with **Jim Hamilton** and **Andy Goode** being held at the Club and the "Legends" charity touch game being played during the 10s. The Legends game saw so many rugby legends grace the Sports Road pitch including, **Lawrence Dallaglio, Jason Leonard, Serevi, Justin Harrison, Ben Gollings, DJ Forbes, David Campese, Tuiliagi, Tom Varndell** and most importantly **Jamie Chapman** (with some questionable officiating). Well done to all involved and personally I would like to thank Gaz for the huge amount of work he has done not only for the 10s but all season.

Future HKFC Players

A number of head wettings have taken place this season, meaning there are a number of future HKFC players on the way. Congratulations to all of the new parents and welcome to the Club **Josh Usasz, Maia Isaacs, Evie Groves, Maiya Finlay Aitken-De Thierry, Super Willa Hadley, Libby Chapman, Thomas Hood, Evelyn** and **Aubrey Bourke, Georgina Nazer, Sadie Horton** and all the other little people I may have missed who will no doubt be running around the Sportsmans pretty soon!



Farewell

This will most likely be my last input to the Club magazine as Section Captain. Thank you to everyone who has kept the section ticking over this season, it has been thoroughly enjoyable on and off the pitch with many fun nights in the Sporties. It has been an honour and a privilege serving you all...beers every Saturday night. Finally, thank you to our 2018/2019 HKFC Rugby Section sponsors, we really couldn't do any of this without you and we appreciate the support.

Enjoy the Summer,

■ **by Jamie Chapman, Rugby Section Captain**



Biarritz Gavekal secure GFI HKFC 10s three-peat



Biarritz Gavekal in action during Cup final



Top seeds rebound from first-day loss and come from behind in Cup final, while Mourant Fiji Army, Classic Wallabies and USA's Tiger Rugby also make their mark in 'World's Best 10s'

Biarritz Gavekal secured a remarkable hat-trick of GFI HKFC 10s titles by coming from a try down to beat Samurai International 19-7 in the Cup final of the 'World's Best 10s' at Hong Kong Football Club.

Gavekal suffered a surprise 14-12 loss to Scotland's Projex Waterboys on day one and finished second in their pool, so had to defeat last year's runners-up Tradition YCAC 12-5 in an intense quarter-final before crushing debutants Mourant Fiji Army 43-0 in the semis.

In the final, they were 7-0 down to Samurai before drawing level with a try by **Penikolo Latu** and an excellent conversion from out wide by captain **Nick Smith**, two of five New Zealanders to score their points in the final.

Glenn Preston scored Gavekal's second try to put the top seeds 12-7 up before a try by Hong Kong-based **Karetai Williams** – named Best and Fairest player of the tournament – and a **Jason Robertson** conversion put them out of reach.

Vice-captain in 2017, Smith captained the side for the last two years and couldn't contain his

excitement as Gavekal became the first side to win three titles in a row since New Zealand Metro achieved the feat from 2006-08.

"It's really special. When I first came here in 2017 and we were 11th seeds, I didn't know what to expect. To think I'd be back winning the Cup for a third year is fairy-tale stuff," said Smith.

"You can't write this. I'm extremely happy. We played some of our best footie in the final and showed the growth of the team from the first to the last games."

While Fiji Sevens back **Samu Bale** and forward **Keponi Paul** were among the squad's high-profile returning stars, the all-action Williams was one of several Hong Kong-based players in the squad and also among those to win the Cup for a third straight year.

"I think this year was probably the hardest. The standard of footy in the 10s is going up every year, so we've got to keep bringing more and more secrets out of the bag," said Williams, who seemed genuinely surprised at his personal accolade.

"I think having more of a leadership role in the team made me kind of focus on my discipline and just offer more to the boys.

"As for winning, there's a lot of pressure, but we run on excitement. It's all about those 50-50s and we wiped those out in the final. We let the Kiwis and Fijians that come over finish with class, but it's up to us Hong Kong boys to graft in the middle there. That's all we're here for."

Mourant Fiji Army may have been a spent force by the time of the semi-finals, but the debutants beat USA's Tiger Rugby and Hunter and Boo East Africans in the pool stage before losing 29-5 to Samurai in the final Pool D match.

However, **Isake Katonibau** and his men surprised many when they beat two-time champions Grove Penguins in the Cup quarter-final 10-7 and proved a popular addition as the tournament's only newcomers this year.

Second seeds YCAC won the second-tier Plate with a 28-5 win over Stephen Larkham's Classic Wallabies, as the Kiwi-dominated side lifted their first trophy in seven years after reaching the Cup final in 2014, 2015 and 2018, and also three Cup semis.

"We're pretty happy. Obviously we'd have liked to have been in the Cup final, fighting for the Cup, but we're happy to win a bit of silverware," said captain **Warwick Lahmert**, who has played for both New Zealand and England Sevens.



Biarritz Gavekal lift the Cup for a third consecutive year



Cup final opening ceremony



Samurai on the run in front of a good crowd

“The last two times I’ve been with Tradition YCAC, we’ve fallen short in the final. Playing Gavekal was like playing a final in the quarter-final, but that’s rugby. You’ve got to beat the best to be the best.”

Classic Wallabies may have lost out on silverware, but **Stephen Larkham**’s side – a mix of former 15s stars and Australia Sevens players – put aside the disappointment of the previous two years when they performed below seeding and couldn’t progress past the semi-finals of the third-tier Bowl.

USA’s Tiger Rugby won the Bowl in their second year at the tournament, lifting silverware for the first time after a 12-7 win over France’s Kir Club Pyrenees.

Tiger’s squad included several USA 15s and sevens internationals, plus the likes of Kenya’s **Oscar Ouma**, Samoa’s **Greg Foe** and Fiji’s **Kitione Taliga**, a 2016 Olympic gold medallist.

“It’s an awesome feeling. Every time we come here it’s such an amazing atmosphere,” said Australia-born captain **Harry Higgins**, who has played for USA 15s.

“The boys really came together on day two. We put the structures together on day one, then came out here today and tried to execute as best we could, while minimising errors.”

Taikoo Place Scottish Exiles won the fourth-tier Shield with a 12-10 victory over hosts Natixis HKFC, whose squad was boosted by Samoan

stars **Neria Fomai** and **Alesana Tuilagi**, although Natixis HKFC coach **Jack Wiggins** was delighted with his whole squad.

“I was pretty happy with how the boys performed during the two days. Every year the competition gets tougher, and this year we had a really strong pool and came out of that pretty well. We came close against the Penguins in the first game and beat the APDs and Classic Wallabies after that,” Wiggins said.

“We had a few injuries and some fatigue going into the second day and didn’t perform quite as well as we’d have hoped, but although we got pipped in the [Shield] final, it provided a strong foundation to build on. It was a really, really special tournament for the Club and the boys really enjoyed it, and we can reflect on a pretty productive two days.”



Natixis HKFC reached the Shield final



Mourant Fiji Army shone on debut



Classic Wallabies reached the Plate final



Rugby legends raise smiles, money to tackle cancer

Gareth Wilde, Chairman of the GFI HKFC 10s Organising Committee, presents HK\$250,000 cheque to Hong Kong Cancer Fund, official charity of 'World's Best 10s'

The GFI HKFC 10s presented a cheque for HK\$250,000 to the Hong Kong Cancer Fund following a star-studded Rugby Legends Tackle Cancer exhibition game at Hong Kong Football Club on Thursday afternoon.

England legend **Lawrence Dallaglio** joined former England flyhalf **Andy Goode's** side, which included compatriots **Jason Leonard, Simon Shaw, Rob Vickerman, Ben Gollings** and **Tom Varndell**, Scotland's **Tom Smith**, Hong Kong's **Rowan Varty** and New Zealand's **Olivia Coady**.

Fijian icon **Waisale Serevi**, the 'King of Sevens', and 'Captain America' **Todd Clever** joined a team captained by former Scotland lock **Jim Hamilton**.

The side also included Australians **David Campese** and **Justin Harrison**, New Zealanders **DJ Forbes, Scott Waldrom** and **Terry Wright**, Samoans **Alesana Tuilagi, Freddie Tuilagi** and **Bella Milo**, plus Fiji's **Sam Viriviri**, the 2014 World Rugby Sevens Player of the Year.

Sally Lo, founder and Chief Executive of Hong Kong Cancer Fund, received the cheque from Gareth Wilde, Chairman of the tournament's Organising Committee. Lo watched the match and was delighted with the 10-a-side touch game, which also included local amateurs and sponsors.

"It has been such a memorable day. I don't think I've ever been so excited as I was when I spoke to the players in the changing room before the

match! They're a great group, giving their time up to come and play. What a fabulous, fabulous match. I was blown away. I'm a real fan now," said Lo, who founded the organisation in 1987.

"The cheque was more than double what we expected, so we are absolutely over the moon. Not only that, this event also brought home the reality that cancer touches us all in one way or another, so we're absolutely delighted to be part of this wonderful tournament."

Leonard, who won 114 caps for England and five for the British and Irish Lions, enjoyed being among so many famous players helping the cause.

"It was great fun, especially when you see people like Serevi still strutting his stuff, Campese doing his trademark steps, then you see Simon Shaw and his first touch is to knock it on five yards," laughed Leonard.

"I think rugby's quite unique. We do try to give back, we do try to support as many people as we can and you have so many famous players here for this. This is such a great idea, so credit to Gaz Wilde and the organising group who put this together. It's a fantastic opportunity for us to help kick cancer into touch."

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Gareth Wilde and Sally Lo



Rowan Varty



DJ Forbes



Waisale Serevi



Jason Leonard



Mascot and Scott Waldrom



Todd Clever

Club wins Kim Lam Cup And comes close in the Richard Hawkes Cup

HKFC Festival, Kim Lam Cup and Richard Hawkes Cup

I am going to leave the Head Coaches to report upon the matches at our own Festival, which concluded with the final round and Finals in the Richard Hawkes (U12) and Kim Lam (12G) competitions. But stealing Allen's

thunder, many congratulations to our U12 Girls for triumphing in the Kim Lam Cup: silverware at last!

I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our Tournament Director, **Evan Moore**, and **Rob Guy Ramsay** for all their efforts on

our behalf. And thank you for participating and making it a success,

TRC Tournament

This month we have our tour to Singapore, for the TRC Tournament and U11 and U12 friendlies. Enjoy that weekend.

And that's quite enough from me

Best,

■ **Denis Brock, Chairman, HKFC Mini-Rugby**



U12 Girls

The day everyone had been looking forward to. HKU were the form team from the previous tournaments and hence the bookmakers' favourites. However in the finals, any team could win. First up, FC1 came up against a fired-up DB side, who used their size and strength to dominate the middle. The game see-sawed with both sides getting close to and over each other's try line, only to be held up. However several mistakes by FC1 resulted in a turned over ball, which DB capitalised on with a rolling maul, collapsing over the line. Somehow the referee saw the ball grounded with DB grinding a 1:0 victory.

With heads down and short turn-around, the girls were tasked to put the game behind them and refocus on the rest of the pool games. Next up – Valley Fort. Another tough game going from end-to-end. Once again, HKFC could not get continued momentum, with some good play not being rewarded with vital points, despite crossing the line several times. Both sides were strong on defence, with the result a Nil All draw. Great defence was shown by **Lauren Lau** and **Sophie Cheung** in the backs and in the forwards by **Sierra Legge** and **Audrey Pun**.

Next up HKU, a must win game! The team spent the long break reflecting on areas to improve and knowing a win was needed to keep a semi-final spot alive. Strength and determination saw them get the a well-deserved 3-2 win, the first over HKU for the year and a great morale booster.

The last pool game was against the Stingrays, and with other results, a win was necessary to guarantee a cup semi-final. FC1 started strongly and scored early to go up 1-nil. The Stingrays however were also out for a semi-final spot and bounced back with a try of their own to level the scores. Continued strong play saw FC1 cross-over for their second of the game and 2-1 up. With just over a minute on the clock Sai Kung made a break and scored to tie the game. Quick thinking and a tactical kick off into space with a strong chase resulted in a turn-over in FC1's favour. Several phases later saw **Olivia McQuhae** crash over for a victory and secure the Cup semi-final. Another to impress on attack, was our speed machine, **Jacqueline Su**.

