

CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 APRIL 2008



South African
Wine Appreciation Dinner
with Sommelier Yves Sauboua
A Taste of Spring —
Sisteron Lamb Promotion
Simply Japanese in the Coffee Shop
and more...

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HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: To be recognised as the leading Sports Club in the Territory.

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

Values: Being accountable – to communicate, consult and provide information.

Living within our means – to plan ahead within available resources.
Developing a culture of service – to encourage commitment, integrity, courtesy and responsiveness.

Managing for performance – to set the direction and develop the necessary skills.

Aims: To provide the services the Membership needs.

To improve the quality of Club life.

To up-hold the Constitution and Bye-laws.

To encourage Members to play their part in the Club.

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Vice President	: N. Hunsworth
Vice President	: M. Lamont
Vice President	: R. Lawson
Vice President	: R. Neish
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Membership	: A. Lam
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Lawn Bowls Officer	: F. McCoig
Rugby Officer	: M. Worth
Soccer Officer	: J. Molloy
Squash Officer	: T. Bratsanos
	: D. Reeves

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Membership Services Manager	: Kerry Ogle
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Front Office Manager	: Shirley Lo

Club Magazine

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. Arranged and designed by Karen Chan-Mulvena. 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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Having spent over 20 years in Hong Kong, Bob Holland and his wife, Elena finally retired to Penang in 1997. Penang was their choice as they were enchanted with its beauty, the people and their culture. Moreover, English is widely spoken, the climate is perfect for golf, and there is an affordable expatriate lifestyle due to the Government support, such as reasonable tax rates and the "Malaysia, My Second Home (MM2H)" retirement programme, which grants renewable 10 year visas to qualified retirees.

Bob discovered Penang when he started to work here in 1971, and like Joseph Conrad, he was fascinated with its charms. He described it as "a sudden puff of wind, a puff faint and tepid and laden with strange odours of blossoms, of aromatic wood, that comes out of the still night - the first sigh of the East on my face. That can never forget. It was impalpable and enslaving, like a charm and a whispered promise of mysterious delight."

This mesmerizing feeling on Malaysia still lingers on. And being aficionados of beachfront living, Bob and Elena reside in a luxury beachfront condominium, a few hundred yards from Infinity. They love the open concept, overlooking the channel that separates Penang Island from its rural mainland which is dominated by the visible Kedah Peak over 25 kilometers away.

The views and the excitement of strolling along the beach from one's own property to nearby hotels, bars and clubs make every day a resort style holiday for them. Thus, they finally bought Infinity as they were very impressed with its design and facilities, and it suited their growing needs for a larger unit and balcony for "al fresco" entertainment.





The Thoughts of the Chairman

Hopefully, April will be a month in which we can all take time to relax and draw breath. The first three months of the year have been incredibly busy at the Club especially with the Easter Holiday weekend coming immediately before the Rugby Tens and the Hong Kong Sevens. I hope that everyone has had a good break and is looking forward to taking part, whether socially or as part of a league competition, in the wide variety of summer sports available at the Club.

Congratulations are due to the Rugby Section 1st XV who, in great style, completed a double for the first time in nine years by winning the League and the Grand Championship. As well as the GFI HKFC Tens during Rugby Week, last month also saw International Tournaments hosted by the Lawn Bowls Section and Hockey Section.

Keeping up the momentum on this wider sporting front, next month sees the Club hosting another International Tournament with the Philips Lighting International Soccer Sevens taking place over the weekend of 23rd to 25th of May.

All of these tournaments bring great prestige to the Club and Sports Road is a venue that is increasingly on the itinerary of many visitors to Hong Kong. I would like to thank Members for their patience and tolerance during these busy times when the Club is full of visiting supporters and guest teams, and also to record our appreciation to the respective Tournament committees as well as to Management and Staff without whose hard work and organisational skills such successful events could not take place.

Returning to my theme of April being a time to relax, Members will note from elsewhere in the Club Magazine that there are many tempting food and beverage promotions on offer at various outlets in the Club and as always I hope that you all enjoy your time spent in the friendly, sociable environment that the Club offers.

ALAN BROWN
Chairman



From the Desk of Mark Pawley

At time of writing Easter beckons and already we've seen a number of Absent Members reactivating their membership at the Club in readiness for the expected busy holiday period and, of course, Rugby Week. This is a fantastic time of year when many friendships are re-acquainted and the Club has that certain "buzz" about it.

As mentioned in last month's article, three Staff members were presented with the prestigious Employee of the Year Awards.

Their photos appear below in order that, if you see any of them, you could pass on your congratulations. A feat, of another kind, was the 20 year Staff Service Award to my Secretary, **Maggie Ng**. Ten of those years have been spent looking after me, a tall order, I can tell you!

On the food and beverage front, we have our first **Wine (South African) Dinner** of the season on **Thursday 10th April**. I note that we have four, yes four, pre-dinner wines to taste not the normal one, so, be sure to book early to avoid disappointment. In the Restaurant in April there are two interesting promotions. Firstly, the

Sisteron Lamb Promotion (The New Taste of Spring) from the **7th to the 19th April**, which is quickly followed by the "**Cooking with Red Wine**" promotion from the **21st to the 30th April**. Don't forget too, that we have a relatively new A la Carte menu available in the Restaurant along with a weekly changing Menu Degustation.

In the Coffee Shop, we also have a new menu that has just been put into operation and on the promotion front, we have "**Simply Japanese**" which runs from the **11th to the 26th April**. We also celebrate "**Secretaries Day**", a date I should not forget, in the Coffee Shop on the **23rd April** (also **St. George's Day**). In the Sportsman's Bar we are continuing with the popular **Sunday Brunch** throughout the month and for Curry lovers we have an **Indian Curry Promotion**. The "perfect takeaway **Sunday Dinner Chicken Rotisserie**" is back by popular demand and, as such, ordering one early is advisable as we have limited stock on the day.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club.

MARK PAWLEY
General Manager

Employees of the Year



Left to right:
Employee of the year (Back of the House) - Kan Wai Man, Tommy; Leader of the year - Kwan Chi Hung, Hegel; Employee of the year (Front of the House) - Pun Ramesh

South African Wine Appreciation Dinner

with Sommelier Yves Sauboua
in the Restaurant, Thursday 10th April 7pm - 11pm



TMV
SOUTH AFRICA
White
2005

Pre Wine Dinner Tasting

Mulderbosch Chenin Blanc 2007 Stellenbosch (White)
TMV White 2006 (Chenin Blanc – Clairette – Viognier) Western Cape (White)
The Foundry Syrah 2003 Coastal Region (Red)
Tulbagh Mountain Vineyards Viktoria (S/G/C/CS) Western Cape (Red)

Dinner

WARM ROULADE OF GOATS CHEESE, RED PEPPERS AND POTATO
ROAST GARLIC EMULSION, MIZUNA SALAD
Mulderbosch Sauvignon Blanc 2007 Stellenbosch (White)

**

MARINATED TUNA, SALMON AND HAMACHI WITH AVOCADO,
CITRUS GELEE AND YUZU DRESSING
The Foundry Viognier 2006 Stellenbosch (White)

**

SMOKED EYE FILLET OF ANGUS BEEF WITH BLACK FIG CONFIT,
FONDANT POTATO AND TRUFFLED COCOA BEANS,
GRAND VENEUR SAUCE

Tulbagh Mountain Vineyards Syrah/Mourvedre 2004 Swartland (Red)

**

DARK CHOCOLATE MARQUISE WITH PASSION FRUIT SHERBET,
MAPLE PECAN CRUNCH AND ESPRESSO SAUCE

Anwilka 2006 Stellenbosch (Red)

**

PETITS FOURS
COFFEE OR TEA

\$658 per person

Combine a Special Tasting at the Lounge with the Wine Dinner at the Restaurant for double the fun. A total of eight wines to be enjoyed...

South African wines have the oldest wine tradition in the New World with more than a dash of Old World wine influence.

With a winemaking history dating back more than three centuries, South African wines reflect the classicism and tradition of the Old World while embodying the contemporary styles and big flavours of the New. This makes for wines that are complex but accessible, sophisticated yet intensely powerful. These poetic wines express the unique soil, climate, varieties and people. Over 100,000 hectares of vineyards are cultivated by 4,500 primary producers, and wine is made in more than 340 wine cellars and estates.

An enthusiastic new generation of winemakers is winning international accolade. Come and find out why and meet Sommelier Yves Sauboua.

"Everyone will find happiness on that evening" says Yves. Yves is one of Hong Kong's most knowledgeable and influential guides to wine, he was awarded the title of "Sommelier of the year 1994" by the Sunday Telegraph and has won several food and wine competitions over the years. Yves style is measured by his warm and down to earth approach which is sprinkled with humour and a personal charm.

