

CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會

JANUARY 2024



SOCCER

GINA BENJAMIN

STANDING PROUDLY ON THE COURT
WEARING A RAINBOW ARMBAND
TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ+

SQUASH

THE HILARIOUS HIJINKS OF THE ANNUAL
WING DING CHARITY SQUASH TOURNAMENT

SWIMMING AND TRIATHLON

HKFC SWIMS AROUND HONG KONG ISLAND
WITH A DEEP PASSION!



CATERING
SERVICE



LUNAR NEW YEAR *Celebrations*

WITH HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

LUNAR NEW YEAR GATHERING PACKAGE

Start the new year with a bang and explore our new banquet packages.

Book your event now while space is still available.

For details, please contact the Catering Office
at 2830 9513 or catering@hkfc.com

SCAN HERE
for menu and offers





Hong Kong Football Club

3 Sports Road, Happy Valley,
Hong Kong

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FACSIMILE (852) 2882 5040

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Nick Hunsworth
Vice Presidents	Fook Aun Chew Robert Lawson John Shanahan Mike Wood Neil Jensen
Chairman	Neil Roberts
Honorary Secretary	Mervyn Jacob
Honorary Treasurer	Damien Laracy
Constitutional Affairs and Discipline	Kenneth Ng Don Rider
Development	John Thompson
Membership	Mia Williams
Sports & Recreation	Chris Page
Major Events	Kenneth Pang
Hockey Officer	Kim Kan
Lawn Bowls Officer	Nigel R. Merritt
Rugby Officer	David Cross
Soccer Officer	
Squash Officer	

MANAGEMENT TEAM

General Manager	Randal Linhart
Deputy General Manager	Tony Sealy
Director of Finance	Joe Wan
Director of Food and Beverage	Christophe Horrenberger Yan Mak
Executive Chef	Mandy Cheng
Director of Membership	Iris Chau
Director of People	Vanessa So
Senior Communications Manager	William Wong
Facilities Manager	Daniel Shum
House Manager	Ken Mak
Information Technology Manager	Ken Lo
Retail Manager	Simon Tang
Security Manager	Simon Chapman
Acting Senior Sports Manager	

DIRECTORS OF SPORT

Director of Rugby	Stephen Dowse
Director of Squash	Carlos Cornes

CLUB MAGAZINE

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. 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 CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE 2023-2024



Nick Hunsworth
President



Neil Jensen
Chairman



Neil Roberts
Honorary Secretary



Mervyn Jacob
Honorary Treasurer



Fook Aun Chew
Vice President



Robert Lawson
Vice President



John Shanahan
Vice President



Mike Wood
Vice President



Damien Laracy
Constitutional Affairs
& Discipline



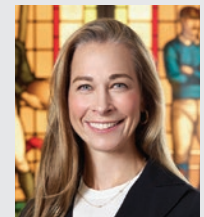
Kenneth Ng
Development



Don Rider
Membership



John Thompson
Sports & Recreation



Mia Williams
Major Events



Chris Page
Hockey



Kenneth Pang
Lawn Bowls



Kim Kan
Rugby



Nigel R. Merritt
Soccer



David Cross
Squash

PORTFOLIO DETAILS OF STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES

The following portfolio functions have been summarised to show terms of reference previously approved by the General Committee (GC).

POLICY WORKING GROUP – Neil Jensen

FUNCTION: to ensure effective and proper implementation of the Club's Mission Statement by formulating policies for the decision of the GC and to keep agreed policies under review.

FINANCE – Mervyn Jacob

FUNCTION: to carefully consider the financial implications of proposals and policies brought forth by the GC, and to provide advice, and, if deemed appropriate, make recommendations to the GC for final approval.

CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS AND DISCIPLINE – Damien Laracy

FUNCTION: to review of the Club's Articles of Association, Bye-laws and Policy Statements to keep them relevant and useful. Monitor and review the constitutions/Bye-Laws of all Club bodies for consistency. Standardise signage, notices, forms and provide advice on constitutional aspects are additional responsibilities. Finally, to take action on misconduct complaints to ensure compliance with the Bye-laws for the enjoyment of all Members.

DEVELOPMENT – Kenneth Ng

FUNCTION: to identify and evaluate suitable

development initiatives for the Club's facilities in the short, medium, and long term, and to recommend selected proposals to GC for consideration and subsequent implementation.

MEMBERSHIP – Don Rider

FUNCTION: to oversee the admission of new Members, to monitor existing policies and to advise on membership-related matters, including procedures (including Sections) and compliance with these policies.

SPORTS AND RECREATION – John Thompson

FUNCTION: to promote and support the development of recognised sporting activities and competitive recreational activities for members, also collaborate with management to maximise the utilisation of the Club's sports facilities.

MAJOR EVENTS – Mia Williams

FUNCTION: to work with the event organising committees, provide assistance and support to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to sponsorship contracts and event administration, and provide timely reports on major events to the General Committee.