First thing the girls were asking was who are we playing in semi-final... however with a very short turn-around, the focus was preparing for sudden death. A couple of minutes before kick-off we found out we were up against HKU... we would have to beat them again!

By this time the girls were united and focused, and there was a sense of something special building. Much to the parents and supporters' relief, FC1 scored early and went on to comfortably win 3:1. Determined defence and a strong running game resulted in big improvements and a great team effort.

Into the Cup Final... but against a DB team, who had gone through the day undefeated. With a long break till the final, the girls grouped together and remained relaxed and focused on the task ahead. The girls did not want to get

beaten on their own pitch and "Defending the Club's Fortress" became the catch phrase.

As the whistle went off, the blood pressures of nervous parents and supporters rose, and heart-rate monitors went into overdrive. However, the girls started strongly with great teamwork and sustained pressure resulting in a try after about 3 minutes of play to Olivia McQuhae. Capitalising on several penalties, FC1 managed to control the rest of the first half and spent most of the time in the Pirates end of the pitch but could not add any more points. In the second half, DB had some spirited runs with play focused around their large forward pack. However, the defence remained solid with all players putting their body on the line. **Vaitiare York** also contributed with several kicks from inside the red zone to relieve pressure.

A phase of good team-play saw Jacqueline Su with the ball in space and race away for the team's second try. The remaining few minutes seemed like an eternity, however the final hooter went off and the ball was kicked into touch and the Kim Lam Cup was ours, and time to celebrate. A great effort throughout the day with an amazing team performance in the final game for FC1.

■ Brent York

U12 FC2

Well that's it, very nearly over for our boys' mini rugby career. They all did themselves proud over the season and we saw some very strong performances at the final round of the Richard Hawkes at HKFC. FC3 in their first game were immense in beating SKS2 and whilst they couldn't quite keep those standards up for the rest of the day have made great strides this season and should be very happy overall.

FC2 have likewise gelled and put in some strong performances when faced with some very strong opposition. A hard fought victory over HKU2 to get them into the plate semis (what a match saving tackle **Felix!**) and a valiant performance in that semi where they were unlucky to go down 1-0. Importantly they never



gave up and as the final whistle went were literally over the Tigers' try line, unfortunately not quite able to get the ball on the ground and take the tie to extra time. You can hold your heads up high boys.

And FC1? Well I think we can say after a bit of a stop-start season, they found their inner selves in the Cup semi final against Sandy Bay. Having lost to them 5 times in the earlier RH rounds they went 3-1 down by half time and it was all looking a bit too familiar, heads were dropping, writing was being seen on the wall, negative metaphors of all sorts were being sprayed around the sideline and the stands. And then they woke up (yes I know that is two sentences beginning with and – don't tell my kids). Gloriously. And (!) played by far the best rugby they have played all season. Committed, nay frenzied, defence and powerful, driving attack, the Sandy Bay boys couldn't handle it and it was 3-3 at the final whistle with Club all over them. Five minutes of "golden try" extra time followed and HKU (HK who?) were hanging on by their finger nails, but hang on they did. Into three minutes of 7 a side golden try time, on a pitch, mind, the size of a small African nation, back into the fray went the chosen 7, still chomping at the bit. We went oh so close in the corner and then ,out of the blue, a breakaway for Sandy Bay, of all people Rory O'C screaming down the far touchline, surely that would not be the way to end such a titanic tussle. But no, **Tommy** launched himself, in what was a marginally high, but totally committed tackle, and saved the day. Alas, our valiant Tommy was given his marching orders by an unforgiving referee. Down to six players then, the pitch now the size of Alaska! The hooter came shortly thereafter – the score locked at 3-3, both teams knowing they had been part of a fantastic spectacle of a match, but, alas, FC1 knocked out on a pool points count back. Tears and anguish ensued (and that was just the coaches, the boys were a tad disappointed too) but they can be rightly proud of a gutsy, determined and entertaining performance. I know the coaches certainly were. Congratulations to Valley Fort who went on to beat Sandy Bay in the Cup final.

A big shout out to our coaches for their efforts over the season – **Graham, Andrew, Des, Shane** and **John** have done a great job with the FC3 boys who have come on leaps and bounds. **Kieran** has realised that rugby is much more fun than football and has driven our FC2 boys to play up to a higher level and Pete Spizz has come in and led for FC1 and, as witnessed in that epic semi-final, has finally managed to imbue the art of the pod! Thanks also to **Nick, Nickey, Francesco, Rob, Tony, Thommo** and **Jeff** who have helped out along the way. These guys have put in huge commitment (and shown great patience and fortitude!) and I am very grateful, as should all your boys be, for the time and effort put in by these fine men.

■ **Simon Cooke (soon to be retired) Head Coach U12 Boys**

U11 White Sharks

The HKFC tournament presented a unique opportunity for the U11 whites to complete an undefeated season, having not lost a game in any of the other tournaments

The boys started slowly against HKU with their attack failing to fire in a heavily defensive game. The final result was a 0-0 draw although the boys can consider themselves unlucky with **Liam Gordon** adjudged to have been held up over the line in the dying minutes.

Game 2 vs Sai Kung saw a marked improvement in the boys play, with more direct running and some slick backline moves resulting in a 6-1 victory.

Game 3 vs DB Pirates produced much of the same, typically one of the tougher games, the whites took the Pirates apart with aggressive defence against a much heavier team producing a number of turnover opportunities, and the backs wasted little time getting the ball wide for a comfortable 7-0 victory.

Game 4 had everything, with Valley desperate to reverse a string of losses, and our lads, determined to send **Lucas Baudy** out a winner in his final game for Club, and finish the season

undefeated. The game was by far the most physical of the tournament with neither team able to breach the defensive line.

Valley finally scored with four minutes to go, but Club hit straight back with a well worked move from a scrum, sending **Ollie Phillips** over in the corner to tie the game and it finished 1 try a piece. A fitting end to a great season with the Whites undefeated in 20 games for 18 wins and 2 draws.

■ **Seb Gordon**

U10 Girls

FC1: The day for the girls started a bit slowly but grew stronger as the day went by. Starting off with Valley and the Kukris the girls were working on playing as a unit and establishing stronger rucks. By the time the day ended with matches with HKU and the Stingrays we could see the improvement all round with pressing up as a wall, stronger rucks and tackles. Good effort overall for the team with special mentions for **Lea, Lainie** and **Hannah**. The coaches had a great time working with the girls over this season and wish them the best of luck in the next chapter of their rugby journey. (**Tyson Li**)

FC2: We first played USRC1 and then VF2 and in both games played too much as individuals and didn't close the space down well enough. Against HKU2 we played a lot better, scored some good tries and tackled well to run out a 2:2 draw. Finally, we played DBP2 where we played far better as a team, went up and pressured their line in defence and made our tackles. We rucked well, turning over the ball several times and ran in some very good tries from several players to win convincingly. (**Simon Hague**)

FC3: A mixed day for FC3. Although ultimately a loss, the girls had a really good start in their first match against South China Athletic with some lovely tries and some of the best rucking and tackling we've seen all season. Unfortunately, the following two games were against much larger sides from USRC and Sandy Bay. The



U8

girls took fright, and the tackling and rucking dried up as too many of our side sought to avoid contact, let themselves be run at and threw “banana passes”. There was a welcome return to form in the last match against DB Pirates. Special mentions for Emi, Megan, Jem and Kez. Next year will be an exciting one: lots of progress from a number of girls new to rugby. The coaches have loved working with this group all year. Well done! **(Mark Develter)**

U10

At last the day arrived and HKFC could show off in how to run a festival.

The B teams of Warriors started first with a great win to set the bar for the rest. A convincing 3-0 win over the Police, was truly what they wanted. Next game went well with a commanding lead in the first six minutes, but self-belief hit home, and they suddenly lost a little faith in what they can do and went down to a 3-1 loss. Next up was THT and a heavy loss 5-0 but never the less they played on and into the final game against SSP and a highly fought game with 1 point in it. Another loss but this is only there 3rd Festival and they have done incredibly well.

Next up was Dragons, wow have these boys come on. **Jean, William** and **Rori** have all shown they are ready for the move up next season. William with 10 tries for the day and Jean and Rori 4 each. Over the whole day they knocked up 19 tries for and 8 against this was truly a team with a lot to prove.

3 wins and 1 loss to a very tough and well drilled Valley Fort was the only downfall for this team. Coach **Nickey** and **Rambo** have developed these boys well over the season and where exceptionally proud of their achievements.

Now the A teams, first up the A-B Scorpions. Now these lads have shown that they are now good enough for the A stream. It may seem that the losses outgun the wins but what they have achieved under coach **Mark** and **Russell** is a belief that they can go on to the pitch with their heads held up high and give a good game. They



U6 FC2 Bears

had 4 extremely tough games, Monkey's first and a good solid 4 -2 win. **Eliot Munt** showing that he has the class to be in the team and delivered a great performance. Next up SKS 1 and loss of 6-0 but they took this well and pulled themselves together for the next games. These again were tough and 2 losses. Hard work pays off and I believe that these lads will grow into a fine and strong team in the future. Well done Scorpions.

Bulls and Spartans were pretty much playing at the same time, each had DBP 1 and VF 1. These were surely the games of the day for both teams. VF1 came flying out of the starting blocks and took a 2-1 lead. In the final minutes, Spartans gained control and ended with a 2-2 draw, meaning VF1 have not beaten Spartans all season. Bulls also drew with VF1, with the game ending 1-1. Against DBP1, Bulls had an incredible game (2-2). Spartans also had DBP1 and again were trailing 2-1 until the last minute when **Jastin Lu** pushed over the line for a great solo try. Later the Spartans took apart USRC Tiger 6-0 showing great class and determination in having a first win on the day. Bulls lost 4-1 against a strong SKS 1. Spartans should have won their last game against HKU2 as they had the most of the game but some slack tackling saw that slip away and they ended the day with another draw 1-1. Bulls regrouped and gave DBP2 a smashing, finishing the day with a comfortable win 5-0.

Overall I have to say the level of rugby with these U10 boys has been great. They have listened and developed into fine rugby players with a true course of direction and ability.

Next the 7s and then the main show, Singapore with the Cup in sight.

■ **Robin Zavou**

U9 FC1

First up were the Discovery Bay Pirates and FC1 were caught napping in the first game and took a loss. There were no easy games for the boys today and next up were HKU2. Unfortunately the HKU2 team were a bit more physically imposing and won the battle of the breakdown, outrucking our boys and coming



U5

away with a comfortable win. Two losses to start off and two games against Valley Fort to come – how would the boys respond? The answer was “exceptionally well”. Right from the kick off they tore into VF 2 and spent most of the game camped in the Valley half. As the game wound down the boys only had one try to show for their domination and Valley struck with an opportunistic long range breakaway from a quick tap and the game ended in a draw. However the boys had bounced back and played some of their best rugby of the season. On to the final game against VF 3 and the boys continued the super work in the last game – again dominating Valley and spending long periods of the game in the Valley half. This time they were more clinical and came away with a 2-1 win. A well deserved win for the effort and a fantastic end to the festival.

■ **Paul McSheaffrey**

U8

HKFC U8s hosted 106 games involving 21 clubs at our very own tournament on a sun-drenched Happy Valley pitch. We were honoured to do our part promoting youth rugby in Hong Kong!

The tournament went very smoothly: a huge thank you to ‘the most methodical’ team manager in the Club **Rob Guy Ramsay** for co-organising the whole tournament, and special mentions to mums and dads **Miseon, Vinay, Marc, Franklin, Yan, Ivan, Allan, Kenny, Jacinto, Andrea, Charina, Deb, Stu,** and **Nick** for donning the ‘high viz’ jackets and assisting as pitch monitors, and to **Kelly, Gareth** and **Douglas** for ‘pressing the horn’!