Pre wine tasting starts at 7.00pm in The Lounge

Wine dinner starts at 7.45pm in the Restaurant.

Pre booking required (Last booking day: Monday 7th April)

Members may also buy the wines served on that night at competitive prices.

Please contact the Restaurant for further information or reservations at 2830 9562 or at restaurant@hkfc.com

THE NEW TASTE OF SPRING: SISTERON LAMB PROMOTION in the Restaurant

Mondays to Saturdays, 7th – 19th April
(excluding Thursday 10th April)

Feeding on Lavender, Thyme and Rosemary, the lean and fragrant Sisteron Lamb from the South of France is an important part of the Provençal gastronomic heritage. It is the perfect choice of meat as we move away from the wintry and heavy braised dishes.

Enjoy a taste of "French savoir vivre" and sample one of France's finest produce.

A bientôt.

Minced Sisteron Lamb and Herbs
in Puff Pastry Pithivier with Truffle sauce

Roast Sisteron Lamb Loin with Butter roast Potato,
Confit Garlic, Cep mushrooms and
Spring vegetables, Minted Hollandaise

Confit of Sisteron Lamb Shoulder and Cutlet with Artichokes,
Preserved Lemon and Green Olives,
served with creamy Polenta

COOKING WITH RED WINE PROMOTION in the Restaurant

Mondays to Saturdays, 21st – 30th April

The Restaurant will deliver a whole new wine and dining experience this month. Featured on the Menu, we have:

Main Courses

'Coq au Vin'

Chicken pieces marinated and cooked in Red wine
with Mushrooms and Bacon,
Mashed Garlic Potato

Slow cooked Lamb Shank in Red wine
With soft Polenta and Fava Beans

Wagyu Beef Cheeks braised in Red wine and Herbs,
Rösti potato and Root Vegetables

Magret of Duck Breast with Red wine and Raspberry Shallot sauce,
Spatzle and Wild Mushrooms

Halibut fillet with Red Wine butter sauce,
Pearl Vegetables and Confit Potatoes

Desserts

Summer Berries in Red Wine Jelly, Chantilly cream
Poached Pears in mulled Red Wine with Mascarpone Ice cream

SUNDAY SUMPTUOUS FAMILY DINNER BUFFET WITH SPANISH CORNER

in the Restaurant

Sundays 20th and 27th April

A Spanish Corner will be specially installed at the Family Dinner Buffet offering favourite dishes such as:

- Selection of Tapas – olives, chorizo, sardines in olive oil, tortilla omelette, Spanish sausage, Piquillo peppers, Charred vegetables
- Seafood Paella
- Serrano Ham
- Crispy Calamari – live station
- Gambas prawns
- Kebabs – lamb and Beef
- Spanish Machengo cheese

If you are looking for an enjoyable family gathering on Sunday, The Restaurant is the place to be.

\$238 (Adults), \$138 (Children)



SECRETARIES' DAY in the Coffee Shop Wednesday 23rd April

Treat the person who helps you most and organises your work place with utmost efficiency. She deserves the best, full stop.

Enjoy a wide variety of food items in our extensive Buffet selection at the Coffee Shop or, perhaps, simply go to the Restaurant and enjoy a 3 Course Set Lunch menu.



SIMPLY JAPANESE in the Coffee Shop

Dinner Buffet

Friday 11th - Saturday 26th April

A la Carte Menu

Monday 14th to Thursday 24th April
(Mondays to Thursdays only)

Sushi and sashimi are among the most popular food items in Hong Kong. Yet our tastes have become very discerning, and for this reason an unbeatable selection has been prepared to tantalize your tastebuds. Indulge yourself with our sensational dishes. Prepared exactly how you like them, and available A la Carte or as part of the Buffet.



WINES OF THE MONTH

TERRA BURDIGALA VIGNE D'ARGENT 2006
(SAUVIGNON BLANC/ SEMILLON)
BORDEAUX FRANCE

"La Vigne d'Argent is made from Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon. It possesses a great freshness, fruit and pleasure, by ideally combining the rich Sémillon and highly aromatic Sauvignon"

Bottle: \$135

Glass: \$31



SOUTH AFRICAN WINE TASTING in the Chairman's Bar Thursday 17th April

South African wine tasting on Thursday 17th April, 7.00pm – 9.00pm at the Chairman's Bar in a casual way.

International Sommelier Yves Sauboua will be present to answer your questions.

\$50 per person

Pre-booking required
(Last booking day: Tuesday 14th April)

South African Wines Delivered at Your Doorstep

To cater to your needs we are pleased to offer a "Home Wine Delivery Selection"

Simply submit the enclosed application form to Reception desk or fax to: 2576 7598



INNOCENT BYSTANDER
CHARDONNAY 2005
YARRA VALLEY AUSTRALIA

"Very pleasant Chardonnay with nectarine, vanilla bean and lime peel nose. Medium weight, soft and a touch of oak; Lovely wine from Yarra Valley"

Bottle: \$186

Glass: \$42

TERRA BURDIGALA ROC DE JEAN LYS 2005
(MERLOT/CAB. FRANC)
BORDEAUX FRANCE

"This cuvée comes from a selected plot of vineyard of Château Roques de Jeanlice. Its location is on the limestone plateau of the Entre deux Mers region. This Bordeaux Supérieur wine is full, charming and well-balanced."

Bottle: \$160

Glass: \$36

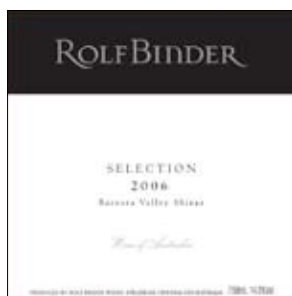


ROLF BINDER SELECTION
SHIRAZ 2006
BAROSSA VALLEY AUSTRALIA

"Lovely fruits forward wine with a medium structure...Great wine for a BBQ or Sunday lunch!!!"

Bottle: \$140

Glass: \$32



PASTRY CORNER – Banoffee Pie

A month dedicated to the best pudding in the world.

Banoffee Pie is a delectable dessert which combines the flavours of Banana and Toffee in a single crust pie.

Take away price \$ 85.00 for 2 lbs

Please contact the Coffee Shop to place your order at 2830 9569 or at coffeshop@hkfc.com.



APRIL IN THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

With the 6 Nations rugby over for the season the emphasis switches to the Super 14's with live games continuing on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

English Premier League action heats up as the season draws to a close with some great games to watch out for on the Big Screen, including:

Saturday, 5th April 8:45pm Arsenal vs Liverpool

Saturday, 26th April 8:45pm Chelsea vs Manchester United

In April we have an **Indian curry promotion** with four great items to try out, please check the menu for details.

By popular demand we continue our **Sunday Brunch** from 11:30am to 2:30pm at \$78 for adults and \$48 for children.

The perfect Sunday dinner "**Rotisserie Chicken**" served with chips or new potatoes and salad or steamed vegetables is back. At \$98 per whole chicken and \$68 for a half it is great for takeaway or to eat in the bar. With limited stock available each week place your orders early to avoid disappointment.

As Asia's sponsor of the English Premier League we have **Tiger Beer** in the bottle on special all month.

In celebration of **St Georges Day** on **Wednesday, 23rd April** all **English beers** will be **Two for One** all evening.

PREVIEW IN MAY

Sunday 11th May :

The second Sunday of May is just around the corner again! This year, Mother's Day is on 11th May. Don't forget to say thank you to the most important woman in your life.













Friday 9th May

Family Poolside, Barbecue and Splash-in.
Reservation forms available at Reception.



FOOD & BEVERAGE PROMOTIONS — APRIL 2008

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 The New Taste of Spring Sisteron Lamb Restaurant: 7th – 19th 7	 Door To Door Wine Delivery Place your order now 8	Tiger Beer special + Indian Curry Promotion all month Sportsman's Bar 2	 South African Wine Dinner 8 wines showcased Restaurant 10	Ching Ming Festival Public Holiday BBQ Night Coffee Shop 4	 Simply Japanese Coffee Shop 12	Brunch & Family Dinner Buffet Restaurant Brunch Buffet & Rotisserie Chicken Sportsman's Bar 6
A La Carte Menu with a Japanese touch Coffee Shop 14	A La Carte Menu with a Japanese touch Coffee Shop 15	A La Carte Menu with a Japanese touch Coffee Shop 16	South African Wine Tasting Chairman's Bar  17	Simply Japanese Coffee Shop  11	Simply Japanese Coffee Shop  19	Breakfast & Lunch Buffet Coffee Shop Sumptuous Family Dinner Buffet with Spanish Influences Restaurant 20
Cooking with Red Wine Restaurant: 21st - 30th  21	22	Secretaries' Day St George's Day English Beers 2-4 Sportsman's Bar  23	24	Simply Japanese Coffee Shop  25	Simply Japanese Coffee Shop 26	Breakfast & Lunch Buffet Coffee Shop Sumptuous Family Dinner Buffet with Spanish Influences Restaurant 27
Coming Soon: 28	29	30	Please plan and make your reservations early to avoid disappointment! Please call the Restaurant at 2830 9562 or email Restaurant@hkfc.com The Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 or email CoffeeShop@hkfc.com			



...battling for everything...