THE THOUGHTS OF THE CHAIRMAN

主席的話

Neil Jensen
Chairman



As this is the start of a new year, it is timely for me to share with you an important update that affects us all. Our **Bye-laws** embody who we are as members, our behaviour and interaction with each other and how we take care of our Club. In the middle of last year, led by then Deputy General Manager **Randal Linhart**, the Management team carried out a workshop on the current Bye-laws. It's worth mentioning that the Bye-laws had not been reviewed or updated in quite some time. The exercise presented us with some insight and an opportunity to make a few updates and modifications. The biggest change was in the way the Bye-laws were written. Preambles and lengthy paragraphs have been replaced with direct, to the point sentences, but without losing the importance to what was being expressed. There were areas that needed adjustment to the times, while others a slight relaxation, without losing our values and pedigree associated with the Club's proud 137-year history.

To get to this point, Management sought the counsel of the General Committee's Constitutional Affairs Officer, **Jeff Lane**, who took on the task and convened several Constitutional Affairs Sub-committee (CASC) meetings to completely redraft the Bye-laws, with focus on topics such as Dress Code, Use of Electronic Devices, Children, Membership, Secondary Carers and much, much more. Vice President **Bobby Lawson** took the lead on much of the redrafting and devoted hours of his time in doing so. After lengthy and careful consideration, CASC were ready to put the amended Bye-laws forward to **General Committee** members, which was followed by another round of considered deliberation. The result of all this hard work is the production of updated Bye-laws that have satisfied both CASC and the General Committee. Updated Bye-laws have been uploaded to the Club's website on 1st January 2024.

Although introduced to you back in December, this month's magazine features an introduction to this year's **General Committee members**, on the adjacent page. Please look for them in the Club and show your support to HKFC.

I take this opportunity to wish you, your family, and friends all the very best in the year to come. Let's make it a great 2024 at the Club.

Neil Jensen
Chairman

NOTICE TO MEMBER

The Swimming Pool Complex will be closed from 2nd to 31st January for annual maintenance and deep cleaning.

新年開始，是時候在此分享一則影響本會上下
的重大資訊。本會**附例**規範着我們作為會員的
身分、行為舉止及彼此之間的互動，以至會所
的管理。上年年中，在時任副總經理**Randal Linhart**
帶領下，管理團隊進行了有關現行附例的研討，
值得一提的是附例在之前已經好一段時間未有
審查及更新，是次研討為我們深入瞭解附例及
其意義，同時藉此作出更新及修改。當中最大
的變動是附例的書寫方式，在不失去所表達內
容的重要性時，以直接而恰當的句子取代序言及
冗長的段落。此外，在不影響本會價值及137年
輝煌會史的前提下，部分附例更就時代變遷而
作合適調整或放寬。

為此，管理層尋求時任常務委員會政制事務委員
Jeff Lane的協助，召開了多次政制事務小組
委員會 (CASC) 會議，重新起草附例，將焦點
放在衣著準則、電子器材的使用、兒童、會籍、
次要照顧者及其他更多的主題上。副會長
Bobby Lawson亦帶頭起草大部分附例，更投入
了以小時計的私人時間於此工作上。經長時間
的審慎考慮後，CASC向**常務委員會**成員提出
已修改的附例，緊隨其後是再一次深思熟慮的
審議，在以上各方的重重努力下，最終制定出
令CASC及常務委員會都滿意的更新附例。
附例已於2024年1月1日上傳到本會網站。

雖然12月已經介紹過，但今期會刊相信能讓
大家更熟悉今年**常務委員會**成員的面貌及工作，
詳情可在鄰頁一覽，各位不妨在本會尋找一下
他們的身影，並打個招呼，展現大家對本會
的支持。

藉此機會，祝大家與身邊的家人及朋友新一年
事事順利。一起在本會打造美好的2024年。

主席 **Neil Jensen**

會員告示

游泳池將由2024年1月2日(星期二)至1月31日
(星期二)暫時關閉以作保養維修及深層清潔。



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

Standard Buffet with unlimited drinks* **\$685** per head

Admission Badge **\$60** per head

UPGRADE PACKAGES

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

	Extra Cost per head		Extra Cost per head
1 Whole Piece of Lobster	\$ 560	5 French Premium Cheese Platter	\$ 170
2 Deluxe Sashimi Platter <i>Scallop, Hamachi, Red Shrimp and Salmon</i>	\$ 440	6 Standard Sashimi Platter <i>Salmon, Tuna, Sweet Prawn and Hokkigai</i>	\$ 170
3 Lobster Cocktail with Sweet Mango	\$ 320	7 Additional Beverage <i>Selected Red and White Wines, Imported Beers & Spirits</i>	\$ 120
4 Plated Oyster <i>Half Dozen</i>	\$ 210		

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ARRANGEMENT

- Unlimited drinks* 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

RESERVATIONS

Booking forms are available at Reception (frontdesk@hkfc.com) and from our website HKFC.com



GENERAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

總經理的話

Randal Linhart
General Manager



Happy New Year and hello to everyone! I hope you had a great 2023 and I look forward to sharing 2024 with all of you. It was a great festive season last month, a highlight being the **Party on the Pitch**. It was nice to see everyone that attended, and we will be sending out a survey to gather your feedback so we can keep making improvements, according to what you, the members are interested in.