As for the rugby, this month focuses on HKFC Tigers, who were switching back from “full contact” to touch, and, thankfully, there were no bone-shuddering tackles and our children fully adhered to ‘non-contact’ rules. Attacking stalwarts **Iola, Naomi** and **Emilien** scored the bulk of the tries; notable mentions for evasive running go to **Laurence, Charlie, Hugo** and **Gus**; and to **Ante, Justin, Michael** and **Quinten** for determined defence.

HKFC U8s are now transitioning to “full contact”

rugby in preparation for our tour to Singapore, where games will involve full tackle. Thanks to **Steve Jones** for providing expert transition and imagery (squid, guard, band of steel and “cheek to cheek”) and ensuring an enjoyable (and safe) introduction of full tackling to our players. From next season (as U9s), all games will involve full tackle; the other major transition will involve the formation of an ‘all-girls’ squad. We hope all our girls and boys continue with their rugby journeys, and look forward to welcoming new players over the summer! Hopefully, they can be inspired by the inevitable increased focus and exposure of rugby union in Asia with the upcoming Rugby World Cup in Japan, see you there!

■ **Duncan Grewcock**

U7

We were proudly joined by 21 other minis Rugby clubs making up 53 teams across HK for the U7 component of the Festival. The Club was well represented with 8 teams consisting of approximately 100 players who all demonstrated excellent rugby skills and above all sportsmanship.

A total of 260 games were played for U7 and a special thanks to the Festival organisers and parent volunteers who were essential to the success of our festival

The Club Festival marks the impending end of the 2018-19 season. We would like to take the opportunity to thank our coaches for developing the skills and instilling the spirit of rugby in our squad.

On a sad note, our Titans squad leader, **Daniel Booth**, was taken ill on the eve of the festival. At The festival, his barnstorming boy, **Liam**, did him proud with some ferocious tackling and hard running.

We wish Daniel a speedy recovery and look forward to having him on the upcoming TRC Singapore Tour in May.

■ **Mark Tsui**



U6 FC2 Bears

Kick off of the Bear's first match was at a very humane 10:20am, which was a welcome respite from the 7:40am start time that players (and their parents and coaches) had been saddled with all season. So, after a communal roar of bruin gratitude to the master scheduler, the Bears began demonstrating to their opponents what they can do with at least 10 hours of hibernation prior to competition. They needed all of that stored energy for what turned out to be an ursine marathon of five (not the customary four) games.

First SCAA5, whom the Bears handled deftly with a pair of tries from **Edward Adamson** and one each from **Tadgh Burke** and **Leon de Charnance**. **Karson Cheung** was a mainstay in the bear trap of a defensive line with key tackles. Next, while conserving their energy stores on the touch-line, the Bears received an unexpected invitation to take on Tai Po, whose scheduled opponents had failed to materialize. The Bears proved ready for this extra game, with **Sing Ho Chan**, **Léo Baudy** and **Christopher Lai** delivering a trio of tries to ensure the second victory of the day. Following immediately thereafter came the previously scheduled match against the Stingrays 2. The Bears' shark net was up, courtesy of great defensive efforts from **Alvin Chu**, **Zedric Tsui**, **Léo** and **Tadgh**. However, those plus tries from

Edward (2) and **Tadgh (1)** and an unexpected (but otherwise legal) pass from **Margaret Adams** were not enough to avoid a 3-3 draw – the Bears' only result outside the win column on the day. THT2 in the Bears' game four succumbed under a third trio of tries from **Léo** and **Edward (2)**. Then at high noon, the latest the team had played all year, the Bears scored an emphatic four tries (one each from **Christopher**, **Tadgh**, **Edward** and **Léo**) and stopped the DB Pirates 1 with tackles from almost the whole team for win number four.

All in all, the festival was a high note on which to end the season. And after an impromptu medals ceremony and the bruin roars finally died down, the entire team could look back on a season marked by significant growth both on and off the pitch. Mere cubs no longer - Bears!

■ **Tony Adams**

Under 5

We had almost ninety U5s represent the Club across 8 teams on the Hockey Pitch for the home tournament - the largest contingent by a large margin.

This was a chance for our U5's to display the skills and teamwork they had sharpened throughout the season. We had some great displays of silky skills, running rugby and teamwork across all of our teams. Most importantly the kids were 100% enthusiastic and positive about playing in the blue and white and representing the Club with a smile on the dial.

We might have started the season with a degree of nervousness about running with the ball, but finished with all the U5's as keen as mustard to get involved and chase that white line fever!

Finishing the season, we have an excellent group of committed parents, and enthusiastic kids who will be chaffing at the bit to start the U6 season in a few months time.

Thanks to all parent coaches for making the U5 tournament and season a big success.

■ **Dean Cooper**



Message from the Soccer Captain



Sebastian Page,
Soccer Section
Captain

Hello everyone,

As we move into May that means the Soccer Sevens is coming up at the Club! It's the twentieth year of this great tournament – read on here to find out about this year's tournament as well as some history of the previous 19 years and the teams that have taken part.

We also have a report from the successful Section tour to Singapore in which our first team went six games undefeated and won the Open Cup, (I'm told) for the first time in the history of the competition beating SCC in the final 2-1. Our Masters 2 team also brought back some silverware winning the plate competition with only one defeat in their 6 games.

Back in Hong Kong, the First Team recently played in a top of the table clash against the professional outfit Happy Valley, who were previously unbeaten in the league – a match report from this game is included this month. In the Yau Yee league, Wanderers took a huge step towards retaining the title with a dramatic 2-1 win against rivals GAS!

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Club at the Sevens for what I am sure will be another very successful tournament.

■ Sebastian Page

Tables

HKFA 1st Division

Position	Team	Game	Win	Draw	Loss	Goal Gain	Goal Loss	Goal Diff	Point
1	Happy Valley	21	18	1	2	88	11	77	55
2	Hong Kong Football Club	21	16	3	2	71	12	59	51
3	Wing Yee Property	21	13	5	3	38	19	19	44
4	BC Rangers	21	12	7	2	49	12	37	43
5	Eastern District	21	11	2	8	43	32	11	35
6	Sha Tin	21	8	3	10	39	38	1	27
7	South China	21	5	8	8	32	44	-12	23

HKFA 2nd Division

3	Kwan Tong	20	12	3	5	39	24	15	39
4	Kwong Wah	20	11	5	4	41	21	20	38
5	Sham Shui Po	19	12	1	6	40	19	21	37
6	Lucky Mile	21	10	4	7	43	31	12	34
7	Tuen Mun	20	8	6	6	36	34	2	30
8	Wing Go Fu Moon	21	8	1	12	23	33	-10	25
9	Wanchai	21	6	5	10	26	37	-11	23

HKFA Ladies Division

2	Citizen (Women)	14	11	2	1	57	5	52	35
3	Kitchee (Women)	14	9	2	3	32	15	17	29
4	Tai Po (Women)	14	6	2	6	17	26	-9	20
5	Chelsea FC Soccer School (HK) (Women)	14	6	1	7	23	30	-7	19
6	Shatin (Women)	14	4	1	9	17	37	-20	13
7	HKFC (Women)	14	2	0	12	15	53	-38	6
8	Wing Go (Women)	14	0	1	13	3	72	-69	1

Yau Yee League

(Inc. 09.04.19)	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Club Wanderers	20	15	2	3	83	18	65	47
German All Stars	20	14	3	3	54	25	29	45
Baker Tilly Spartans	20	13	5	2	55	22	33	44
Club Albion	20	10	3	7	49	30	19	33
KCC Dragons	20	9	5	6	33	31	2	32
Boca Seniors	20	8	6	6	57	34	23	30
AFC Squadron	20	8	6	6	49	48	1	30
Azzurri	19	8	4	7	42	30	12	28
Club Colts	20	7	5	8	48	32	16	26

Legal League Legends (Vets)

Pos	Div	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Legends	Godfathers	10	8	2	0	54	10	44	26
2	Legends	Spartans Masters	10	7	1	2	31	13	19	22
3	Legends	HKFC	9	4	3	2	27	22	5	15
4	Legends	DBFC Vets	10	3	4	3	27	15	12	13
5	Legends	BTDT	10	4	1	5	18	37	-19	13
6	Legends	USRC 1911	10	3	1	6	22	30	-8	10

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HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens

20th Anniversary

Two-time Champions Newcastle look to retain the title.

Three new debut clubs in Fulham, Wolves and Portimonense.

Six-time Champions Villa return for their 17th time.

20 years for one superb event.

English duo Wolverhampton Wanderers and Fulham as well as Portugal's Portimonense will make their debuts at this year's HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens, adding to the challenge faced by defending champions Newcastle United as May's seven-a-side tournament at Hong Kong Football Club celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Six-time champions Aston Villa, two-time winners Leicester City, last year's runners-up Rangers from Scotland as well as West Ham United and Brighton and Hove Albion will also lead the British challenge, later this month, between 17th-19th May.

"We love the idea of something fresh and having new teams come out. We can sometimes take our Club for granted, but when I see the players walk through the entrance for the first time, they just can't believe it," said HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens Organising Committee Chairman **Tony Bratsanos**.

"This time we decided we'd go for Fulham as they're a good footballing team with an excellent academy. Also Wolves, they've done well in the Premier League and they actually contacted us, we didn't contact them, so it was great to see that level of interest from a top English club."

Wolves, one of the founding members of the Football League in England in 1888, are owned by Chinese investment group Fosun International and returned to the English Premier League this season under manager **Nuno Espirito Santo**.

"We are delighted to be attending the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens for the first time in the Club's history and we are looking forward to competing at such a prestigious competition in its 20th anniversary year," said Wolves under-23 coach **Rob Edwards**.

"The opportunity to take our young players to Hong Kong to compete against a very good standard of opposition in such a unique format of the game is something we are eagerly anticipating and a fantastic way to bring the curtain down on a successful season at Wolves."

Fulham, who famously reached the inaugural Europa League Final in 2010, represent another English club with a great tradition to grace the 'turf' at Sports Road in the Soccer Sevens.

"We are really pleased to have been invited to the 2019 HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens for the first time. We know that the competition has a terrific reputation and we are looking forward to the challenge," said Fulham Academy Director **Huw Jennings**.

Portimonense will become the first side from Portugal to feature at the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens, and will look to follow in the footsteps of Spain's Atletico Madrid who lifted the trophy on their debut in 2015.

They have now played in Portugal's top flight since 2017 after winning the LigaPro – Portugal's second tier.



Newcastle beat Rangers 1-0 in last year's final thanks to **Callum Roberts'** extra-time winner as the side from the North East of England claimed the title for a second time, having first lifted the Cup trophy in 2012.

Last year's defeat represented a third runner-up finish for Rangers at the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens, having previously narrowly missed out on the title in both 2009 and 2010.

"We are delighted to be travelling back to the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens again. Visiting the Hong Kong Football Club is a key highlight of the year on our academy calendar and the young players get so much from the event both from a football perspective, but also culturally by visiting one of the world's must-see locations," said Rangers head of academy **Craig Mulholland**.

"Two years ago, we reached the semi-final, last year we lost to Newcastle in the final so this year we hope to go one step further."

Brighton made their HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens debut last year, beating defending champions Leicester to top their group with an unbeaten record only to see their run ended in the Cup quarter-finals by Italy's Cagliari Calcio.

"We are delighted to be attending the tournament and feel we benefited greatly from the experience last year. We are sure this year will once again offer a different type of challenge and overall great experience," said a Brighton spokesperson.

Villa, the most successful club in the history of the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens having won the tournament a record six times and been in the final on a further two occasions, return this year for their 17th appearance at Hong Kong Football Club.

"This tournament remains an integral part of our development process as over the years many of our young players who have gone on to become Premier League winners, international players and first team

squad members have benefitted from the Hong Kong Soccer Sevens experience,” said Villa academy manager **Sean Kimberley**.

Last year, Leicester made it all the way to the Cup semi-finals in defence of their 2017 title only to lose 4-3 after extra-time to eventual champions Newcastle.

“Leicester City have had some wonderful experiences at HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens over the years and last summer was no different. It’s a fantastically well-run competition with a format that both challenges the players and brings added excitement for the fans, who have always turned out to show their support,” said **Ben Petty**, who took charge of the Leicester team last year.