...putting their bodies on the line...



...Milne suggests if they all leave now then 0-0 should be enough...



...Colts captain Mark looks anxious as he waits to see what colour the card will be



...the old hands combine...Foxy and Anto showed they'd maybe lost a bit of pace but all the old magic was intact.



...The HKFC is blessed to have famous ex professionals playing in our colours...here Anto competes with the son of one



Stewart Montgomery
Soccer Section Captain

Captain's Corner



Welcome back troops,

Last month's magazine saw big Jonah Lomu on the front cover...if my predictions are anything to go by then I'm the Soccer Section Jonah...since I last updated you all, the 1st team have managed to let the title slip from their grasp and look likely to finish 2nd on goal difference. Wanderers who I said would follow on from 8 consecutive games on the bounce have managed only a single win and that was in the cup, so if you were betting on them NOT winning the title I'd imagine the odds would be shorter than Craney kneeling in a hole. On top of all that Lucky Mile have been relegated to Division 3. This month we look at two games with very different and contrasting fortunes...one is the HKFC YYL Quarter Final between Colts and Albion and the other the game Lucky Mile needed to win against Kwok Kueng to avoid the drop.

The cup game was won comfortably in the end by the youngsters 4-0 but unfortunately Lucky Mile lost 2-1 and other weekends results left them free falling down into Division 3. Relegation is easily the worst thing that can happen in football but the Lucky Mile squad as well as their coach Graham Lane can actually feel a little aggrieved given the circumstances which saw them drop. Let's not beat around the bush. We should tell it like it is, in my opinion. A lack of enforced team selection policies throughout our Section have left Lucky Mile lacking in the quality they needed in certain areas which would have given them 2nd Division survival. Allowing them to play on Saturdays instead of Sundays is also something I think has



...Good luck in the ...semi...nah....good luck in the final!!!

contributed to them being cut off from the Section and the due attention their situation needed. We've had a team relegated from a Division which is of a standard where the very thought of the drop should have been laughed at. When we look at what's happened over the season it is not the Lucky Mile coach or players who need to answer all the questions as to what happened...it's our Section as a whole ...see you next month where I expect to be telling you all about how both Colts and Wanderers were dumped out of the Cup in the semi finals. (That's the spirit Monty? No, it's my way of trying to not be a Jonah!)

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Tony George
Rugby Section Captain

Notes from the Captain



Aiyeeeyaa!

So, here we are, pretty much at the end of the season already (as I write, Dragons still have their Knockout Final v inProjects Kowloon to come), and what a season it's been! Just so that we can be clear, the roll of honour currently reads:

1st Division League Champions	CBRE Club
1st Division Knockout Cup Winners	CBRE Club
2nd Division League Champions	CBRE Dragons
3rd Division League Champions	CBRE Select
Women's XV's Grand Champions	CBRE Ice/Gai Wu

Not bad, eh? Tempted to print that twice, but worried about being accused of gloating.

Just to fill you in with a bit of background:

Club had the league title sewn up a couple of games from the end, and put in a mightily impressive performance in the Knockout Cup final against Synovate HKCC, avenging their one defeat of the season by winning 28-12. Whilst everybody in the team played their part, as has been the case throughout the season, special mention must go to the tight five (or six – subs make life complicated sometimes) of **Pete Spizzirri, Tom Cameron, Angus Washington, Rob Hewitson, Tim Griffin** and, in particular, Man of the Match, **Nigel Hobler** (who seems to have become convinced he is a winger – although the chip and chase needs a little work).

Special thanks as well to two stalwarts who have hung up their boots at the end of this season: current Club captain, **Nigel D'Acre**, and his predecessor in that role, Tom Cameron. Both have been in superb form this season and will be sorely missed in the

future. Watch out Sequins?

We must also recognise the sterling work that has gone on behind the scenes from Coach **Quinton Wrigley** and his support team of **CJ Torrance, James Cook** and **Ollie Jones**, not to mention physio and evil fitness coach, **Mungo**.

The Dragons also had the title in the bag with a game to spare, despite a late scare against Laxton PLA. They also put in a superb display against Causeway Bay in the Knockout Semi-final, winning 18-15 in the dying moments thanks to a penalty from **Adam Raby**, who also scored a blistering try earlier in the match. Good luck for the final against Kowloon, and well done to all involved in a great season, especially Coach **Marc Sexton**, manager **Murray Sargent** and captain **Phil Reid**. I would give you some excerpts from the semi-final match report by Murray – a man who treats spelling, punctuation and grammar with the contempt only a true Aussie can muster – but the powers that be have been putting the pressure on regarding standards lately. In fact, it's a miracle that they print anything I write at all.

And so to the "Mighty" Select, who, over the years, have made herding cats look like a straightforward task. They faced labours that were Herculean in scale: two bonus point wins from their last two games against Kowloon Pussies and Police would leave them in with a chance, depending on Valley Mustangs' results. A rejuvenated side produced some scintillating back play, thanks to the likes of **Smudger Smith, Alex Gibbs, Nik Brunner, Conor Byrne, Shane Harmon, Dairmuid Kinsella** and super-sub **Mark Sullivan**, to produce 29-10 and 37-10 wins, which left Valley requiring a big win in their last game to take the title. They fell just short, leaving HKFC to celebrate the top three division titles. Big thanks there, I know, to **Peter Wray** (long suffering Select coach), **Terry Hart**, who did a great job coaching over the last part of the season, and Mr. 150%, **Tony Cooper**.

I suppose we can't focus only on the winners; Scorpions may not have won many games this year, but they have certainly enjoyed



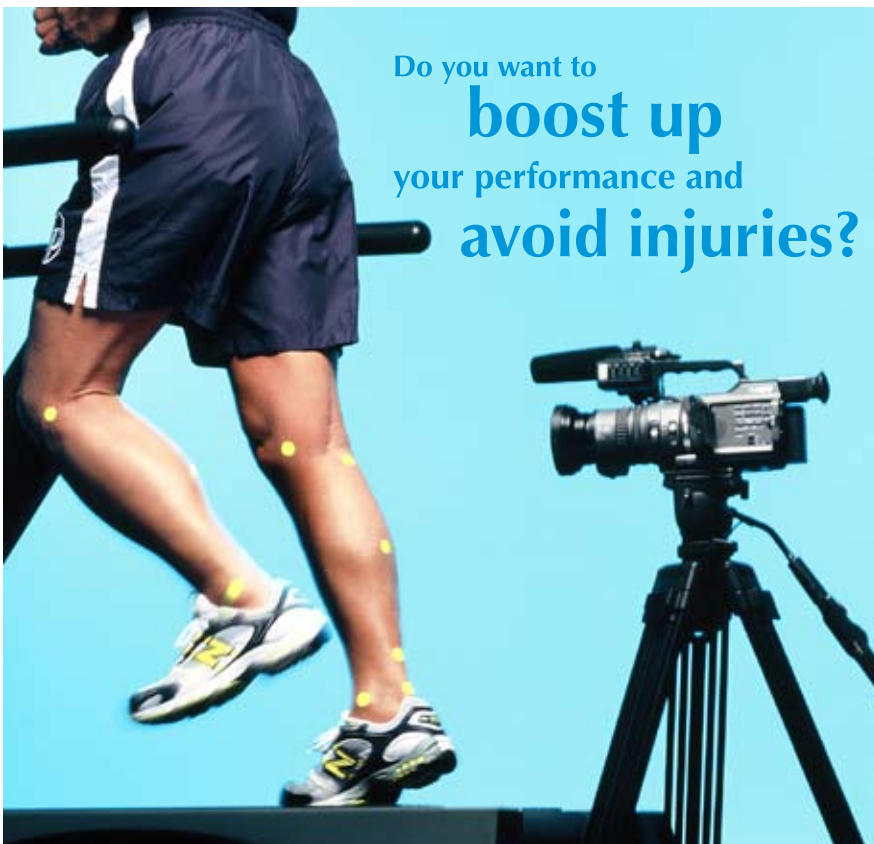
The "Mighty Select

playing some hard, competitive rugby, drinking some hard, competitive beer and sliding on some hard, competitive tables; Sequins have found that the bumps and bruises maybe aren't improving with age, but they still manage to get through far more than their far share of beer down in Sequins' Corner; Bulls have had a seriously topsy-turvy year, partly thanks to their topsy-turvy coach, **James Clarke**, but have developed a style of play that will bring them success in future seasons, I'm sure.