Other breaking news last month was our Chairman, **Neil Jensen's** achievements in the **Hong Kong Hyrox 2023** in November. Not only did he and his teammate win the Over 50's Men's doubles category, which made them eligible to represent HK in the Hyrox World Championship finals this June in Nice, France, he was also a part of the x 4 Men's over 40's relay team that came 3rd in their category. However, that wasn't the only news, the relay team managed to break the world record for the oldest team to compete and finish a Hyrox competition with a combined age of "244 years of age". Our very own Deputy General Manager **Tony Sealy** was a part of the relay team that created world record recognition, so high fives and back slaps all around.

Looking ahead in 2024, whilst January sees the cooler weather return, the sporting calendar will be heating up as teams and athletes return for the second half of the season. It's also the time of year when we typically reset our goals and visions for what we want to achieve this year. I hope you all rise to the challenges of your respective sport or activity and have a super positive start to 2024 as the Year of the Dragon approaches!

A few things to note for January and early February before the Chinese New Year festivities begin:

Monday, 1st January	New Year's Day Youth Rugby Tournament, organised every year by Hong Kong China Rugby
Sundays, 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th January	Return of the Hong Kong China Sapling Cup featuring home group games for 1st Team Soccer
Saturday, 27th January	Rugby Section Club Day with Section teams, Youth/Juniors, Families and Sponsors
Saturday, 3rd February	HKFC Junior Hockey Festival, the annual event for Hong Kong junior hockey clubs

Moving away from sport, if you're hungry, the Restaurant will be introducing a new continental A la carte menu inspired by various European cuisines with the emphasis on quality ingredients. Great food with seasonal seafood like lobster, king prawns, oysters along with some of the best meat cuts, all prepared in a classical way to unveil the true flavours of each product. A brand-new cheeseboard will also be introduced with some great seasonal cheeses, paired with premium garnishes and superb wines.

I look forward to seeing you all down at the Club soon.

Randal Linhart
General Manager

大家好! 新年快樂! 希望各位都過了美好的2023年, 並期待與大家共度2024年。上個月的聖誕活動可謂多姿多彩, 當中最精彩的活動必屬**Party on the Pitch**, 很高興見到所有出席的會員。我們將就活動作問卷調查, 收集大家的意見, 之後便可以就著各位會員的喜好, 讓其後的活動更上一層樓。

上個月本會主席 **Neil Jensen** 在11月的**香港HYROX體耐力賽2023**中取得非凡成就, Neil不單止與隊友在50歲或以上男子雙人組中勝出, 令他們有資格代表香港出戰6月在法國尼斯舉行的HYROX世界錦標賽, 他也是40歲或以上男子4人接力組的其中一名參賽者, 並在該組別取得第三名。然而, 好消息不止於此, Neil的接力隊更以合共「244歲」的年齡, 打破年齡最高隊伍參加及完成HYROX比賽的世界紀錄, 本會副總經理 **Tony Sealy** 同樣是創下世界紀錄的接力隊成員之一, 所以請各位舉手擊掌, 表揚他們的傑出表現。

展望2024年, 在1月天氣回涼的時候, 各隊伍及運動員相繼回歸, 出戰下半季賽事, 各項體育盛事將再次進行得如火如荼。我們通常也會在1月重新訂立目標, 構想今年想要達到甚麼。希望大家都能夠在各自的運動項目或活動迎難而上, 龍年將至時, 在2024年開個好頭!

農曆新年活動開始前, 可以記下1月及2月初這幾個大日子:

1月1日 (星期一)	元旦日青少年欖球錦標賽, 每年由中國香港欖球總會所舉辦
1月7日、14日、 21日、28日 (星期日)	菁英盃 回歸, 欣賞足球部第一隊的主場分組賽事
1月27日 (星期六)	欖球部球會日, 與欖球隊、青少年、家人及贊助商同樂
2月3日 (星期六)	港會兒童曲棍球節, 為香港青少年曲棍球會而設的一年一度盛事

講完體育了, 如果肚餓的話, 請留意Restaurant新推出的自選餐單, 設計靈感來自各種不同的歐洲菜式, 餐單除了講求頂級食材, 同時注重口腹的滿足, 龍蝦、帝王蝦、蠔等時令海鮮, 加上部分上等肉類, 全部食材均以傳統方式準備, 務求呈現各種食物最真實的味道。全新的芝士拼盤亦會同步登場, 精選的季節芝士, 佐以優質裝飾菜及一流紅酒, 只是聽到都垂涎三尺。

期待與大家在本會相見。

總經理 林克朗

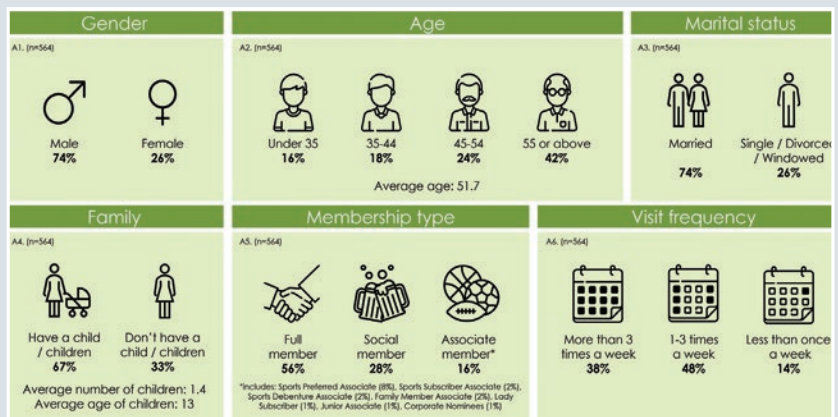
HKFC ENGAGED DATALITY LAB

**TO CONDUCT A SATISFACTION SURVEY
OF THE CLUB'S MEMBERS IN SEPTEMBER 2023.**

The objectives of this research project were to understand members' satisfaction with the different facilities, outlets, and arrangements of the Club.