“We’re proud to have won the Main tournament on two previous occasions and I know that this year the team are motivated to make that three. It’s a brilliant test for them as the competition gets tougher every year, but it’s one that we’re all looking forward to.”

This year, 10 professional clubs from overseas, including Kashima Antlers who return from Japan’s J-League, will be looking to avoid falling foul of giant-killing performances from local sides that feature a Hong Kong Football Association U-23 representative team, Premiership club Kitchee, along with Singapore Cricket Club, a Yau Yee League Select team and two teams comprising of a mix of talent from our own top Hong Kong Football Club teams.

In the two decades since the inaugural HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens, the tournament has gained a reputation for showcasing some of the game’s finest up-and-coming talent as well as numerous renowned stars of yesteryear.

Set within the imposing Happy Valley Racecourse track amidst the striking skyscrapers Hong Kong is famed for, the Sports Road pitch has been graced by each of the ‘Big Six’ in England, while Aston Villa – with six titles to their name – are the competition’s most successful side.

In recent years, there has been a more European feel to the three-day event as clubs including Spain’s Atletico Madrid, Bayer Leverkusen of Germany, Italy’s Cagliari Calcio and Olympique Marseille of France have all taken part.

The HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens’ global appeal, meanwhile, is highlighted by the fact that Argentina’s Boca Juniors, Japan’s Kashima, Kaizer Chiefs of South Africa, New Zealand’s Wellington Phoenix and Australia’s Newcastle Jets are among a long list of established sides to have flown in from far and wide over the past 20 years.

Arguably one of the competition’s most appealing factors is its focus on youth. While seven-a-side events the world over have largely relied on household names from days gone by to draw crowds for Masters tournaments, organisers at Hong Kong Football Club sought to also look in the opposite direction from day one.

“A lot of us were invited to tournaments in Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia as seven-a-side competitions had already been created by clubs such as Singapore Cricket Club,” recalls Bratsanos. “We went and played in those tournaments against some of the great old stars like Alan Kennedy, Mario Kempes and Didier Six.

“I was chairman of the Soccer Section and at our AGM I said we could stage our own tournament because our facilities are excellent, probably better than many others. The then Chairman, **Alistair McCleod** of the Football Club, endorsed it so off we went.

“It was very much focused on the Masters in those days, but our big trick was to also go for the youth, so we started inviting the academies over.”



Marc Albrighton



Teddy Sheringham 2012

Blackburn Rovers and Celtic were the big-name draws at the inaugural event in 1999 – a tournament watched by “one man and his dog”, according to Bratsanos. And it was the 1994-95 English Premier League champions who would be the first winners after they defeated the Glasgow side in the final.

The following year local side Instant Dict overcame Chelsea in the final as they became the first winners from Hong Kong, although English teams would establish a dominance in the ensuing years.

Arsenal were crowned champions in 2001 after ending Instant Dict’s bid for back-to-back titles, before the Gunners were defeated by Aston Villa in the final a year later as the Midlands side began their love affair with the tournament.

The outbreak of SARS led to the cancellation of the 2003 edition, but the tournament returned in 2004 boasting star quality in the form of Manchester United. The Red Devils came close to lifting the trophy at the first attempt, but were denied by Villa as they became the first team to successfully defend the title.

United returned the following year with a side that featured the trio of **Phil Bardsley**, **Fraizer Campbell** and **Chris Eagles**, who all went on to have successful top-tier club careers in England. In goal was **Tom Heaton**, who is now among the top performing goalkeepers in the Premier League, has been capped by England and only narrowly missed out on a place in his country’s 2018 FIFA World Cup squad.

But the English giants exited at the quarter-finals following defeat to Australia’s Central Coast Mariners, before Japan’s Urawa Red Diamonds saw off PSV Eindhoven of the Netherlands in a final of real international flavour.

The finalists from the two previous years met in 2006 as Urawa retained their title by defeating Villa 1-0 in the final, while future England international striker **Gabby Agbonlahor** gave fans at Sports Road a glimpse of his talent as he picked up the Most Valuable Player award.

Villa returned to winning ways in 2007 when they beat Central Coast Mariners in the final before they picked up their fourth title a year later after overcoming Celtic in the showpiece event. Current Scotland international **Barry Bannan**, playing against his boyhood club in the final, was the star of the show for Villa and returned to Birmingham with the MVP accolade.

It was the final many had hoped for in 2009 as Scottish powerhouses Celtic and Rangers advanced all the way to set up an Old Firm derby, and it was third time lucky for the Hoops as a 1-0 victory over their bitter rivals saw them finally crowned champions – a decade after their defeat to Blackburn.



Rangers took over the mantle of unlucky losers as the Ibrox outfit returned to the final a year later, only to suffer a narrow 3-2 defeat to Villa as the Midlands side extended their trophy haul to an incredible five.

In 2011, there was joy for Hong Kong as, for the first time since the second edition of the tournament, a local team lifted the coveted trophy after Kitchee edged out Celtic 1-0 as for the fourth successive year a Glaswegian side ended up beaten finalists.

Villa were gunning for their sixth title in 2012, but they ran into a Newcastle United side on red-hot form as the Toon Army's 2-1 win in the final saw them crowned champions at the first attempt.

Another new name was engraved on the trophy a year later as Leicester followed up their Plate win in 2012 by winning the Main tournament after a 2-0 victory over Newcastle ended their hopes of back-to-back successes.

Kitchee enjoyed a second run to the final in 2014, but failed in their attempt to be crowned two-time champions following a 2-1 defeat to Manchester City as the Cityzens made it three consecutive titles for English teams. A young **Jack Grealish**, now a firm fans' favourite at Villa Park and widely tipped for a big future, finished as the tournament's top scorer.

An exciting new arrival broke onto the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens scene in 2015 as Spanish side Atletico Madrid made their debut in Happy Valley, and Los Rojiblancos took to seven-a-side football like a duck to water as they outshone the rest to become the first – and to date only – winners from Spain after seeing off West Ham United 3-2 in the final after extra-time.

Villa made it six of the best in 2016 when they dealt the Hammers the knockout blow in the final as a 2-0 victory condemned the East Londoners to successive runner-up finishes.

A Leicester side featuring current first-team player **Hamza Choudhury** and **Harvey Barnes** proved too good for the holders in the 2017 final as they ran out 3-0 winners to lift the trophy for the second time.

It was more misery for Rangers last year as they ended up beaten finalists for the third time, with Newcastle adding to their 2012 title following a 1-0 win.

"We've had all of the current top six at various times over the years – we've had Manchester United, Manchester City, Chelsea, Arsenal, Liverpool and Spurs," says Bratsanos.

"We've had some amazing players who've gone on to make it, players like **Gabby Agbonlahor**, **David Bentley**, **Anton Ferdinand** and current Leicester City star, **Marc Albrighton**. There have been around 45 who've made it in the Premier League.

"When I think these guys are from top, top clubs and they still have a 'wow' reaction. That's why we love the new guys coming out as well as the likes of Villa and Leicester City."

While the stars of tomorrow offer up plenty of intrigue, there is always a huge buzz around the Masters tournament, which has featured some of the game's truly great players.

In its early years, 1990 World Cup winners **Jurgen Klinsmann**, **Andreas Moller**, **Uwe Bein** and **Pierre Litbarski** all turned out for the Lorenz All Stars, while a number of England's stars from the same generation – **John Barnes**, **Peter Beardsley**, **Chris Waddle** and **Des Walker** – have also graced the turf.

Fans' favourites such as **Matthew Le Tissier** and **Ally McCoist** have offered up excitement, and former Manchester United players **Teddy Sheringham**, **Andy Cole** and **Gary Pallister** are among those with Premier League winners' medals to have joined the event.

More recently, **Emile Heskey**, **David James**, **Jari Litmanen** and **Patrik Berger** have showcased their quality on the seven-a-side stage, with the latter helping the Citi All Stars win their first title in 2016.

The Lorenz All Stars remain the most successful side in the Masters event, lifting the trophy on four occasions including three in a row between 2005 and 2007.

Rangers All Stars and Ajax All Stars, with teams featuring a number of their renowned former players, have each won the title twice – a feat Citi All Stars also managed when they defended their crown in 2017.

However, they were unable to make it three in a row last year as local side Discovery Bay won their first title after defeating Nottingham Forest Mobsters 2-0 in the final.

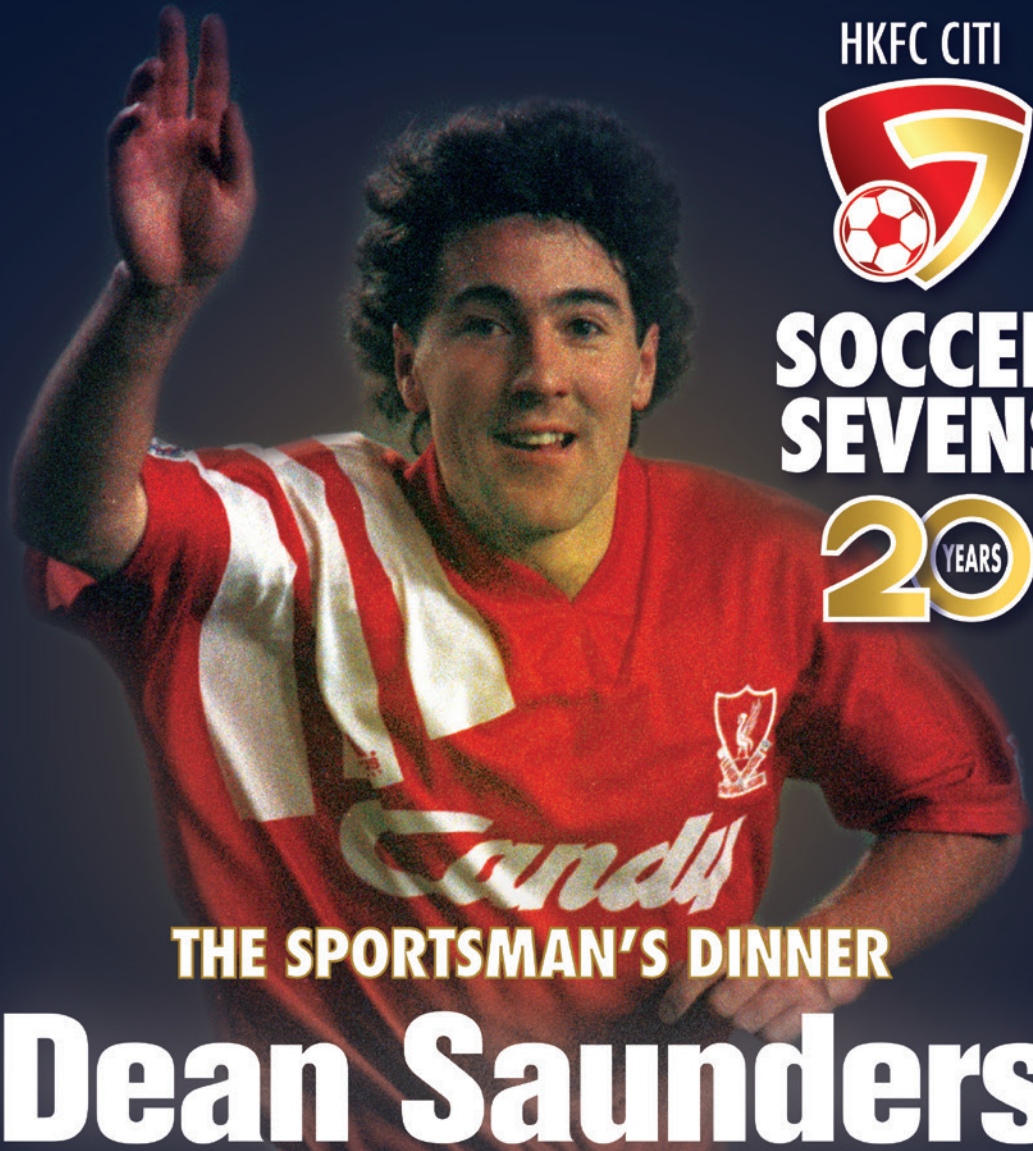
In the 20 years since the competition was launched, fans have been treated to more than 2,500 goals as the seven-a-side game on the full-sized pitch ensures end-to-end contests in energy-sapping conditions.