So, at last we come to the end of the season. Time to put the feet up, rest the aching bones and crack open a cold one. By the time you read this, the 10s and 7s will have come and gone, and all we'll have to look forward to are the long, empty summer months with only the odd tour match to keep us satisfied – although one last fling can be had with the **May Ball on 17th May**. Promises to be an absolute corker, and with so much to celebrate I really hope you'll be there to help! *Tony*



Club Celebrates!



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Email: info@sp.hk

Racketlon 2008

Racketlon is a tournament to find the best all-round racquet player within the Squash Section. It is comprised of the four racquet sports; Squash, Badminton, Tennis and Table-Tennis. Each game is played to 15 points, with points being won on each rally. The total points scored over the four sports are accumulated to decide the winner.



This was the second time the event has been held, with **Malcolm Kerr** defending his title as inaugural champion. There was a lot of interest in the event from both the men's and women's team (at all levels) entering. Friday night saw the completion of the first and most of the second rounds - players started at the Table Tennis table, then on to the Badminton court, followed by Tennis and finishing up on the squash court.

It was soon apparent that squash abilities were not going to be enough to win this tournament. However, a lot of fun was had by all as we tried to master the sports that perhaps we had only played once or twice in our lives! **Jenny Chu** gave **Jason Waldie** a lesson in Table Tennis and Badminton, leaving him 12 points behind when they arrived on the Squash court. He needed to win by 13 points in order to go through to the next round, which he just about managed! The closest match in the first round was between **Emma Pike** and **Adrian Ng**. After the four matches were played the score was tied on 42-all. An extra point was played to decide the winner, which Emma won, putting her through to the next round to face Malcolm Kerr.

The night finished at the Captain's Bar with still a rather large crowd discussing the merits of different players and games until the midnight hour. Rumour has it that some participants continued elsewhere well into the wee-hours!

On Saturday afternoon the remaining rounds were held, leading up to the

finals at 5:30pm. On the top half of the draw, **Neal Soo** was winning all his matches, disposing of **Alex Au** in the quarter-finals and **Andy Cunningham** in the semi-finals, to put himself into the final. At this stage, Neal had only lost two games in any of the sports (both in Badminton - **Ken Lo** and Andy Cunningham both took badminton games off him).

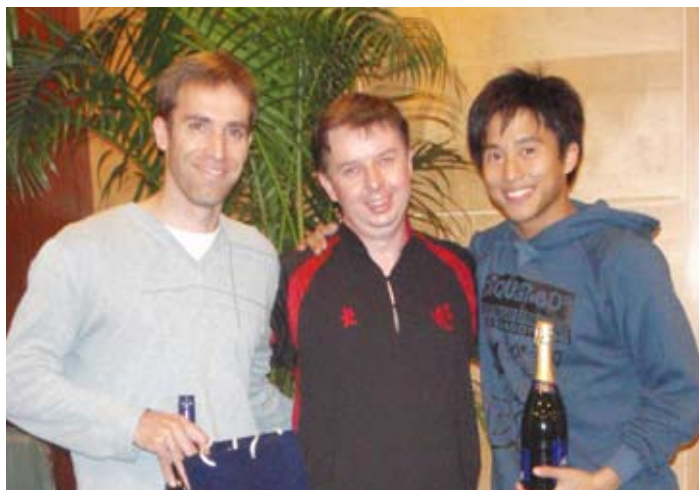
In the bottom half of the draw, which turned out to be the tougher side, Malcolm, the defending champion, was finding himself up against tough opposition in each round. In the quarter-final he faced **Hugh Dyus**. After they had finished the Table Tennis, Badminton and Tennis, Hugh was ahead by 8 points, needing to get 8 points to win outright. Malcolm, in his usual competitive mood, was having none of this and after numerous long rallies won the squash and the match. Next up, in the semi-final was **Keith Frith** v Malcolm Kerr. Once again the decider was on the squash court, with Malcolm leading by 6 points going into their game. After achieving his goal of getting 10 points to ensure his victory he appealed to the crowd to allow him to finish then and there, having had enough of a strenuous run-around already. However, the crowd insisted he finish the game - upon which echoes of Mutley (cult dog and star of, most famously, 'Stop the Pigeon' and 'The Wacky Races') were heard as he closed the door of the squash court.

The final, then, was between Neal Soo and Malcolm Kerr. Neal, having had the easier run-in and having finished his semi-final half an hour earlier, was the fresher of the two going in to the match. His all-round ability at racquet sports was soon seen. In the Table Tennis, Neal won the game 15-4. Next, on the



Badminton court, the match was closer with some good rallies. Neal eventually won the game 15-11. On to the Tennis court, where an enormous challenge was ahead of Malcolm to stay in the match (Neal having won all his tennis games so far). With Malcolm fading, Neal won the Tennis 15-9. This put him 45-26 ahead. As there was more than a 15 point gap, the squash game was cancelled and Neal was declared the winner.

Congratulations to Neal on his win and thanks to all who took part in this great competition.



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

A number of Club Members have expressed an interest in forming a Ten Pin Bowling Society and then organise regular bowling nights and participate in the leagues with other recreation clubs.

All members who are interested in the creation of this Society are requested to attend an informal meeting to be held on

Wednesday 23rd April 2008

Starting at 7:30pm in Meeting Room 1 on the 1/FL

Your Support is required to show that there is a need for this Society.



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Hockey News



Men's Captain Report

Position	TEAMS	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
3	HKFC D	16	11	2	3	36	15	21	35
3	HKFC C	16	8	2	6	35	33	2	26
6	HKFCA	12	5	1	6	34	38	-4	16
7	HKFC H	15	4	4	7	26	36	-10	16
9	HKFC F	15	4	3	8	24	40	-16	15
10	HKFC G	18	3	4	11	25	44	-19	13
11	HKFC E	17	3	3	11	15	32	-17	12
8	HKFC B	12	0	0	12	17	81	-64	0

It will be a short report this month. The teams are all furiously catching up on fixtures postponed at the start of the season while we awaited the new pitch. Many teams are playing mid-week and Sundays and it is taking its toll on some of the older members of our Section. However we do have breaking news. Our first team skipper has sought the help of Rafa Benitez. Not tactically.....but in a fashion sense. Will the sartorial elegance and the facial hair inspire the A team. In the words of Private Eye.....are these gentlemen related?



Pietro Attala looks on pensively.

We can celebrate the first silverware of the season. A deserved "well done" to the B team who have fought hard in the second half of the season, without success in the league. A cracking 3-5 loss to the league leaders, Shaheen was the highlight of the month. Having knocked out several big guns on their way to the final, Dutch general, **Rik van Donk**, lead his team to victory in the annual Recreio Centenary Cup. On the grass, the experience of his cohorts saw them to a 2-1 win over a youthful Dutch "A". It was a pleasure seeing **Thomas Stassen** marshal his two offspring. Moments to relish were **Peter Murphy's** delightful first time effort to put the B's ahead, **Chris Grossick's** edging of several through balls, via the vacant slip cordon, to their centre forward and **Jasper Vervoot's** rocket to seal the victory. Peter Murphy obviously caught the eye of the international selectors as he has been chosen to represent Hong Kong in the Interport Trophy in Macau - a wonderful 40th birthday present for the Stanley Matthews of Hong Kong hockey. For further match details contact **Malcolm Pratt**.



The triumphant B team



Pratt desperately tries to stop the Dutch scoring



Piers Bruner takes on veteran Stassen



Rik Van Donk receives the trophy

Ladies' Captain's Report



Kim Roberts
Women's Captain

The season is certainly marching on and the ladies teams continue to give the other sides some fierce but very fair competition. Unfortunately, at present, it is difficult to bring readers up to speed as to current team standings in the women's league as they are still being updated in round 2.

By the time you read this, the Easter 9's, organised by **Guvinder Dillon** (thank you) will already have taken place, and the Dinosaurs would have celebrated 20 years (as only they know how!) on the very same weekend.

Read on to find out how the fantastic F team fared in the division four 9-A-Side tournament and learn more about the progress of the amazing A team.