The Survey was sent to **ACTIVE MEMBERS** of the club.

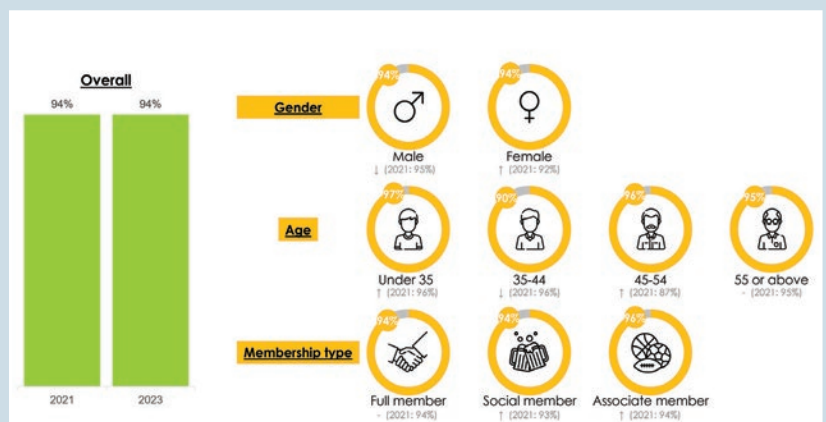
564 SURVEY responses were received.



94% OF MEMBERS

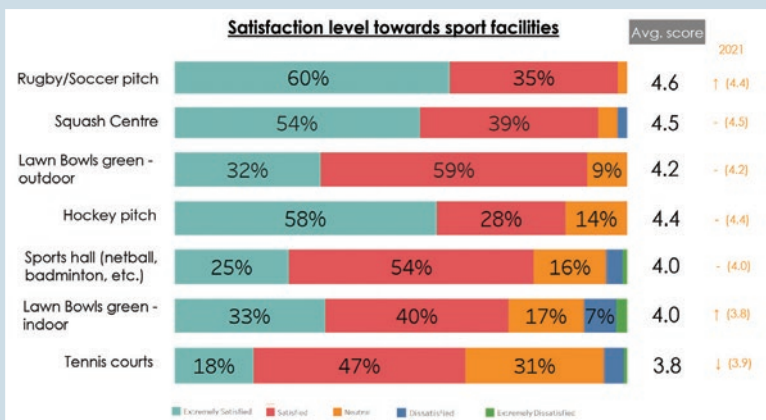
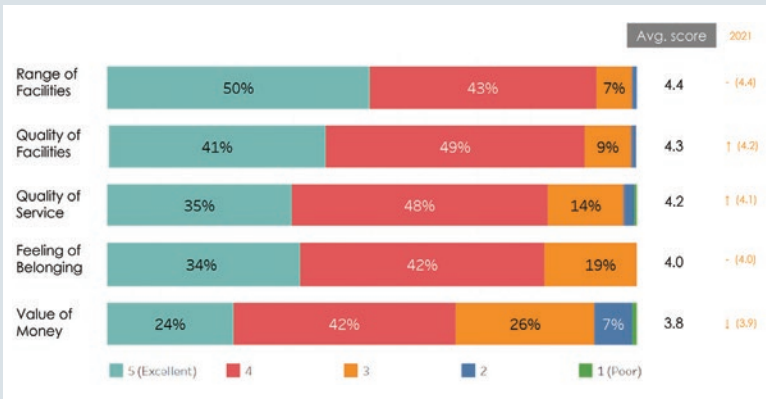
agreed that the membership of the Hong Kong Football Club has met their expectations.

Positive Club image and good service quality are areas that satisfy members' expectations.



HKFC

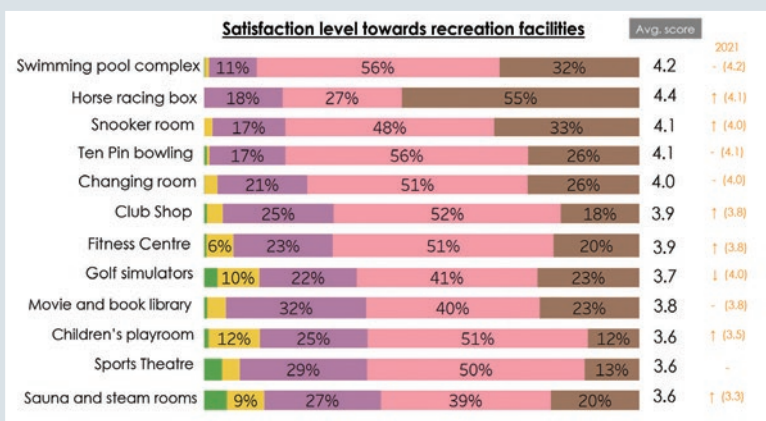
has achieved above-average performance in different attributes, including range of facilities, quality of facilities, quality of service, feeling of belonging, and value-for-money. The overall performance has slightly improved compared to the last survey conducted in 2021.