Sides from five different continents have taken to the field, while 10 different teams from five countries – England, Hong Kong, Japan, Scotland and Spain – have been crowned champions of the Main tournament, while Discovery Bay became the 12th champions of the Masters event last year.

To retain their title Discovery Bay will need to overcome a Citi All Stars side made up of players from the Professional Footballers' Association in the United Kingdom, along with Wallsend Boys Club, Nottingham Forest Mobsters and playonPros, all returning to the tournament. Local interest will be enhanced with a Masters' team featuring local Hong Kong football legends of the past, while 2018 Masters' Plate champions, Singapore Cricket Club Masters will once again travel. Kowloon Cricket Club and two of our own Masters teams complete the 10 team line-up.

The 20th edition of the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens is sure to serve up yet another year of great action, not only in the Main competition but also the Masters' tournament and not forgetting the HKFC Citi Junior Soccer Sevens involving some young players from across Hong Kong as well as exhibition matches for youth, girls and a fan's favourite, the annual HKFC Crusaders match for special needs players.

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of this landmark HKFC annual event, the HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens Committee would like to thank the sponsors for their invaluable support, particularly title sponsors Citi who have now committed their support to the event until 2021, plus all the Club Staff and Soccer Section volunteers, who make the event what it is today.



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20 YEARS

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HKFC Wins Top Of The Table Clash

Fresh from winning the SCC Soccer Sevens the weekend before, HKFC travelled to Kowloon Bay to take on table toppers Happy Valley. Happy Valley are a fully professional outfit who have invested heavily in order to secure promotion to the HK Premier League for next season. Sitting in 2nd place and being 7 points behind the leaders, Club knew only a win would keep their title challenge alive.

Club started the game in dominant fashion and got its reward after 20 minutes when **Shunsuke Nakamura** was played through on goal by **Antoine Sahaghian** and finished clinically. Happy Valley were struggling to create any real opportunities at the other end with the Club backline looking very solid. When Antoine Sahaghian headed home a **Robbie Scott** corner on the half hour mark, Club found themselves in a great position. Half time score 0-2.

The second half initially delivered much of the same with Club controlling the game and Happy Valley unable to trouble **Freddie Toomer**. At the other end, Happy Valley had their goalkeeper to thank for keeping Shunsuke Nakamura from getting his second goal of the game when he pulled off a miraculous save.

With 25 minutes to go, Club seemed to be cruising but it was at this point when the referee decided to put his mark on the game.

He first awarded Happy Valley a corner kick, which should have been a throw in, from which the league leaders made it 1-2. And a few minutes later, **Robbie Bacon** received a very soft yellow card which was his second of the game meaning Club were down to 10 men for the last 20 minutes. This led to Happy Valley throwing more players forward and upping the pressure in search of the equaliser. Club's defensive organisation however was excellent and if called upon, Freddie Toomer showed his qualities to deny the Happy Valley attackers. Club held on and secured the win meaning the gap at the top is now only 4 points with 5 games still to go. A massive result for Club!

Team:

Freddie Toomer
 Olivier Muh (Jordon Brown), Michael Thurbon, Bell Bell, Callum Beattie
 Shunsuke Nakamura, Freek Schipper, Robbie Bacon
 Antoine Sahaghian, Michael Hampshire, Robbie Scott

■ **Freek Schipper**





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SOCCER SEVENS

20 YEARS



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In celebration of our 20th anniversary, there will be a Special Guest Appearance by French International Legend and World Cup Winner Marcel Desailly at the Sportsman's Dinner on 16th May and at HKFC Citi Soccer Sevens on 17th-19th May.

為慶祝本賽事20週年，法國國家隊傳奇人物兼世界盃冠軍成員之一的迪西尼將以特別嘉賓身份現身於5月16號舉行的運動員晚宴及5月17-19號的香港足球會CITI七人足球賽。

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Winning in style at Singapore Soccer 7s!



After more than 20 years of trying, HKFC brings home the SCC Soccer 7s trophy.

Slightly earlier in the year than the usual late-summer timing, the Singapore Cricket Club 7s was held on 23rd and 24th of March in 2019. As usual, HKFC Soccer supported the event and went in force, with two teams in the Main competition and two more teams in the Masters section. In total, more than 60 Soccer Section members travelled to Singapore, including the HKFC Ladies team, who also had their own round-robin event.

The first day had the usual hot and humid conditions that is a true Singapore staple, but all teams fared well with their first few group matches, qualifying in strong positions for the Sunday knock-out games, without any major incidents or injuries.

Saturday afternoon also saw the HKFC Ladies have a three way round-robin event against the Singapore Police and Deloitte and Touche, which they duly won, despite a very sudden downpour and a quick break in play due to a lightning warning. It was a closely fought affair with a 0-0 draw and then a 1-0 win, meaning the HKFC ladies took the plaudits and topped the three-team group.

After a very restful and quiet Saturday night (ahem...), Sunday started brightly, with all the teams picking up where they left off on the Saturday. Goals were coming thick and fast as the day heated up. After the first round of games, two out of the four teams were still in the competition and in the hunt for potential silverware. Unfortunately, HKFC's second team in the main competition were knocked out following a very tight game and subsequent penalty shootout, which ended 6-5 to Singapore Cricket Club First team and the HKFC Masters first team also lost out in a closely fought opening match.



The two remaining teams continued their impressive runs and took their chances to both be in with a shout of winning their respective competitions. The HKFC Masters second team duly won the Masters Plate final after a very pressured penalty shootout, which saw the final decisive spot kicks being taken by the goal keepers, and that proved to be the difference, with HKFC winning 7-6.

The final game of the tournament was HKFC First team in the main competition. They were facing the hotly favoured home team SCC Firsts, and after a tense match, HKFC showed their class and determination winning 2-1 and lifting the SCC Soccer 7s trophy for the first time in recent history.

All the prize money from the tournament was generously pledged to a charity that is close to both HKFC and SCC hearts: The Youth Football Home – Henrick Lorenz Orphanage in Phuket.

A special mention to **Tony Hamilton-Bram** for the massive amount of time and organisation that goes into planning a Soccer Section Tour and all the team management throughout the tournament.

Congratulations to all involved and thanks to Singapore Cricket Club for the invite and organization – we look forward to defending the title next year!



Men's E Team

The Men's E Team has had another great season with a lot of high-quality hockey and new talent joining the team. We started the season with a team which was better than the previous year's on paper. Expectations were high and number one spot has been evading us by one point or two the last few seasons. Unfortunately, the season did not go as expected and we were caught on the backfoot with some early defeats which was tough to fight back from. Sadly our final position in the table was affected by some administrative matters of Hockey's governing body which was frustrating, nevertheless, the team played some great hockey throughout the season and ended 5th in Div 2.

The junior players added fresh legs to the team mid-season and this time they had the highest number of father son pairs playing for them. – **Kit** and **Nick Studholme Wilson**, **Dom** and **Justin Davidson**, **Fred** and **Christian Keegan**, and **Finlay** and **Stuart Mayo**. Maybe **Kai Porter's** Dad needs to take up hockey next season!! The biggest find of the year was **Tom Hamilton** (FEC: Future E Captain). He was unanimously voted Man of the Series by the team. Closely followed by star keeper



Rob Wilkinson. The season ended with a much-anticipated Cup game between D's and E's. This was one the best games they played all season and at full time score was level at 1-1. The D's won on penalties.

After the game a formal Leadership Handover was organised over Flaming Lambo's at the Sportsman's seeing **Rajat Mathur** step down after 3 seasons of captaincy to handover to Tom Hamilton. Rob Wilkinson took over from **James Billett** as Vice-Captain. We wish them the best for next season.

Men's F Team

Several Englishmen, Scotsmen, Welshmen, Hong Kongers, Dutchmen a German and a Zimbabwean walk into a bar. There they find two Australians and occasionally an American and a Peruvian. No, it's not a joke, it's the F team!

With a wide variety of nationalities and a wider span of ages and waistlines this group of players headed by captain **John Banks** have been patrolling the 3rd division of the Men's league for a while now. Sometimes bursting through up front, occasionally (with the help of the HKHA) paddling furiously to stay afloat. This year has been trying as our friends from King's Park decided that the only way to show the F team up was to keep them out of the bar and scheduled most of our games (it seems) at opening time, on grass or in odd locations.

Despite this handicap we've managed to stay up in the 3rd Division (we think) and will fight another day. We've had a succession of goalkeepers as our regular tender **Jeroen Touw** has been flitting around the region and running in some odder locations than we've played. Other contributors between the sticks have been **Martin Wong**, **Cyrus Law**, **Neil Norman** and we've been grateful to have them. They've all contributed to a back four that defies age (if not our attacking opponents) and has comprised of **Fergus McCoig**, **David Watt**, **Gilson Chua**, **Rob Barker**, **Tony Mitchell** and the captain of vice **Lyle Williams**. The middle of the park has recently seen a downgrade in terms of age – but definitely an upgrade in terms of legs as **Otto Surman** and **Bertie Reid** from the juniors have started on their senior hockey careers. Added to the youthful vim and vigour has been our now customary German presence in the shape of **George Bossle** being shown the ropes by such luminaries as **Piers Brunner**, **Mattie** “the Enforcer” **Brook**, Skippers **John Banks**, **Pat Lam** and **Willy Probert** with cameos from **Russell** “Polo” **Tyre**. All of the above have tried to get the ball up to the Brylcreem boys up front; **Steve Smart**, **Simon Shepherdson**, **Gus Davidson**, **Gordon** “I'm not Welsh, until they win” **Marsden**, **Erik** “Cointreau” **Bernsaco** ably supported by the returning **Tony Pugh** and more young legs in **Adil Vora** (kidnapped from the clutches of the H team) and **Neel Shah**. All have been vying for the golden stick but unless **Gordo** manages a hat full and more in our cup run (one round unbeaten!) this will go to another stalwart who is



unfortunately leaving Hong Kong, **Neil Galloway**. Neil has been at the heart of the Section for a long time reinvigorating the junior section and playing more than his part in all aspects of Club life. A suitable send-off took place at the Sportsman's Bar: but more on that next month, It was fitting in his final official game for the Club he bagged 5 further goals to all but claim the F team Golden stick title. We wish both Neil and his family all the best but as always, look forward to seeing them again at the Club (during Rugby 7s week no doubt).

Having managed to hopefully disguise the fact that we haven't played that well this year as usual we've had some fun and received a few motivating texts from **Lucho** as he wakes up to another Sunday in the Big Apple! We are inconsistent in most things – we haven't had a settled side, as well as all of the players mentioned we are grateful to the Galloway Jnr, numerous G's and H's players for filling in and ensuring that we had teams every weekend. We have played some great hockey, but in blindingly short spells (probably a total of about 4 games worth!) and getting the round white thing into the black stringy thing has been a problem (not for Neil obviously). But the heart has not gone and we'll fight another day.

It's been great to see the development of the juniors who have played regularly and hope that their introduction to the “big time” hasn't been too scarring and if Piers ever arranges a social their folks will let them out.

Finally a big shout out to **Al Clark** who has helped out with umpiring when we've needed, and as ever, to **Banksie** who has chivvied, cajoled and chased us onto the pitch at the right time and place throughout the year.

Ladies E Team

It has been a bit of a roller coaster season for the E team ladies, with stellar wins, tragic losses, saying goodbye to coaches, welcoming new coaches and what seems to have become a tradition: injuries! The first half of the league competition began a bit slowly with Phoenix A and Elite A kicking some dust in our faces. However, the team rallied with an excellent 3-0 victory over Vets B, 2-1 victory over the Dinos and 1-0 over Valley C fuelling our fire with some healthy frenemy rivalry. After the Christmas break, it took a number of matches for the Es to regain their winning ways as well as new coach **Katy Mountain** to whip these ladies back into top form and normal service resumed with a wonderful 5-0 win over Elite B. Although we haven't scored as many goals as we'd like, highlights were still plentiful including: introducing the team to **Martin Miller**; **Kim Roberts** adding yet another S to her pregame pep talk - "Stu's GIRFT"; **Jessica Lam** falling less; **Maddie Chu** stepping into goal for us; Hockey Section party pyramids; **April Cheng's** practice trousers and finally our awesome involvement in the Guv Dillon Foundation Charity Ball. Fineable lowlights to note were both captain (**Kim Roberts**) and Vice (**Ping Tan Hawkins**) getting green cards, **Rebecca McClymont** falling more and losing **Melissa Mayo** due to shoulder injuries.