F Team Success

Quote of the day: *"Anything can happen in a one-day tournament, even the weakest team can win!"* Well, the F team certainly wasn't the weakest team on this day, but I am pleased to announce that we did indeed win the 9-A-Side tournament held on Saturday 8th March at the Club. With a gruelling schedule of 6 matches, we were relieved when the decision was taken to reduce the games to 10-minutes one-way. The F team gave a performance to be proud of. Our defence was impenetrable and our recent training had clearly paid off as we made use of the whole pitch, switching directions, making long attacking runs down the sidelines and intimidating the opposition with our tackling (and a few elbows!). We overcame CDR in a 1-0 win, which was hugely satisfying following our narrow defeat by them on their home turf a couple of weeks ago. Following a couple of hard-fought no-score draws against the Unicorns, Valley E and Valley D, we scored our second win against KCC. The team was pumped up by our lead and diligently practiced their stick work on the triangle in between every game.

We went into the final match of the day against Shaheen, the only other team in contention for the top prize, the decider. We had to hold them off for 10-minutes at a no-score draw to win the tournament. Shaheen didn't even come close, with 90% of the game played out in their half.

All credit to **Aiko Henderson** for her solid defensive skills, **Katie Boag** for her relentless runs down the left wing, **Catriona Penny** for her great teamwork, **Louise Lo** for her spotless positioning and scoring our first goal of the tournament from a textbook stance on the left post, **Renee Spencer** for not only playing in 5 of our matches, but also umpiring 5 games as well! Well done to **Rachel Milenkov**, **Tiffany Leung**, **Genevieve Verman**, **Nicola Lim**, **Aliza Husain**, **Gayle Davies** and **Julia Wood** (Captain) who all had great games! We're all looking forward to receiving the trophy at the end of the season!

Well done again guys - still grinning with pride! *by Julia Wood*

A Team in the Lead

Currently ranked number one in the league, the A team is pleased with its performance and will continue to improve and develop as a unit. The number one spot was not easily achieved and may be attributed to excellent coaching from **Douglas Corbel** and the A's dedication and desire to win.

The highlight of the season was the triumph over a "China enhanced" Shaheen A, 3 goals to 2. The exciting match had the crowd on the edge of their seats as Shaheen equalized bringing the score to 2-2. Unfortunately for Shaheen, the imports were not enough to stop **Cyrielle Baleyte** from scoring the winning goal of the match off a short corner routine.

A recent 3-0 win over rivals KCC A takes the HKFC side one step closer to winning the league. The victory began with an astonishing goal from the tallest and now nerdy **Sophie Foxall**. The second goal, an unstoppable hit from the newest addition and ex-welsh player, **Lara Bushe**. And the third and final goal was a **Barbara Mountain** special, which secured the win at three to nothing.

The A's hard work and commitment has proven valuable throughout the season, they have tackled obstacles as a team and can only progress from this point onwards. As the Knockout Competition draws nearer, the leading focus is to win the title, which was "stolen" from them last year.

On a final note, with great desire and ambition, after an entertaining **Dawn Strachan** housewarming party, the team is aiming to have the greatest number of "hits" on an up and coming YouTube video.

by Captain Katy Mountain

Dates for your Diary

- **Saturday May 31st**
End of season, Black-Tie Ball
- **Tuesday June 17th**
Hockey Section AGM at the Club



Alan Lo our Green Clipper

Green Clippings

Ten days of lawn bowls in Hong Kong and Shenzhen kicked off with 32 teams playing off in the Hong Kong Football Club International Mixed Fours 2008 at the Club on the last two days of one of Hong Kong's longest and coldest winters. This year's field of 18 countries included newcomers Cyprus, South Africa, Spain and Zimbabwe.



Mixed Fours Winners



Mixed Fours Runners up Stanley Luk

Club's **Grace Chu**, Chris Booth from USA, Neil Rees from Wales and Phil Downs from England took the Mixed Fours event with a runaway 10-1 final win over Hommer Mercado from The Philippines, Club's **Rita Shek**, Lawn Bowls Training Centre's Stephen Chan and Club's **Stanley Luk**.

Match of the day was the semifinal where Downs edged out Club's **Wendy Hui**, coach **Bernard Young**, Malaysia's Azwan Shuhaimi and George Walker from Cyprus. The semifinal was tied 2-2 on 4 at the halfway point until Walker dropped an unlucky five. One shot down but looking to convert, Walker took out second shot, coach Bernard's fluorescent orange wood, to trail 2-7. Walker played catch up for the next three ends but Downs won his way to the final with an 8-6 card leaving Walker's team as joint 2nd runners up. The other joint 2nd runner-up place went to Joanna Nam of KBGC, Hisaharu Satch of Japan, Glyn Thomas of Wales and Henry Wai of USRC.



Mixed Fours Joint 2nd Runners up Runners Up George Walker



Mixed Fours Joint 2nd Runners up Henry Wai



TIGER BOWLS Cup Winners ENGLAND



TIGER BOWLS Ladies Cup Winners

Phil Downs showed what great form that was when he skipped England teammates Lee Haywood, Ben Sherwen and James Webber on an unbeaten run to take the International Tiger Bowls championship at Craigmower Cricket Club, straight after the HKFC International Mixed Fours.

England beat Malaysia in a semi-final of the Tiger Bowls Cup, then went on to win the final from Greende Lawn Bowls Club combination Peter Chan, CY Leung, LC Tam and Willie Lai.

Angela Chau, Peggy Ma, Club's **Connie Wong** and **Hannah Ha** took the Tiger Bowls ladies title, playing as United Services Recreation Club.

Chris Booth from the USA then took his good form from the HKFC International Mixed Fours into Shenzhen, where he played third in the team that won the 2nd China Lawn Bowls Open Championship. England, defending their China Open Title of 2006, were upset by the heavy greens at Bijiashan Park, losing by one shot to USA in their first game and narrowly failing to get into the quarter finals.

Club's **YS Leung**, **Johnny Tsang**, **SK Ng** and **James Keung** took silverware in the 28 team China Lawn Bowls Open Championship. Representing Happy Valley, the Club players handed in winning cards

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China Open Usa & Happy Valley



China Open Winners



China Open Happy Valley

against Australia, Cyprus, Japan, Spain, Shenzhen and Canada A to reach the final four in the event, organised by Chinese Multi Bowls Association.

Happy Valley then finished second runners up, beaten in a semi-final by Bill Brault, Richard Broad, Chris Booth and Bob Schneider of USA, who went on to take the title from Australia A, Mark Chalmers, Darren Gibney, Robert Eaton and Graeme Clark in spite of the heavy support by Australia B from the ring side. In a play-off for 2nd runner up Happy Valley beat the other semi-finalist China.

Club's World Bowls accredited umpire **Cyril Leung**, after doing his duty in the world titles in Christchurch, New Zealand, in January, helped to officiate over the four days of the China Open in Shenzhen.

Our **Happy Chairman**, returning from his trip to Shenzhen representing HKLBA by invitation of the sponsors, Zhongguang Multi-bowls Club, gave us the off-the-cuff comments from the overseas bowlers of the whole 10 days of bowling. Mixed Fours had been a top class warm-up especially the food in the Sports Hall. Tiger Bowls had lived up to its longstanding reputation of being tough to win against the local teams. China Open had impressed everybody by the improvement in the organisation since 2006, but it was still on a learning curve leading up to the World Bowls' standard for the event to be held again in 2008. Every bowler hoped for a chance to play again next time.

He commented that the outstanding achievement of his Happy Valley Team had made him the happiest Happy Chairman ever.

Dora Lam's F team handed in the best result for Club in the 2007/08 Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association's National Triples League which ended on the 23 February, taking out the ladies' sixth division and winning promotion to fifth division next year.

Clarissa Wong's E team finished second in fourth division, winning promotion to third division. **Camilla Leung's** A team finished a comfortable sixth position in the first

division, but the ladies' B team dropped from first to second division, and the D team dropped from second to third division.

In men's triples league, Club's A team won seven of nine games, but finished one rink win short of the title, finishing second by one point to Kowloon Cricket Club. The B team just managed to stay up in the first division. Club's C team finished second in third division, winning promotion to second division next year. Club's D team remains in the third division and the E team remains in the fifth division.

Club's **Danny Ho**, **Wagner Chan** and **Donald Wu** were unbeaten in the first division, and will take home silverware in June as champion rink.

Bernard Young and **Kelly Yu** dropped down from their normal first division positions to provide leadership to the rookie bowlers in the F Team, taking them into a comfortable sixth position in the sixth division.