For sports facilities, specialized sports facilities like

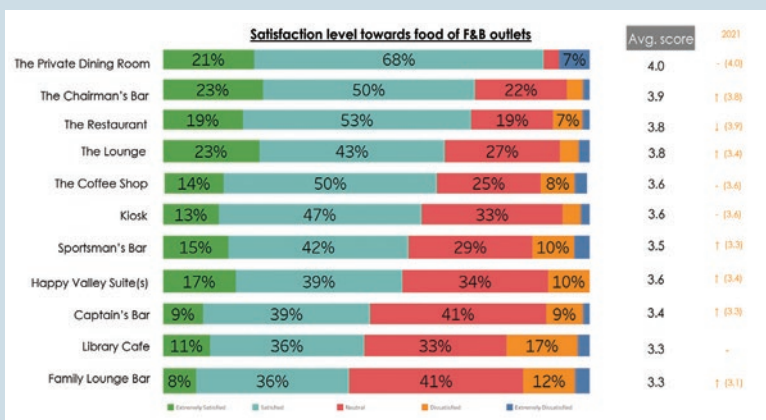
RUGBY, SOCCER PITCH AND SQUASH CENTRE

are the most satisfying among all sports facilities. The condition of sports facilities is considered well-maintained, and the coaching services are positively evaluated by the members. On the other hand, some facilities are commented to be difficult to book.



For recreation facilities, the satisfaction level with them has improved compared with the previous year. The horse racing box and **Swimming Pool Complex** are the most satisfactory facilities. The recreation facilities are considered well-maintained and clean except for the **Children's Playrooms**.

Staff are perceived to be helpful. However, some facilities were closed during the pandemic which caused inconvenience and disappointment.



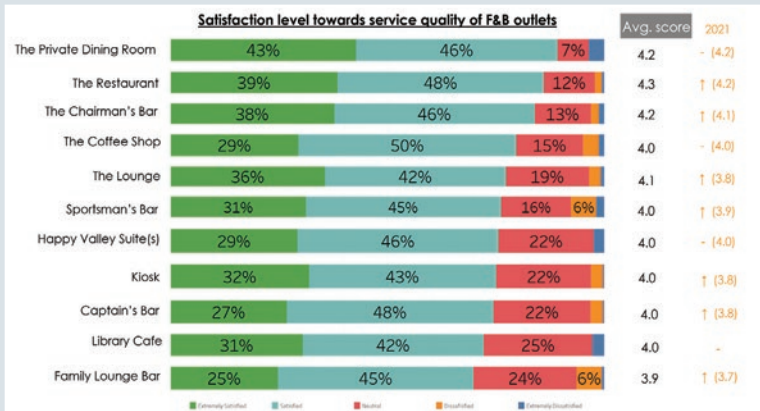
For food and beverage outlets, the satisfaction level with the food in them has slightly improved compared with the survey completed in 2021.

The food from **THE PRIVATE DINING ROOM AND THE CHAIRMAN'S BAR** are considered the best.

The satisfaction level of service quality of food and beverage outlets has generally improved from the previous year.

THE PRIVATE DINING ROOM, RESTAURANT, AND THE CHAIRMAN'S BAR

are the most satisfactory outlets for members. We can see that the overall performance of F&B outlets has improved.

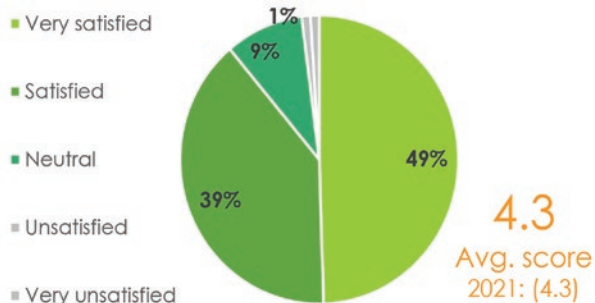


ONLY 15% OF MEMBERS

have organized personal or business events through the banqueting team of the club within the last 12 months.

88% of them are satisfied with the last event they organized. They are happy with the staff's services, management, venue, and food.

Satisfaction level towards the last event organized at the HKFC



OVERALL, OVER 80% OF MEMBERS

to recommend Hong Kong Football Club to their friends, which is similar to that in 2021.

2023: 4.3/5



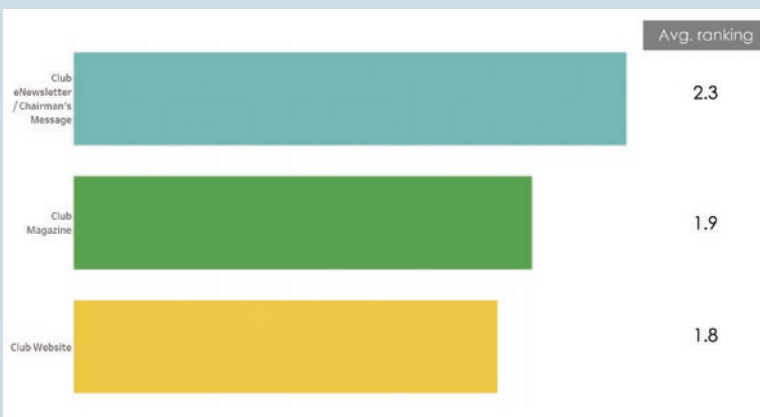
2021: 4.3/5



Finally, most members prefer to receive

CLUB NEWS THROUGH CLUB E-NEWSLETTER AND CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

which are the most instant platforms for the Club to communicate with members.