This season saw the introduction of seven new players, who have come from various corners of the hockey world, junior section **Agnes Chu** and **Elise Van Hees**, ex G-teamers **April Cheng** and **Liza Nel**, newbie **Lyndsay McKenzie**, boomerang **Sophie Lai** and Valley frenemy **Connie Chan**. All have contributed magnificently at various times and have improved massively throughout the season, earning their stripes to join the otherwise "experienced" and well-seasoned squad of the Es.

Lastly we'd like to acknowledge our stellar umpires who braved day



and night, rain, thunder and blistering sunshine, to blow their whistles and point their fingers so we can fulfil our duties. **Helen Champion** and **Connie Chan**, no one truly rocks that eye-poppingly bright yellow vest quite like you guys, accompanied with your gazelle like leaps across the pitch, you make umpiring seem effortless. A million thank you's!

For some of our E ladies, the past couple of months have only been a warm up to what truly matters, the platform where their real skills and talents truly shine, the E team tour. Singapore...brace yourself...

Ladies F Team – The Dino's

Time for an update on the Ladies F Team – aka the Dino's! In the Dino's' last update in December 2018, Captain **Paula Wymond** reported that in the first half of the HKHA 2018/2019 season the Dino's had 5 wins and 5 losses. In this update at the end of the HKHA's League games, El Capitano reports a total of 8 wins, 9 losses and 3 draws. In the HKHA's League Standings for the Second Division in the 2018/2019 Season the Dino's finished fourth out of 10 teams just ahead of the Ladies E Team who finished fifth. In the Dino's last league game the Dino's knew that they had to hold League leaders Elite A to a draw to be above the Ladies E team in the Second Division; given that Elite A had beaten the Dino's 0-9 the first time the teams met it was a big ask...we lost 0-6, but not for want of trying. The Dino's now face off against the E's in the Knockout Cup at Lok Fu.

From January to March 2019, **Jo Moore**, **Abi Tyrell**, **Flo Chu**, **Fiona Pratt**, **Mel Watt** and **Claire Frost** hit the backboard, with Frosty hitting it 4 times. Players of the match since January have been all of the Dino's on a couple of occasions and **Ida Wong**, **Jo Moore**, **Cath Gibbs** and **Yeng Ng** in particular.

Debra Taylor remains injured and was joined by **Kirsty Smith** (too much pirouetting) and **Heather Deayton** (too much baking) on the bench. Heather has returned from injury and Debra and Kirsty hope to do so soon. Vice-Captain **Claire Fulton** recovered from her knee injury and returned to the pitch together with **Kath Munt**.

The Dino's wish to acknowledge and thank:

- Their managers **Mary Coghill** and **Heather Probert**.
- Their registered umpires, **Mel Watt**, **Heather Deayton** and **Helen Hayward**.
- The Ladies G team for their help in fielding a team
- Their fruiterer **Pat Cunningham**
- Their Social Secretaries **Su Cowland** and **Liz Dendle Foxall** (tour to Macau in May...here we go, here we go).
- Their baker **Heather Deayton**...did any other team have appropriately decorated cup cakes on Australia Day?
- And most of all their supporters who turn up to encourage the Dino's (if one closes one's ears, it sounds like encouragement!) and buy them champagne.

Hockey is indeed more than just a game for the Dino's. Pip pip.



Bowler of the Year Tony Cheung Reigns the Inaugural CCC Masters 2019

After winning this year's National Singles and National Indoor Singles, **Tony's** electrifying form has put him on a winning streak again for winning the inaugural CCC Masters 2019 in March. Tony was one of the 13 elite bowlers invited to play in this highest-prized tournament in Hong Kong.



Club Bowlers Tony Cheung and Phyllis Wong Excel in World Cup Singles 2019

Hong Kong China Squad's hopefuls, **Phyllis Wong** and **Tony Cheung**, put forward their best to compete against 42 of the world's top bowlers from 23 countries at the World Cup 2019. The World Bowls-sanctioned indoor singles championship was staged at Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club near Sydney Australia between 5th and 13th March. After the nine-day competition, Tony ranked 9th overall out of 24 players in the Men's section whilst Phyllis captured 11th position overall amongst 20 female players. New Zealand superstar **Jo Edwards** was crowned with the top title.

Tony and Phyllis have made their fellow members proud of their outstanding performances at this year's World Cup. Well done!



New Season Unveiled by Ritual Pig-Cutting Ceremony



oads of luck was brought by the pig-cutting ceremony for the new season held on Saturday 30th March with a sensational turnout of over ninety Section bowlers. This annual curtain-raiser for the Premier leagues was followed by an intra-section warm-up game with

all bowlers divided into two sides – Red Vs Blue. Rink games were held on both Outdoor and Indoor Greens concurrently for 2 rounds of 10-end competition. The Red side won the game at the Outdoor Green whilst the Blue team were crowned as the champions Indoor.



More importantly, everyone enjoyed a joyful afternoon of bowls fun with generous servings of delicious roasted pork. We all look forward to a blissful and rewarding season!



Great Start with Double Wins for Friendly Lead-up Games

A total of twenty-four players enjoyed an afternoon of not just bowls fun but also rekindling our strong sense of sporting community at the annual friendly game with KCC at its 5th year of running which took place on 23rd March. The 18-end mixed-gender rink games at the Club's Indoor Green turned out to be a clean sweep by the home team winning all six rinks. The SC Trophy finally returned to our trophy stand after the tie last year.

At another friendly pre-season lead-up game with the Hong Kong Police Lawn Bowls Club on 16th March, Section bowlers showed their stamina with another clean sheet win of all six rinks.

What a great start for the new season of the Premier Leagues which rinks off in mid-April!



Section Players Voted for Our Own Committee at AGM



The Section's Annual General Meeting was successfully held on 21st March with a new Committee being endorsed in accordance with the Bye-laws. The office-bearers of the Lawn Bowls Section Committee 2019-20 are as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Chairman | Frankie Siu |
| Deputy Chairman | Terence Lee |
| General Committee Representative | Mike Worth |
| Men's Captain | Warren Cheung |
| Ladies' Captain | Daisy McNie |
| Secretary | Kevin Lee |
| Treasurer | Irene Muk |
| Membership Secretary | Kenneth Pang |
| Greens Secretary | Tony Cheung |
| Coach | Chung Ming Sang |
| Competition Secretary | Wilson Kwong |
| Social Secretary | May Lee |

Let's continue to show our staunch support for the Committee.

Chairwoman's Note

At the time of writing, two HKFC netball teams are training hard for their respective Grand Final games. Our Club team has been working hard to regain their top position in the premier league when they take on the independent Sonics team in the Grand Final. Club has proved unstoppable this season and we wish them luck. The Division One Whirlies are also training hard to prove that they belong in Division One. With a new line up this year, the Whirlies have proved that through training and communication (and a few social

activities to boot) that it takes less than a season to prove greatness! We look forward to bringing you the results of these finals in the next issue.

Another exciting event to look forward to is our end of season function and AGM, where teams come together and celebrate another successful season. The AGM is a great time for members of the Netball DSA to put their hands up to help contribute to our continued success by joining the Netball DSA Committee. So if you're interested in joining, please reach out to us at info@hkfcnetball.com

■ **Olivia Burgess**

Match Reports

■ 11th MARCH

Typhoons vs Valley Panthers

Another Monday another match for the Typhoons who, despite having a track record that fully embodies the theme "consistency is key", were determined to battle the odds and come out victorious. The showdown was rough, ruthless, and undoubtedly showcased some of Typhoons most skilled performances. Defence were fast like lightning and moved with the swiftness of gazelles in the **Serengeti**; **Gemma Tregenza**, **Lesleigh Groos** and **Tash Groves** shutting down the attack before the opponents could even hit the flop. A special appearance made by **Amelia Handford** in centre took both teams by surprise as she knocked the socks off everyone on the court and dominated both offensively and defensively. They say that a good defence is the best offence, but the golden trio **Steph Cuvelier**, **Kathryn Hurrel**, and **Cat McPhillips** begged to differ, moving with such speed and elegance that we considered changing the saying to "the best defence is a good offence". Those who were present at the game were even lucky enough to witness a groundbreaking 3 point attempt made by our very own Kathryn Hurrel from outside the shooting circle (the exact intentions behind this shot are nebulous till this day), and then moments later witness an even more

jaw dropping buzzer beater made by **Hannah Johnston** from downtown. In the shooting circle, Hannah and **Netra Hankins** were a dynamic duo to beat, putting up shot after shot. With the combined effort from all girls across the court, the Typhoons emerged sweaty, rattled, and triumphant with the final score of 28-21. Special shoutout to **Jackie Law**, **Nadia Cuvelier** and **Jennifer Mackay** for providing endless support being the voices of reason (and occasionally rhyme) on the sideline.

Kowloon Opals vs HKFC Tornadoes

Despite missing a few members, the HKFC Tornadoes put up a good fight against the second place team Kowloon Opals on Monday. Right from the start, the Opals kept a safe distance of points away from the Tornadoes, defence struggled to keep their 6"2 GS at bay, ending the half at 22 - 13. Though the odds were against them in this game, the Tornadoes had their minds set for the semi-finals and so they hustled like never before. After a few changes at half, Tornadoes played an amazing third quarter, only scoring 4 points less than the seemingly unstoppable Opals. Although the game ended with a 44-25 defeat, the Tornadoes celebrated all the little wins throughout the game and were a force to be reckoned with.

■ 18th MARCH

Tornadoes vs Kowloon Diamonds

This match saw Tornadoes take on Kowloon Diamonds for the last round of the season. The



Tornadoes were roaring to go and came out guns blazing to lead at the first break 11-3.

The twins towers (**Cici** and **Nicole**) in defence kept the diamonds scoreless in the second quarter (24-3).

Coach **Mills** wanted to try some different combinations in the third quarter. The Tornadoes showed their agility and flexibility to capitalise on the strong lead.

A few injury timeouts were a concern in the fourth quarter, but they kept the momentum going to finish 39-11. It was the Tornadoes biggest win of the season!

The match was a fantastic way to end the netball year. However it was bittersweet as the Tornadoes missed out on the semi finals by goal percentage only (they were on equal points with the 3rd and 4th ranking teams). Best wishes to the other HKFC teams competing in the finals.

Junior Netball Academy News

It is with heartfelt pride that I can share with you that the HKFC Junior Netball Academy has had a great finish in the HKNA 2019 Spring Tournament. Out of our 9 competitive teams, 8 made it to the finals which were played at Shun Lee Tsuen Sports Centre on Sunday 31st March. After a turbulent competition that was marred by rain and cancelled games, the JNA emerged as winners. The strong finish is a credit to all the hard work by our amazing and dedicated coaching team – **Kathryn Curley**, **Amelia Handford**, **Jane Peters**, **Rachael Alsop** and

Hannah Johnson – and our hard-working and competitive players. The HKFC JNA scooped up 2 wins – well done to Lightning (U12s) and Rainstorms (U14s), whilst Blizzards, (U12s), Thunder (U12s) and Twisters U16s all finished runners up. There were 3 awesome third place finishes by Storm (U19s), Breakers (U19s) and Tremor (U14s)!!! See below table for final game results and more in-depth write ups by the teams.