Next challenge will be the National Premier League due to start on 26th April.

Club's **Camilla Leung** and **Danny Ho** are the first players through to finals day on 29 June, to play **Joanna** and **Colin Nam** for the National Mixed Pairs 2008 title.

Camilla and **Danny**, with some help from **Winnie Au** whilst **Camilla** played in Christchurch, won through to the final with a popular win over **Greende Lawn Bowls Club** pair **Cecilia Kwok** and **Willie Lai**.

Club's youngest lawn bowler, **Keith Yau**, 17, won through a field of 34 bowlers, mainly from the Young Athletes Lawn Bowls Training Scheme, to win the Youth Novice (under 25) Lawn Bowls Competition 2008 at **Ap Lei Chau** last month.

The competition was jointly held by the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association and the Hong Kong government's Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Coach **Bernard** reports that **Keith** was calm and consistent throughout the competition and with some luck he won the championship after a single knock-out and two round-robins.



Keith Yau

Keith started to play lawn bowls in September 2007, completing Club's rookie programme for Members. Coach Bernard is sure that Keith will become an outstanding bowler for Club in the near future.

Cathay Pacific Captain **Simon Adams** dropped into lawn bowls practice night in March, as part of his regular schedule flying Airbuses in and out of Hong Kong.

A Club Member for five years, Simon in 2001 was a member of Club's E Team that won the fifth division of premier league, giving him silverware in his first season on the green.

Simon is now based with Cathay in Brisbane in godzone country, where he plays at Toowong Bowls Club.

Hong Kong Lawn Bowl Association President Vincent Cheung in March gave us six tips on how courtesy and good manners can enhance the playing and enjoyment of lawn bowls in Hong Kong.

But there is another side to the issue of etiquette, what to do if you are put off, if you are distracted by an opponent moving in front of you while you are on the mat trying to get set.

Coach Bernard says you must step back, do not continue with your delivery.

Step back from the mat, give your wood an extra polish, then step on to the mat and start again the process of delivering the perfect bowl.



COACH'S CORNER

Coach Bernard this month focuses on the third position in a rink, certainly the most important and difficult of all positions to play successfully.

England great Tony Allcock suggests that the ideal third must be a good all-round bowler, but must be much more than that. The third needs to complement the skip as only a genuine partner can do and must always demonstrate absolute faith in the skip's judgment.

Rex Johnston, former Hong Kong International Classic Pairs winner and one of the best bowlers Australia has produced, believes that a third needs to be a shrewd judge of when to speak his mind and when to remain silent. Johnston suggests that, when the skips cross, he knows how the next three shots will be played, so he will not seek a lot of direction from his third. Johnston is acknowledged globally as a strong skip who needs a silent third.

Barry Salter, focusing on the actual play of the third, suggested that the third will be called on to play every shot

in the book under the most intense pressure. The third will often be called on to draw to different parts of the green, either in an attempt to get shot after a disturbance of the head or to protect the situation if the opportunity is open for the opponent to score. Tony Allcock believes that the third needs to be a good judge of weight, forever called on to play positional shots, yard on shots, blocking shots, not to mention trailing the jack and, not infrequently, fast drives. All these shots need to be part of the practice routine.

Rex Johnston mentions the need for self-practice in addition to the Thursday night roll-up, and suggests that thirds need to practice the full range of shots, including drawing to difficult parts of the green and setting up heads for conversion.

Coach Bernard also reminds all thirds to remember to bring a measure and some chalk.

Next month, coach Bernard will focus on playing skip, certainly the most responsible and demanding role in a rink.



Comments from the Chair

Suzie McGuire,
Division Chairperson



At the time of writing Division 2 Whirlies have finished their matches and are currently playing friendlies until the playoffs in mid to late April. The other divisions have only two more rounds of the season and it looks like Club will finish 4th in Division 1 and will make the Division 1 playoffs. Typhoons will finish 6th in Division 2, they won't make the playoffs but will finish with the honour of being the best 2nd club team in Division 1. Whirlies should finish 2nd in Division 2 and will make the Division 2 playoffs. Tornados should finish 6th in Division 3 so they won't make the playoffs but they have made an improvement on last season. Finally, the mighty Hurricanes should come in 3rd or 4th in Division 4 and make the playoffs. I must make special mention of the tremendous season the Hurricanes have had so far. Last season the Hurricanes finished 8th out of 9 teams in Division 4. This season they had a bit of a rough start but have gradually reeled in their opposition and are likely to finish 3rd or 4th out of 12 teams in Division 4. The highlight of the season for Hurricanes was recently defeating the team currently sitting at No. 1 on the ladder giving them the confidence and potential to win their division this season. Hurricanes improvement has been astonishing and they just seem to get better and better each game.... I wish the Hurricanes the very best of luck in the playoffs and also to Club and Whirlies!

On to more social matters, on the 6th of March the Netball DSA held a trivia night. The Trivia night idea was the brainchild of our social convenors **Kirsty Hulme** and **Dayna Proudfoot**. Dayna had her 2nd baby girl Audrey on 18th February 2008 so Kirsty found a new assistant, **Dee Hutt**, to help organise the event. It was a fantastic night, so well organised and so well executed - Kirsty and Dee did an outstanding job and clearly put in a lot of time and effort to ensure that everyone who attended would get involved and have a fun night. Well done girls and thank you so much for organising this - I know everyone had a great night and next year's social convenors have a lot to live up to.

It's getting to the end of the season and there are a lot of injuries and other ailments diminishing team numbers. Thanks again to our guest players who have been plucked from retirement from the DSA and forced to dust off those nettie shoes and take the court once again....in particular, thanks to **Becky Thomas** (Squash Section member) who has now been a guest for Typhoons so much she is a full time player again! Also thanks to **Sarah Wells** (a partner of a current Rugby Section member) and coach **Karen Morgans** (a non-playing Netball DSA member) who have helped out by playing or benching for teams short on players in various matches this season. So much for retirement girls!!

Good luck in the playoffs to Club, Whirlies and Hurricanes!!! Hopefully we will have some great news to report next month.

Netball News

Weekly Match Report:

WHIRLWINDS

25th February 2008: Whirlwinds vs Valley Pumas (39 - 10)

With no subs, we had **Vicky** out of position at WA, feeding into the circle. **Roi** and **Laura** shot well, putting most of the shots in. **Rose** played a full game at Centre, running all over the court. **Irene** and **Vanessa** worked the defence circle well to turn over the balls and **Sarah** supported them to bring the ball down. A good team effort and a smashing way to finish off the round to leave us in second place in the division.

TYPHOONS

3rd March 2008: Typhoons v. U21 (30-14)

Typhoons were only just able to field a team of 7 but nothing could undermine the return of **Kate Babbington** to the court - a triumph of epic proportions steering Typhoons to a comfortable win with super accurate shooting and superb movement in the circle. Our super defence team of **Siobhan** and **Alex Kent** were spectacular again this week even though Alex was half blind from conjunctivitis. Thanks to **Vanessa Elliot** for hanging around in case of emergency and having a notable run in the last quarter with great movement for the backline pass bringing the ball down the court.

HURRICANES

25th February 2008: Hurricanes vs Valley Jaguars (14 - 13)

Another close call for the Hurricanes against a much improved Valley side. Fast and tall, Valley fought us every step of the way; we were 6 all at half-time and only 10-8 up going into the last quarter. Thankfully, some wily moves and great blocking from La Lavender helped keep the ball out of the opposition's goal circle until a brave goal from **Ming** saved the day. Surely we're edging towards the top of the league now! *by Edwina Mendes*

3rd March 2008: Hurricanes vs NTA (21 - 16)

The Hurricanes took to the court nervous in the knowledge that we must win all our remaining games to enter the finals. The first quarter saw us racing around at breakneck speed, crowding each other and making some

careless passes. In the second quarter **Janice** took over as Centre and introduced a sense of calm. We kept our heads and managed to move ahead of the opposition, even though they pushed us hard until the final whistle. *by Edwina Mendes*

TORNADOES

18th February 2008: Tornadoes vs GWS (16 - 30)

After last week's close call we were back. Our captain **Leanne** was back in her first match after suffering trouble with her ankle, we couldn't wait to get stuck in! We started with a handful of goals in the 1st quarter but missed a few opportunities to feed the ball to the shooters. We were level 5-5.

In the 2nd quarter we got a few great goals, but couldn't quite keep up with GWS, their 14 to our 9. A few fresh legs in the 3rd quarter, but unfortunately they scooped another 8 goals whilst we only managed 3. The final score left us with a 14 goal difference, our biggest defeat to date! Special mention to **Jen**, our new player, she had a tough job in GD but did us proud.