A woman with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue Adidas soccer jersey, is celebrating on a soccer field. She has her arms raised in the air, and a rainbow-colored armband is visible on her right arm. She is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. The background is a blurred soccer field with a goalpost visible on the left. The image is framed by white lines.

GINA BENJAMIN

**STANDING PROUDLY ON
THE COURT WEARING
A RAINBOW ARMBAND
TO SHOW SUPPORT
FOR LGBTQ+**

The Gay Games, which was held in Hong Kong in November 2023, are the first large-scale LGBTQ+ sports games held in Hong Kong in recent years. Seven-a-side football is one of the competitive events. Most of the participating teams are corporate teams, and there are also some players from the men's Hong Kong Premier League or the women's first division.



HKFC is the only local top league team that signed up to participate in the Gay Games. They organised two teams to participate in the event and both successfully advanced to the quarter-finals of the cup. The main members are composed of the women's first team, and the team members come from various teams of the Hong Kong Association. As well as friendship, for example, former Hong Kong Club striker **Robert Scott**, who currently plays for Division One **Wing Yi**, also made a guest appearance for HKFC on the first day of the game, and the women's team coach also played for the team.

In addition, the conference also invited the HKFC Crusaders team to play an exhibition match. HKFC Crusaders is a team of players with special needs. HKFC provides them with basic football training and hopes that the players will gain confidence through football activities.

IMPORTANT GAMES

"This tournament is open to all genders. We are aware that some teams may be very physical, so we try to balance the teams. Both teams have male and female players." HKFC vice-captain **Gina Benjamin** is one of the promoters of this participation. She believes that the Gay Games means a lot to herself and other people in the team.

"This competition is very important to us. There are members on the team who are members of the LGBTQ+

community, so everyone is very happy to have the opportunity to show support for the community. When I said in the club that I wanted to form a team to compete, everyone is very supportive and excited, and celebrating the entire LGBTQ+ community. We are attending the Gay Games during the day this weekend and also have a league match against Grace Citizens in the evening. Since other teams also have games on the weekend, this may be what makes it difficult for other teams to participate in the Gay Games."

The Gay Games received criticism from many conservatives before it was unveiled, and the scale was smaller than originally planned.

"It was affected by the epidemic, and this competition did not receive much government support, so other projects could not be held in good public venues. It's a shame, but no matter how difficult the situation is, the game must go on."

"No matter what the evaluation of the Gay Games is, the public has different discussions. Many people did not know that the Gay Games is held in Hong Kong. There are many questions, what are Gay Games? What are LGBTQ+? This is a good platform for





us to compete together, everyone can participate, regardless of their gender, identity, ability, we are open to everyone."

Gina started participating in football training at the age of 15 and once played for Sheffield United.

She came to Hong Kong 7 years ago and has been working in the education industry ever since. In August this year, she married **Beck**, who was from Australia and met in Hong Kong, at the British Embassy in Vietnam.

In terms of her football career, when **Gina** first came to Hong Kong, she contacted the Eastern District Women's Team online and later switched to Kitchee. She has played for the Hong Kong Football Club for the past three years and is currently the team's vice-captain.

"I am a full-time worker, and it is difficult to meet the requirements of a semi-professional team. I am married and have my own social life. For me, I still enjoy football, but life balance is very important to me."

FOOTBALL UNDER THE RAINBOW

Having competed in women's football tournaments all over the world for many years, **Gina** admitted that she is very lucky because she has never been prejudiced or discriminated against due to her sexual orientation during her football career.

"The craze of the Women's World Cup has been helpful in promoting women's

football. Starting last season, some football teams in Hong Kong The semi-professionalization of the team is a good starting point, but overall football is still a male-dominated sport. The LGBTQ+ culture of men's football and women's football is very different."

"You rarely hear of male players coming out, anywhere, at any level, but in the world of women's football, there are so many professional players who have come out. I imagine in the world of men's football, the prejudice and discrimination It's still very serious. If a male player comes out, he will receive a lot of criticism or even bullying, which will have a very negative impact on him. But in the women's team, this will not be a problem at all."

The HKFC has long competed in the Women's League One. As one of the team captains, **Gina** will wear a rainbow armband when playing. This tradition has continued since **Gina** played for the team, and may have started earlier.

"Rainbow armbands are a global movement, and captains of many teams will wear rainbow armbands. Today's football is a sport that everyone can participate in. Many different people participate in football, so this is to show their support for them. Support. I wear a rainbow armband and I am a gay, and the last captain was Straight. The HKFC captain has been wearing rainbow armbands for many seasons. This is something that the members of the HKFC Women's Team support."