In the U10s Netta Competition, final games were played on Saturday 30th March. It has been an



	U19s		U16s		U14s		U12s		
	Division 2	(Playing U19s) Division 2	Division 1	Division 2	Division 1	Division 3	Division Yellow	Division Red	Division Purple
	HKFC STORM	HKFC MAVERICKS	HKFC TWISTERS	HKFC BREAKERS	HKFC RAINSTORMS	HKFC TREMORS	HKFC THUNDER	HKFC LIGHTNING	HKFC BLIZZARDS
	vs		vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs
	HKS Warriors		HKCC Firebirds	Valley Cats	Valley RFC Thundercats	BIK Kookaburras	HKCC Ravens	HKCC HAWKS	SCAA CWB Netball U12 Blue
Coach	Amelia Handford	Kathryn Curley	Jane Peters	Hannah Johnston	Amelia Handford	Kathryn Curley	Hannah Johnston	Rachael Alsop	Kathryn Curley
Play format	U14s,U16s,U19s - 4 x 10 mins quarters						U12s - 4 x 8 mins quarters		
	3rd vs 4th	Finished 5th	1st vs 2nd	3rd vs 4th	1st vs 2nd	3rd vs 4th	1st vs 2nd	1st vs 2nd	1st vs 2nd
	Win		Loss	Win	Win	Win	Loss	Win	Loss
	32 to 20		17 to 22	24 to 7	18 to 9	34 to 4	3 to 8	10 to 5	2 to 4



absolute pleasure to watch the girls develop their skills over the year and then take to the courts in the friendly games showing their team spirit, their developed understanding of the rules and their love of the sport. Well done to the Icicles and Snowstorms.

We now turn our attention to developing our team structures in term 3 and looking ahead to next season.

Thank you to all the parents for their support on the sidelines and to our sponsor **Liquidnet** who is helping us to further develop our vision. In conjunction with Liquidnet we are positioning ourselves to be in our peak position! Well done coaches, players and parents.

■ **Mary Vlogianitis, Junior Netball Academy Chairwoman**

U12 Thunder

The Thunder Nettie Girls were delighted to have qualified for the finals day and were excited to be having a rematch with the Hong Kong Cricket Club Ravens. After a season of excellent play, I think it would be fair to say that they were pretty confident going into the match.

Just as she's done all season, Thunder's lovely coach – **Hannah**, took a squad approach, ensuring that everyone had a fair amount of time on court. This meant making lots of changes, each and every player played well, but the team failed to gain a rhythm. The Cricket Club Ravens, on the other hand, kept the same team and to their credit gained momentum and confidence, which led to them winning 8-3.

However, the Thunder Nettie Girls are definitely not sad! They are a happy squad that plays for each other. As individuals they have benefitted from playing with various players and in different positions – this will serve them well as they mature into confident, competent players.

They have also been lucky to have **Kirsty Hulme** as team manager. She has coordinated the parents and the players and informed us all about training, matches and various other events. Many benefitted from being ball girls at the recent International match thanks to Kirsty and she made sure that a few trialled for the U14 team (despite being very young) and the Nettie's are very proud of their Centre court player **Elsie** on getting selected for the squad at such a young age - go Elsie! To cap the season off, Kirsty has arranged a team meal at the Club post Wednesday evening training – it is fair to say that the Thunder Nettie Girls are proving to be a sociable, competitive group of young girls, who are committed to playing netball because they enjoy it! Well done and thank you to everyone who has contributed towards the season.

■ **Helen John, Parent**

U12 Blizzards

The Blizzards have had a great season. Moving up from Netta's in January, they have grown beautifully as a team and shown tremendous spirit. Having won all their games except one this season, they earned their place in the Finals to face the CWB Eagles. After an "edge of the seat" game they walked away with 2nd place and a performance/season they should be very proud of.

U12 Lightning

The Spring tournament is over, and what a great one it has been for Lightning!

We have had phenomenal success this season, starting with a nail-biting tie against HKCC Hawks and following up with successive wins against DC Cobras, BIK Rosellas and SCAA.

Lightning finished the season unbeaten at the top of the group, beating the Hawks 10-5 in a tense final to win the 1st place trophy.



U14 Rainstorms



U16 Breakers



U19 Storm



U14 Tremors



U16 Twisters

We are very proud of the hard work and effort put in by coach **Rachel** and all the girls and hope for continued success next season!

U14 Rainstorms

Entering the last match of the season is always a tricky one, even more so when Rainstorms had not come across their opponent in the main draw. Both teams maintained extremely strong defensive play with Rainstorms finishing the first quarter with only a 1 goal lead. Meeting their opponent for the first time in the season did not deter the girls as they found their groove as the game went along. Every quarter saw the girls get stronger and stronger and gain tremendously in confidence. All players sought turnovers where possible along with quality play and passes making their way into the shooting circle, gave Rainstorms a convincing win with a 9 goal difference. These girls finish the year off the way they started, determined and strong.

■ **Amelia Handford, Coach**

U14 Tremors

After a very strong team performance in the playoffs against the BIK Kookaburras, Tremors were unlucky not to be competing in the finals after losing out partly because they were not able to play two games earlier in the season due to weather and court availability. In the playoffs for third and fourth position, the girls were quickly in their stride with some solid defence and some very quick movement of the ball in midcourt. Kookaburras had very limited shooting opportunities and our shooters missed very little once the ball was in the semi-circle. The girls have made a lot of progress over the year and they are really playing better and better as a team.

U16 Breakers

We would like to thank our coach – **Hannah**, Team manager – **Carla** and **Mary** for their endless support towards our team this season. We started the spring season a bit rocky, but we trained hard and came together as a team and played an amazing game at finals. Even though we were a bit disappointed going into our game, due to our previous game (and our opportunity to play ourselves into the final for 1st and 2nd place) being unfortunately cancelled, we went into our final strong and took the win by a large margin. This shows how our team can get back up stronger after being knocked down. We are very proud of our team and we know we can do even better next season.

■ **Aqru Chan and Kimberly Lai, Breakers**

U16 Twisters

The last match of the season was always going to be a close one for Twisters, meeting Cricket Club Firebirds in the U16 Division 1 Final. Twisters had finished the season second in the league behind Firebirds having convincingly beaten all other teams in the league and only losing by 3 goals to Firebirds in the league match. The final proved to be equally close and exciting for spectators to watch. With the ball flying end to end, the first quarter ended in a tie. Both teams came out hard in the second quarter with Twisters securing a three point lead at half time, with great turnovers secured by determined, defensive play throughout the court. The third quarter saw a strong Firebirds team raise their game taking the lead by three going into the last quarter. Twisters fought hard in the final quarter closing the gap, evening out the score and even taking the lead briefly

but Firebirds stayed focused and, in the end, took the win by just a few points. It was a great game to watch and the girls gave it their all. Congratulations to the whole team for a great season.

U19 Storm

This season has been a bit wobbly for the Storm. The girls had a slow start with quite a few absences and injuries, but soon regained speed and managed to secure several very convincing victories the last one being at the finals for 3rd/4th place. The match was vs HK Warriors, the final score (32-20), secured us third place in the league. It was a tense match with a somewhat hesitant second quarter, but with an incredibly fast centre court game (from **Page**, **Sacha** and **Robyn**), unmistakable shooting from **Katie** and **Issie** and a rock-solid defence, (**Maddie** and **Fiona**) the girls dominated the court for the rest of the match.

Sadly this was also the last game for five of Storm's players, who will be leaving HK for university in September this year, or moving up to play for the senior league. We wish you the best of luck and every success in your studies Katie, Page, Sacha and Robyn, and Adele, who hopes to go and play in the Senior League. We are all going to miss you very much next season.

■ **Sabina Sherlock, Storm**

Charity Update

Thank you to all members who donated kit to be sent to Sri Lanka. In early April, 150kg of netball kit was shipped to Sri Lanka – watch this space for photos of HKFC kit being put to good use in Sri Lanka!



Friday 14th June
End of Season
Pool Party and Awards!



HKFC Junior Tennis Programme

Did you know that with the help of our coaching partners at Australasia Tennis Aces (ATA) that the Tennis Society fields up to three teams in the Hong Kong Tennis Association (HKTA) Junior Leagues with players competing in the following divisions:

- A Grade – players aged 18 and under
- B Grade – players aged 14 and under
- C Grade – players aged 12 and under

Players also represent the Club in the Prince Challenge which is an inter-club aged based tournament and as our refurbished courts become available will be hosted by HKFC from time to time. Our high performing juniors that are of level continue their competitive pathway and join the HKTA adult leagues squads and compete in our HKFC men's and women's night league teams.

Outside of HKTA organised competition HKFC has a thriving junior coaching programme delivered by ATA providing expert instruction for ages 3 and up with school friendly schedules. In addition now that the Club has 6 courts available for play ATA will re-institute the junior tournament programme with children as young as 4 open



to participate in red, orange, and green ball mini tennis competitions. These competitions provide our juniors with level appropriate matches that allow the kids to learn the finer points of match play in a safe and caring environment.

If your child is interested in exploring tennis either through regular weekly coaching or by joining one of the tennis camps held during school holidays please contact the ATA coaching team at hkfc@atatennisaces.com. A friendly warning: it's not unheard of for parents to develop a serious tennis addiction once their young ones start taking to the court.





On Sunday 3rd March, ten of our junior players joined by ATA coaches **Toby Clark** and **Domenec Girones Canovas** took to the courts of the Ladies Recreation Club to compete in the 2019 U14 Prince Challenge.

This prestigious inter club event brought together 6 of the biggest tennis playing clubs to compete against each other in a team tennis competition featuring singles and doubles matches.

With HKFC fielding a very young team, some playing this event for the first time, we found the competition tough but our players did a great job to compete against some of the top juniors in their age group. Overall HKFC placed 6th, but had a few close matches fallen our way a 4th place finish was within reach.

Special mention to **Shaan Mohan**, one of HKFC's Junior A team players, who put in some

great performances and ably led the team as our No.1 ranked player. Also congratulations to **Oliver Lecocq** and **Conrad Lo** who, playing in their first Prince Challenge, brought home some closely fought doubles wins as our 5th ranked pairing. Overall an enjoyable day had by all and a great experience and learning opportunity for our youngsters the majority of who are looking forward to the U12 event later this year.



ATA's Domenec Girones Canovas Joins HKFC Coaching Team

The HKFC tennis provider ATA is proud to introduce the newest member of their coaching team **Domenec Girones Canovas**.

'Coach Dom', who learnt his trade growing up on the clay courts of Barcelona has been working with ATA for over a year now at a couple of their other clubs and school programmes in HK. He joins coaches **Toby Clark** and **Nathan Booth** as a welcome addition to the HKFC team. Dom, a former Club Head Coach in Spain, has over 10 years coaching experience and has worked in Development & Performance Coaching with top Spanish players at the prestigious RV academy in Barcelona. Dom has a passion for tennis and loves to work with players of all ages and levels to see them achieve their goals.

Dom looks forward to seeing you all on the court and sums up his approach with this quote attributed to the inimitable **Arthur Ashe**: "Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can do".

Junior Programme Term 3 2019

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All players with organiser Tim Orgill - Many thanks to Tim and AIA for a great event



AIA Society Pairs Championship

Friday 15th Feb 2019

This new HK Societies competition had been scheduled for October 2018 but Typhoon Mangkhut had rendered the courses unplayable so Friday 15th Feb saw the event finally take place on the Eden Course at HK Golf Club. Organised by **Tim Orgill** and his team at Impact Golf it had been eagerly awaited.

A new concept for Hong Kong this is a Pairs competition in teams of 4 with various prizes up for grabs. Confused I hear you say well to be honest we were a little too. On that basis we took the approach that seems to work best in golf – hit the ball as few times as possible and you may get a good result!

HKFC were represented by 4 pairs in 2 teams of 4:

Team A consisted of the pairing of **Jonny Brock** and **Ryan Black** teamed with the pairing of **Dallas Reid** and **Terry Wright**. Reid and Wright started off like a house on fire with several birdies in the first few holes and

featured prominently early on, on the electronic hole by hole leaderboard that the contestants could track on their phones. Unfortunately the fire went out somewhat before the 18th hole. Brock and Black favoured the steady approach performing consistently well throughout with Ryan coming into his own on the back 9 after a slow start.

Team B consisted of the pairing of **Matt Burke** and **Andy Wood** teamed with the pairing of **Warren Weener** and **Ali Murray**. Burke and Wood managed to ham and egg very well using their handicaps to good advantage to combine for an excellent Net stableford score. Unfortunately the Weener/Murray chemistry was not quite there on the day with the limitless potential of this pair still to be realised.