We were bitten by the Great White Sharks, but our wounds will heal! Go Tornadoes! *by Ariana Bahrami*

Country of Origin Netball Tournament

The inaugural HKFC Netball DSA Country of Origin Tournament took place on Wednesday, 12th March. Four teams entered, representing Australia, New Zealand, the UK and Hong Kong, with players drawn from all five of the Club's regular sides. The Aussies were dressed up in appropriate gold and green, while the Kiwis donned mean-looking all-black outfits and wigs, and sported silver fern "tattoos". Characteristically, the Brits went for a more understated look, preferring to let their netball skills do the shouting.

First up, a closely fought match between the Aussies and the local side, with the former emerging victorious. Then the Kiwis and the Brits took to the court. After a rather girly Haka that scared no one, the All-Blacks stole a narrow victory. With a brief but stirring rendition of Swing Low Sweet Chariot ringing in their ears, the Brits stayed on court to defeat the Hongkongers. Next, a match between the two Antipodean titans saw the biggest whitewash of the evening, with the Kiwis winning 9-1. The UK then drew against Australia, in a result that was to prove prophetic. Finally, in a battle that secured them the trophy, the New Zealanders scored their third victory of the night against a tired local team. Final scores in points: NZ-9, UK and Aus-6 and HK-3. Well played, Kiwis! *by Edwina Mendes*



Winners of the Country of Origin Netball Tournament

Netball Babies!

Frances Hurley of Whirlies had a surprise arrival on Sunday 17th February. **Mason** was born at 9.40 am, over 1 month early! Despite his early arrival he was 6 pounds 6 oz - (2.754kg).



Baby Mason Hurley

Another new arrival in the Netball DSA! On Monday 18th of February at 7.55am, **Dayna Proudfoot** of Hurricanes gave birth to a 7lb 12 oz girl - **Audrey Joy**.



Baby Audrey Joy Proudfoot



The Proudfoot family welcomes new baby Audrey



19th Hole with the Chairman

Desmond Ko,
Golf Society Chairman

Fellow GS members, a short article this month....

- Some of you have informed me that you have not received any emails from the Society. We currently send emails via the Club's database. If you have elected not to receive emails when the recent Club Members' detail update was conducted, you will not receive any emails from Club (including Society emails). If you fall into this category but wish to receive emails from the Society please inform the Club. Email is our main means of communication other than the Society notice boards.
- It's that time of the year to remind everyone to check their golf insurance status – it is generally not expensive and highly recommended. Most insurance coverage contributes to the cost of purchasing a big round for that elusive Hole in One!
- We had a very successful Golf Rules Evening on Friday 29th February, with our experienced guest speaker Dr Brian Choa giving us an update on all the new rules that came into force this year (Golf Rules are updated every four years). For those of you who have missed it, we have a small quantity of the new Rule books available. Please leave your name and account number in the Society pigeon hole and we will arrange collection from Reception on a first come first served basis.
- Further to last year's very successful equipment day (where certain lucky and skillful members won big prizes including new driver), we are organising another such event which is provisionally set for Saturday 19th April. Please mark your diary and also check your society emails and the notice boards for the confirmed date!

Happy Easter!!!

Club Championship

29th February

The annual Club Golf Championship is a gross stroke play competition to find the best Society golfer of the year, held this year on the Kau Sai Chau North course, arguably the toughest in Hong Kong.

To give the rest of us a chance of something, the outing also included a Net stroke-play competition and longest/nearest prizes. To keep the marshals happy, we also included a 4-over pick-up rule for 'blow-out' holes – otherwise, with stroke play rules some of us might still be out there!

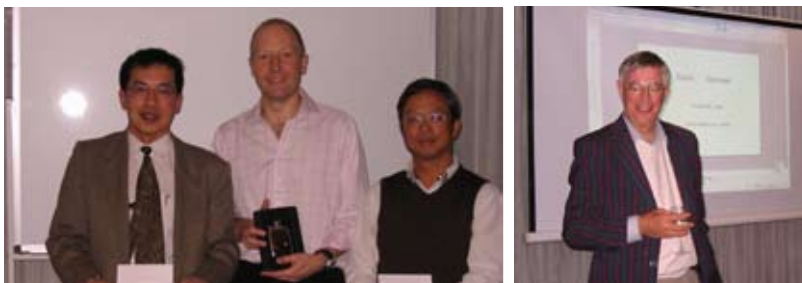
The day was near perfect for golf with little breeze or humidity, and a light cloud overcast to keep the heat down.

In the main competition **Jonathan Linstow** was the clear champion with an excellent par round of 72 playing off scratch, possibly the best ever at our annual championship. Runners up were **Dallas Reid** with 83 and **Duncan Spooner** with 86.

In the Net competition **Lily Chan** was just the winner over **Bob Lloyd** with 69 and 70 scores. The result would have been different if played the next day, when Lily's handicap dropped by two shots! Alternatively, if Bob's drive on the last hole had not been lost..... Following them were Jonathan and Duncan with net 72 and 74 respectively.

The other prizes went to Duncan Spooner for an almost invisible men's longest drive and to Lily Chan for the ladies longest. The near pin prizes went to **Jonathan Li** at hole 7, and **Norman Wong** at the near impossible hole 14.

Even for non-winners it was an enjoyable golfing day, to be followed by the prize presentation, Rules evening and buffet dinner at the Club.





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Golf Rules Evening

29th February

Every four years the Rules of Golf are updated and the latest Rule books are now available, covering 2008 to 2011. We were very fortunate that Dr Brian Choa who is a member of the international R&A Rules Committee, and perhaps Asia's leading expert on golf rules, agreed to give us a presentation on the new rules and to answer questions in a lively discussion. He was assisted by Candi Anna Chan, Hong Kong's leading Golf Rules lady, and Iain Valentine in his HKGA Chief Executive role.

The changes in the new 2008 Rule book (available free from the HKGA, and the Society has some spare copies) are relatively minor, but in a number of cases the penalties for infringements have been reduced. One change which most of us will have experienced is that it is now permissible to move a ball in a hazard for identification – and on the other hand there is now a normal penalty for playing the wrong ball in a hazard, since there is no longer any excuse!

In addition to the new small Rule book, there is now available an Illustrated Rules book which makes a great present for golfers. There is also a Golf Decisions book for 2008-9 available, suggested as an excellent toilet companion for the serious golfer. Both of these books are available from the HKGA at \$300 each.

Our thanks to Brian, Candi and Iain for another excellent presentation which rounded off a great day for the Society.



Discovery Bay

10th March

The Society doesn't often go to Discovery Bay but this was an opportunity to play the Jade/Ruby combination on a wonderful spring day with the course in excellent condition from tee to green - though the greens were slicker than most at this time of year.

Twenty four members joined in the Stableford competition with the usual extra prizes, using buggies on this very up-and-down mountain top layout.

Good weather meant good scores, partly because we used the yellow men's tees instead of the tougher blues. The winner was **Joseph Yu** with 42 points including three birdies, an excellent total off a 16 handicap which was partly explained by him being a DB member used to playing the blue tees! The good news was that Joseph promptly insisted on drinks all round, so we all won! Runner up was **Kien Ng** with 38 points, followed closely by **Dallas Reid** with 37 points from the day's best gross of 78.

The long drives went to **Allyson Ko** who got past **Lily Chan**, and **Will Glover**, who just nipped Dallas (again!) The near pins went to **Alice Chong** and **Jason Cornell**.

Whatever the score, this was a day when the best place to be was outdoors, including the verandah at the clubhouse for drinks and post-mortems!



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Tennis Update



Inaugural Singles Competition starting

The super-efficient pairing of **Winston Leung** and **Eric Tsea** has been putting their all into the organisation of the Society's Inaugural Tennis Men's Singles Competition. This will take place over the next month or so culminating in a Final Showdown on Sunday 13th April. This will be followed by a general buffet lunch, so if you're free, come along and book your spot on the Centre Court and for the ensuing partying. The super-efficient pairing of **Winston Leung** and **Eric Tsea** has been putting their all into the organisation of the Society's Inaugural Tennis Men's Singles Competition. This will take place over the next month or so culminating in a Final Showdown on Sunday 13th April. This will be followed by a general buffet lunch, so if you're free, come along and book your spot on the Centre Court and for the ensuing partying. The seeding has been decided on the basis of Tennis Ladder rankings. Our top-ranked ladder player for the past few months has been Philippe 'Happy-Valley'. Will he dominate the competition, too? Lots of challengers are saying "Now way!", but is it just bravura?