Hang



PROFILE

Name
Georgina Lydia Benjamin
"Gina"

Position
RMF

Preferred Foot
Right

Birth
13th February 1990

Pro-team
EDSA 2016 - 2017
Kitchee 2017 - 2020
HKFC 2021 - Present



CRUSADERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Following their successful exhibition games at the International Citi Soccer 7s in May and the Gay Games in November, the HKFC Crusaders were back in the spotlight over the past few weeks with a visit from former Newcastle United stars **John Beresford**, **Keith Gillespie** and the Rugby legend **Sean Fitzpatrick** and **Laureus**. The two former premiership stars got involved in a HKFC Crusaders training session much to the delight of the players and parents, and **Sean Fitzpatrick** taught the HKFC Crusaders players the Haka!!

The HKFC Crusaders was formalised from an adhoc get together by **Nigel R Merritt** and caters to the special needs of around 60+ players who love the game of Football. Proudly sponsored by Prudential and more recently headed up by Co-Managers **Matthew Littlefield** and Paul Jenkins, together with around 10 other volunteer coaches, this programme runs throughout the football season on Monday evenings, on the main pitch from 18:00 to 19:00.



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HKFC RUGBY SECTION FEATURES ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

In November, we had 16 HKFC players feature for Hong Kong China Rugby Men's XV's team across 2 tests vs Germany.

Hong Kong China beat Germany twice to secure the November Fest trophy, with a tight 29-16 win at So Kon Po, followed by a more dominant 46-10 win over the visitors at Aberdeen Sports Ground 5 days later.

We're proud to be continuing to develop international level talent at our Club: A special shout-out to HK China's 5 new debutants from HKFC!

HKFC PLAYERS SELECTED FOR HONG KONG CHINA MEN'S XV

Jack Abbott*
Keelan Chapman
Tyler McNutt*
Johnnie McCormick-Houston
Josh Hrstich (Captain)
Murray Brechin*
Callum McCullough
Nate De Thierry

Matt Worley
Pierce MacKinlay-West
Hugh McCormick-Houston*
Jude Harding*
Jamie Lauder
Patrick Jenkinson
Ben Axten-Burrett
Tommy Hill

HKFC REPRESENTATION IN MANAGEMENT

Logan Asplin, *Assistant Coach*

Charles Cheung, *Manager*

*denotes debut



TRC GIRLS CUP SINGAPORE

HKFC sent Youth teams to Singapore in November for the TRC Girls' Cup and did Hong Kong proud bringing home armfuls of silverware! At U10G, HKFC entered 3 teams and stormed the division, finishing the competition in first, second and fourth place respectively. U12G and U14G also came first in their age groups, with U16G U16G losing narrowly in their cup final. A fantastic weekend for our girls, their parents and the coaches which is a testament to the strength of girls' rugby at HKFC and the strong team bonds the squads have built over their years together.

On 18th November, HKFC U12/13G attended the final Tanglin Rugby Club All Girls Tournament (TRC AGT). The teams faced local teams SCC, Titans and TRC, alongside HK teams Valley and HKU Sandy Bay. With no subs, the seven girls - **Ailsa Wilkinson, Amika Potgieter, Caroline "Cass" Lindsay, Claudia Ashby Sanchez, Heidi Graham, Kinggol Bu and Mathilde Gaudre** - came through five games straight in the Singapore heat to win the Cup, unbeaten, with an aggregate try count of 31-5. In

the final, the team came back from 2-1 down at half time to win 7-2, to show great determination. All seven girls contributed with tries, disciplined defence and strong rucking. Well done!

A special thanks to Coach **Sias Potgieter** and Team manager **Carolina Sanchez Salan**.

Carolina Sanchez Salan





JUNIOR YOUTH FESTIVALS

U8

Three festivals in five weeks kept the squad busy as nine HKFC U8 teams travelled across Hong Kong to participate in TigerFest, Sandy Bay Festival and the Flying Kukris Festival. Our little athletes played with sportsmanship and enthusiasm, representing the best qualities of the rugby section and as ever the coaching team and parents were extremely proud of their efforts.

U8 returned with a strong winning record, chalking up 329 tries across the three festivals. We look ahead to HKFC Rugby Christmas Camps ahead of an action packed start to 2024's rugby back in January.

U9

As the opening festival of the 23-24 season, Tigerfest marked the first opportunity most of our U9 boys have had to play a competitive match of contact rugby. However, looking at the scores for each of our 4 teams, you wouldn't have believed it was their

first outing, and I and the rest of the U9 Boys coaching team are immensely proud of the boys.

FC1 (Bulls) opened with a 9-2 victory against Sandy Bay 1, followed by a close fought 3-2 win over Valley Fort 1, and a 5-2 win over South China Athletic. Final match was against a very tough Sai Kung Stingrays 1 side, and the Bulls fought valiantly to a 2-2 draw.

FC2 (Rhinos) had a superb festival, opening with an 8-0 win over South China Athletic, followed by a 9-0 thrashing of Shatin Shapei 1 and an 8-0 trouncing of hosts USRC Tigers 1. Their final match was also against the strong Sai Kung Stingrays 1 side, and whilst Stingrays managed to ruin the Rhinos clean score sheet, the boys were able to win 5-1.

FC3 (Rams) started with a 3-0 victory over USRC Tigers 2, but came unstuck against an aggressive Monkeys side, losing 0-2. Not to be disheartened, Rams came back with a 8-0 demolition of Shatin Shapei 2, before ending with a tense back-and-forth with Sandy Bay 2, winning 3-2 in the end.