The Results:

Given we weren't entirely sure what we were playing for the prize table looked very attractive but how did the results of our golfing labours stack up against our opponents efforts?

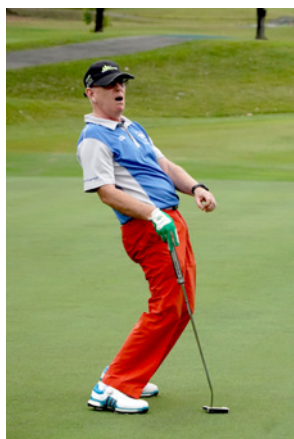
Individual Pairs Gross: First Place – Brock and Black (HKFC), Third Place on Countback from 2nd – Reid and Wright (HKFC), Fourth Place – Burke and Wood (HKFC) and a very respectable 15th of 34 pairs Weener and Murray (HKFC)

Individual Pairs Net: Second Place – Burke and Woods, 7th Brock and Black, 11th Reid and Wright and 21st of 34 Weener and Murray.

Teams Stableford Competition: Third Place HKFC Team A, Sixth Place HKFC Team B

All in all a splendid showing by our golfers who all played to a high standard and represented the Club well on a very interesting day. Big thanks to Tim Orgill, HK Golf Club and all the sponsors for a good new addition to the HK golfing calendar. We look forward to the next edition.

■ **Terry Wright, Golf Captain**



Referee!!!



Ali Murray keeps a hawklike eye on the ball



HKFC's teams. Top – Terry Wright, Warren Weener, Matt Burke and Jonny Brock. Bottom – Andrew Wood, Dallas Reid, Ali Murray and Ryan Black.



Gordon Marsden, Winfield Tam, Philip Lee and Jukka Hakli

HKFC vs HK Seniors Macau GCC

Monday 11th March 2019

A cloudy overcast day was the view from the Cotai Waterjet as the two teams crossed the waters to Macau. The rain of the weekend was gone but still a little chill in the air.

Some familiar faces but also new golfers for both teams. **Garry Kemp** making his long awaited debut for HKFC after years of conflicting schedules had prevented this happening.

Out first were seasoned campaigners **Jonny Brock** and **Owen Davis** quickly into their game against **Leif Markutza** and **Esmonde Corbet**. They were never headed and closed out a comfortable win halfway through the back nine.

Terry Wright and **Philip Nunn** also got out to an early lead as **Nelson Ngai** and **Angel Sze** took a while to settle on their first time on the course. It didn't take long for Angel to claw back the 2 hole lead though with some very accurate golf off the tee particularly. Combining well though Philip and Terry managed to win back a few holes and sealed this match with a solid par by Philip on the 17th green. Philip also able to claim credit for halving the hole for the team on the long 13th hole despite dispatching 2 balls off the cliff on the back of a savage crosswind!

Jukka Hakli and **Gordon Marsden** had a good contest with HK Seniors **Philip Lee** and **Winfield Tam** before easing away to a 3 and 2 victory shaking hands on the 16th green.

The day that had started gloomy and overcast had by now brightened considerably and turned into excellent golfing weather. Big hitting **Tom McColl** charged with partnering new boy Garry Kemp managed to get to the morning ferry barely a minute before it boarded but they did not let that distract them with this team bringing in a solid 2 and 1 victory over the HK Seniors pairing of **Anthony Golanco** and **Stephen Harris**.

Bill King and **Nick Rickett** were next out against **Simon Cheng** and **Serena Ng** and managed to duplicate the result of Hakli and



Leif Markutza, Esmonde Corbet, Jonny Brock and Owen Davis

Marsden shaking hands for a 3 and 2 victory on the 16th hole.

The last pairing saw **Kien Ng** paired with new father (congratulations) **Anatole Le**. The big question being how would the excitement and sleep deprivation of new fatherhood affect Anatole's game. Faced with strong performances from both their opponents **Lawrence Cheung** and **Wendy Ng** the HKFC pair battled but never quite found their A game. A strong 4 and 3 win to the HK Seniors pairing to close out the final match.

The HK Seniors also had a social foursome join us on the day and nice to see familiar faces there with **Russ Julseth** among others joining the fun. Also refreshing to have 5 women golfers part of the day it seems HK Seniors golf is in a healthy state at present.

After a relaxing beer together in the late afternoon sun and a bite to eat it was time for the trophy to be presented. Oooops - Minor hiccup there as in his haste to get out the door with the team shirts, balls, clubs etc and get to the Cotai Ferry office to collect the team tickets Captain Terry Wright had cleverly walked straight past the trophy he had left barely 3 feet from his front door to ensure this would not happen. Fortunately the solid play of our golfers had ensured a Club team win and avoid the embarrassment of not being able to present the trophy to our worthy opponents. Give yourself an uppercut Terry!

Nearest Pin prizes on the par 3s: 4th **Bill King**, 6th Tom McColl, 11th Gordon Marsden, 14th nobody hit so prize to Anthony Golanco for best tale of par having holed his par putt from off the green, 17th Garry Kemp.

So concluded an excellent day of golf and camaraderie with thanks as usual to **Lee Parker**, **Janice** and all the rest of the helpful team at Macau GCC.



Anthony Golanco, Stephen Harris, Garry Kemp and Tom McColl



Peter Cheung, Julius Wong, Jonny Brock and Philip Nunn



Dallas Reid, Elsa Lee, Rose Leung and Clem Hill



Andrew Wong, Ian Petersen and George Ip

HKFC Golf Soc vs Royal HK Yacht Club Golf Soc

Wednesday 27th March 2019

Postponed once due to weather problems this rescheduled match was eagerly awaited by both sides. A nice calm day at Kau Sai Chau's South course saw the two teams tee up to find the home for the trophy for the next 12 months.

Helen Hayward and Jukka Hakli were first up for HKFC. Helen being the low handicapper of the group giving plenty of shots to RHKYC regular Pat Sherriff and his partner Victoria Ashworth. Slow out of the blocks the HKFC pair found themselves down 4 after 7 holes thanks to some spectacular putting from Pat Sherriff. Slowly HKFC dragged themselves back into the match with some unusual tactics including both playing the 12th hole down the 13th fairway. A near miss re-entering the 12th hole on his opponent Sherriff did not deter Hakli who won the hole with a most creative 6. In the end their determination was too great and the HKFC pair ground out a hard fought 2 and 1 victory on the 17th green.

Terry Wright and Ian Petersen next up against RHKYC's Andrew Wong and George Ip. The HKFC pair were down early on the 2nd hole but pulled this back and then in a purple patch from the 7th hole combined well to pick up 4 holes on the trot. The HKFC pair were never headed after that and closed this match out on the 14th hole.

Dallas Reid teamed again with Elsa Lee. Their opponents RHKYC's Clem Hill and Rose Leung. This match was a real battle with Dallas giving plenty of shots and the main opposition coming from Rose. The match seesawed with Dallas and Elsa combining well but never quite

getting clear. All square on the 18th tee and Dallas giving shots something special was needed. After 2 shots each Dallas was in the greenside bunker and Elsa and Rose both well short of the green. Dallas a very good bunker shot to 8 feet from the pin for 3. Elsa a great shot just past the hole to the fringe 18 feet from the hole for 3. What could Rose produce? A chip to 2 feet no less and not for the first time today. Alas Elsa's chip ran past the right edge for a tap in 5 and Dallas' solid 8 feet putt for 4 was not good enough when Rose drained her putt for a net 3 to win for RHKYC 1 up – real drama!

Next pair out for HKFC was Jonny Brock and Philip Nunn against Peter Cheung and Julius Wong. This game was always in hand despite some strong play by the RHKYC pair. When asked for a quote afterwards one of the HKFC pair was heard to say "we did OK despite Jonny stuffing up a couple of holes". It is still unsure which of the pair made the comment but in his defence most of us are usually happy to only stuff up a couple of holes!

The 5th flight out saw the debut of Justin Faulkner playing with the experienced campaigner Mike Button. Their opponents RHKYC's Simon Wong and Ruby Yim. This match saw 4 very similar handicaps playing so always had the look of a tight contest. Having swung backwards and forwards for 17 holes it did not disappoint going all the way to the wire being decided on the 18th green. Faulkner and Button emerging 1up winners.

The final flight had no idea what the results were in front of them. Warren Weener and Andrew

Wood from HKFC against David Lee and Chris Li of RHKYC. Despite playing like the whole contest depended on their result and battling all the way to the 18th they could not find a winner and this final match ended all square – well played guys.

The end result a solid win to HKFC and the Trophy retained for another year. A great day for golf and camaraderie with our friends from the HK Yacht Club. Special thanks to Pat Sherriff and Chris Li for your efforts in twice organizing this event.

■ Terry Wright, Golf Captain



Nicki and Mike Button arriving in MG Style.

Swimming & Triathlon Report

The Swimming and Triathlon Society team had their last ASA meet of the season, held 24th March at Sun Yet Sen. It was a great meet with some amazing races! **Craig Nortje**, swept his events and **Farah Master, Peter Inglis** and **Sandy Chan** took home golds as well! Also, a big round of applause for **Doug Morton, Sally Gentle, Matthieu Maury, Lachlan Wolfers**, and **Simon Brewster** for their amazing 800 Free finishes!

The 24th March long course competition concluded our 2018-19 HKASA racing season with 207 HKASA entries and resulted in 39 Golds, 28 Silvers and 12 Bronzes. We had 11 HKASA Masters Swimming Records broken by Craig Nortje (9), Sandy Chan (1) and **Matt Belecanech** (1).

Name	Event	Place
Vasco Van Der Flier	100 Metre Freestyle	2nd (M 35-39)
Doug Morton	100 Metre Freestyle	10th (M 55-59)
	800 Metre Freestyle	6th (M 55-59)
Olivia Wong	50 Metre Breaststroke	6th (F 50-54)
	100 Metre Freestyle	5th (F 50-54)
Catherine Sen	100 Metre Freestyle	2nd (F 40-44)
Nicole Millson	50 Metre Breaststroke	2nd (F 35-39)
Farah Master	100 Metre Freestyle	1st (F 30-34)
Sally Gentle	100 Metre Freestyle	3rd (F 40-44)
	800 Metre Freestyle	3rd (F 40-44)
Sandy Chan	50 Metre Backstroke	1st (F 30-34)
	100 Metre Butterfly	1st (F 30-34)
Matthieu Maury	800 Metre Freestyle	2nd (M 30-34)
Craig Nortje	200 Metre I.M.	1st (M 40-44)
	100 Metre Butterfly	1st (M 40-44)
	100 Metre Freestyle	1st (M 40-44)
Peter Inglis	50 Metre Backstroke	1st (M 65-69)
	50 Metre Breaststroke	2nd (M 65-69)
	100 Metre Freestyle	2nd (M 65-69)
Simon Weller	100 Metre Butterfly	2nd (M 45-59)
Lachlan Wolfers	100 Metre Butterfly	4th (M 45-49)
	100 Metre Freestyle	5th (M 45-49)
	800 Metre Freestyle	6th (M 45 -49)
Lui Chu	50 Metre Breaststroke	3rd (M 45-49)
	100 Metre Freestyle	2nd (M 45-49)
Simon Brewster	100 Metre Freestyle	6th (M 40-44)
	800 Metre Freestyle	3rd (M 40-44)
Christian Wyborn	100 Metre Freestyle	10th (M 40-44)



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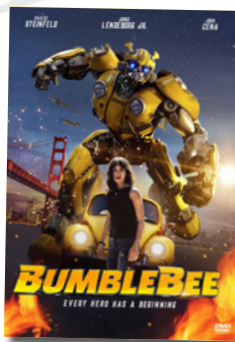
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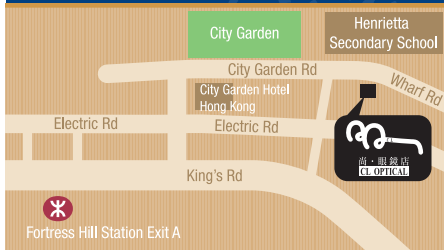
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