Top 5 Singles Tennis Ladder Challenge

Last updated: 10th March, 2008

Top Player	Philippe Bonval
Runner up I	Simon Cheung
Runner up II	Winston Leung
4th ranked	Eric Tsea
5th ranked	Greg Brutus

Note: To join the ladder, email TennisLadder@hkjc.com

Social Match v Yokohama Country Club

After only three years of planning we finally welcomed the visiting tennis team from the Yokohama Country Club (YCC) on Saturday, February 23rd! Despite somewhat damp and chilly conditions, around 20 Tennis Society members turned out to challenge the five men and two ladies from the YCC (theirs was not quite the size of team we had been given to expect, but we work with what we have).

Given the odd numbers and everyone's desire to participate, our Chairman produced a spreadsheet of spectacular complexity, which essentially allowed us to make up the rules as we went along. Three courts were used for doubles matches in the main competition, while a further two courts were set aside for social matches to keep everyone busy.

After nearly three hours and four rounds of very friendly competition, the Football Club's early dominance was reversed in a single match, when the silver-haired and not-very-Japanese Phil Armstrong gave our pair a rather ingnomious defeat (it happened to Federer and Nadal at the Aussie Open, too!).



That meant the final result went very much Yokohama's way with them winning the inaugural Challenge Cup. Plans are already underway for a return match in Yokohama sometime in the next three years! We then hosted our visitors to a sumptuous buffet lunch in the Coffee Shop. Special thanks to **Helen** and **Graham Ormerod** for making all of the arrangements, flawlessly as usual and to **Thomas** and **Desiree** who cheered us from the sidelines.

Captain: Greg Brutus

Captain's Corner

Captain	Matches played	Won	Lost	Tied	Bye	Total points	Rank
Ladies Morning League							
Premier A - Haj W	6	1	4	1	-	17.5 pts	7 of 8
Div 2 - Elaine B	7	3	3	-	1	26.0 pts	5 of 9
Div 5 - Theresa B	6	2	4	-	-	20.0 pts	7 of 10
Mixed Evening League							
Div 3 - Vivien L/ Job T	6	4	1	-	1	na	1 or 2 of 5

In the morning Ladies League, the HKFC is down a team, so we are represented in only three of the divisions. **Captain Theresa**, who led her team to victory last season and a well-deserved promotion is giving a very credible performance in Division Four. However, the laurels, for the moment, have to go to Captains **Vivian Lawson** and **Job Tang** for their leadership in the Mixed Doubles. As yet, we have lost only one match and are ranked either first or second.

Tennis Weekend-Away in May

The Tennis Society is arranging a Tennis Weekend-Away in the prestigious Mission Hills Resort on the long weekend of the Buddha's Birthday (May 10th -12th).

With 51 tennis courts and a host of other activities available, it should be great fun. Make up your mind quickly, Places are limited and are filling fast.



Mixed League Match

FROM YOUR TENNIS COACH

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Easter holiday. The beginning of the year is littered with holidays. With these now out of the way, it's time to settle in to a steady routine and work on your game. If anyone would like to commence tennis lessons or enrol their child in one of our group classes, please contact Mark on 2830 9578.

On the 9th March Thomas Baer, Alex Brutus, Henry Cubbon, Jesamine Dyus, Jeremy Kwan, Justin Lam, Austin Leung, Jack Pong, Joshua Schawelson and Elianne Vos represented the Club in the 14 and Under Prince Junior Challenge at the American Club, Tai Tam. The standard of the children playing was very high with numerous nationally ranked players. Many matches were close, the kids competed well and we managed to notch up a few wins. For a couple of our players it was the first time they have played at inter-club level. They will definitely benefit from the experience. Most importantly, the team had a lot of fun!

When the ball falls short in a rally, look on it as an invitation to attack the shot and follow it to the net. I often see players get caught in no-mans land (area between the service line and the net) and freeze. If you do this there is a very good chance that the next ball will land around your toes, making it a very difficult shot. Others move forward



to play the shot and then retreat. The problem with this is that you are off balance for the next shot and will have great difficulty moving laterally. The decision to approach is made before you strike the ball. Once you have made up your mind you are committed. You must follow it in regardless of the strength of the approach. If you hesitate, you will not get to the net quickly enough. Once at the net, use your split-step to get balanced and attempt to move forward into the volley and meet the ball out in front.

Most Improved Player – Caitlyn McWatt

Pictures from the



Celebrating 20 years and 10 years at the Club!



Maggie Ng (the GM's Secretary) and Mark Pawley (the GM) have been at the Club for 20 years and 10 years respectively — they both deserve big medals!



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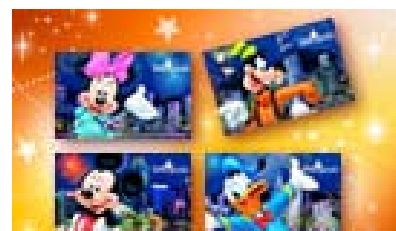
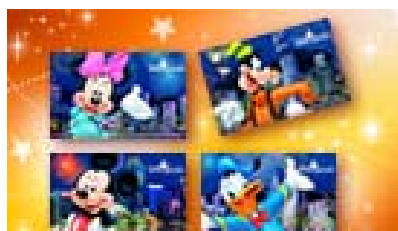
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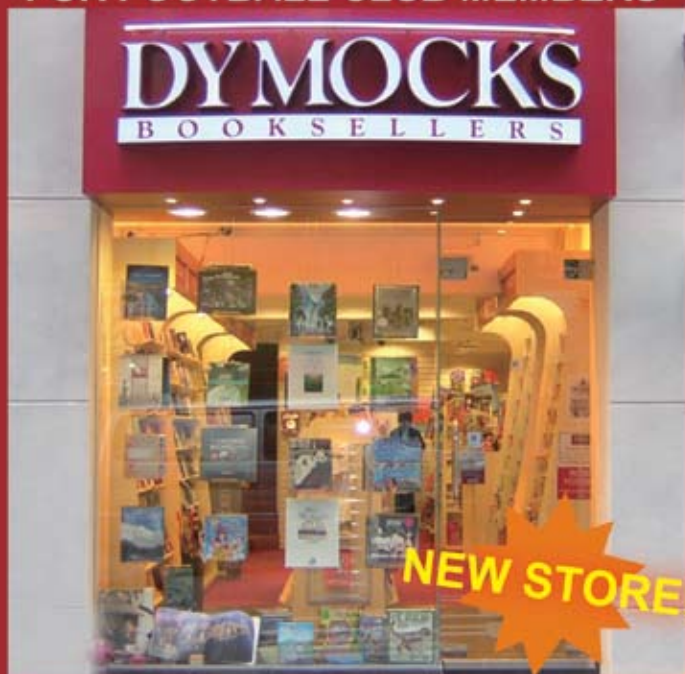
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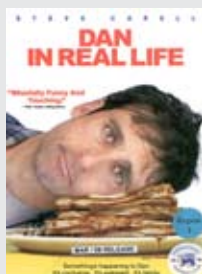
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MOVIE OF THE MONTH

No Country for Old Men

When a man stumbles on a bloody crime scene, a pickup truck loaded with heroin, and two million dollars in irresistible cash, his decision to take the money sets off an unstoppable chain reaction of violence. Not even West Texas law can contain it. Based on the novel by Pulitzer Prize winning author Cormac McCarthy, and featuring an acclaimed cast led by Tommy Lee Jones, this gritty game of cat and mouse will take you to the edge of your seat and beyond – right up to its heart-stopping final moment.



BOOK REVIEW

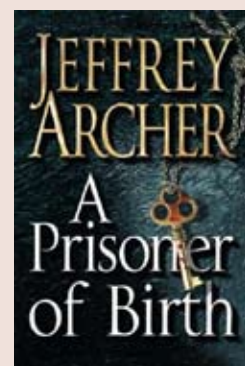
A Prisoner of Birth

by Jeffrey Archer

Travis Danny Cartwright and Spencer Craig were born on different sides of the track. Danny, an East End Cockney, leaves Clement Attlee Comprehensive School at the age of 15 to take up a job at a local garage. He falls in love with Beth, the boss' daughter, and asks her to marry him.

Spencer Craig resides in the West End. A graduate of an English public school and Cambridge University.

After leaving university he becomes a criminal barrister and is soon tipped to be the youngest Queen's Counsel of his generation. Danny and Beth travel up to the West End to celebrate their engagement. They end the evening in a wine bar where Spencer Craig is also celebrating - his 30th birthday, along with a select group of university chums. Their lives will never be the same again. For, an hour later, one of them is arrested for murder, while the other ends up as the Prosecution's chief witness in an Old Bailey trial.



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