FC4 (Broncos) started strong with a 7-0 win over Tin Shui Wai, but lost the second match 2-4 to Sandy Bay 3. A brace of tries at the end of the third match saw them secure a 5-3 win over Aberdeen Dolphins, and they finished the day strong with a 7-3 victory over Sai Kung Stingrays 2.

Overall, 13 wins, 1 draw and 2 losses, and a total of 84 tries scored versus only 24 conceded – an amazing points difference! Well done to all the boys!





U10: SAINTS VISIT TO HKFC

U10 boys have had an encouraging start to the season. Most importantly, our games have all been competitive. Each club is fielding at least one strong team which is challenging our players and driving improvement week-on-week. Already, the teams have reduced the crowding around rucks that was often a feature of U9s games.

Players are settling into their positions and we are starting to see passing combinations increase.

We started the season with good wins against Valley Fort in friendly matches. TigerFest and the Sandy Bay tournament produced a mix of outcomes across our 4 teams. The players were energised by hosting Saints Rugby Football Club Singapore at Main Pitch on 26th November. HKFC were Runners Up, going down to Sandy Bay, following good wins against Valley Fort, USRC, and the visitors. The final was a hard fought match with players showing great character. It came down to 2 missed tackles leading to tries. We will focus our training on closing that gap. The SAINTS touring group were a classy bunch. They played good footy and always in the right spirit. We look forward to a rematch in Singapore in 2024!

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2023 WMH ASIAN CONTINENTAL CUP HONG KONG

November was a gathering of the masters a group, bringing together 5 countries, 7 women's teams and 14 men's teams and 8 Men SOM teams in the O35, O40, O50, O60, O65, and even O70 categories. From 20th to 26th November, 2023, fans and players witnessed a spectacle of skill, camaraderie, and intense competition at the **2023 World Hockey Masters Asian Continental Cup** held in Hong Kong throughout the week.

This event brought together seasoned players from across the globe, creating a captivating narrative of passion and prowess on the Smurf turf.

Congratulations to all 16 Club's female players who were selected for the WMH 2023 Asian Championship Cup after rounds of trial sessions. **Ang Mok, Anita Ho, Charlotte Webb, Claire Fulton, Claire Watson, Connie Chan, Eleanor Poulton, Emma Struggess, Hannah Wright, Ida Wong, Jo Caldwell, Kathy Mountain, Leigh Cumings, Nicola Bruce, Sam Hill** and

Sophie Lindsay are among those who have participated.

35W SoM All the way to the top!

The Hong Kong 35W SoM team led all week, from winning the Alliance team at the start of the competition to bringing home the Gold medal after a week, winning the Alliance SoM team again by 5-0 in the final!

Women HKO40 defeated Korea, Singapore, China and finished the first runner up in the final, where they faced the Singapore team, which scored a goal in the third quarter to win the title 1-0.

Hong Kong won gold medals in the Men O50 and Women O35 SoM events, as well as the first place in the Women O40/O50 and Men O40.

Not to mention the enjoyment! The World Master Hockey - Asian Continental Cup dinner event was held in the club's training triangle, bringing all teams to a wonderful night of mingling over bbq and wine.

With international travel back in full force, the Hong Kong circuit in the World Hockey Masters was a rollercoaster of emotions, skill, and sportsmanship. From dazzling goals to spectacular saves, strategic brilliance to heartwarming camaraderie, the tournament encapsulated the essence of hockey on a global stage. Memories created during this weeks are as a testament to the sport, inspiring all.

[#morethanagame](#)



SPOOKTACULAR SUCCESS AT HKFC HALLOWEEN HOCKEY FUN DAY



The eagerly awaited HKFC Halloween Hockey Fun Day, organised by the HKFC Junior Hockey Section, took place on 28th October, 2023. This exciting event promised a thrilling blend of hockey and Halloween festivities for our young athletes.

The HKFC Halloween Hockey Fun Day was a unique opportunity for our junior players to showcase their skills on the field while embracing the spirit of Halloween. Participants were encouraged to come dressed in their most creative and spooky costumes, adding an extra layer of fun and excitement to the event. From ghostly ghouls to wicked witches, the sight of our young players in their Halloween attire surely brought smiles and laughter to all.

The day kicked off with the thrilling warm-up game “British Bulldog”, followed by focused training sessions in small groups with stick and ball. The day culminated in friendly matches among the groups, fostering teamwork, friendly competition, and a love for the sport. Our enthusiastic young athletes had the chance to demonstrate their hockey prowess while enjoying the thrill of the game. Coaches and parents were there to cheer them on, creating an atmosphere of encouragement and support, providing young athletes with a memorable and enjoyable experience.

The HKFC Halloween Hockey Fun Day not only promoted physical activity and

skill development but also brought our young players together in a spirit of camaraderie and fun. Its success stands as a testament to the dedication and passion of the HKFC Junior Hockey Section. We extend our gratitude to the coaches, parents, and volunteers who devoted their time and effort to make this event possible. The event highlighted the commitment and passion of the HKFC Junior Hockey Section in providing a fun and engaging experience for the participants.

As we reflect on this spooktacular success, we eagerly anticipate future events that will continue to inspire and empower our young athletes!

Men's A Team

FRONT Tony Cheung, Kenneth Yiu, James Po, Terry Kung, Charles So, Adrian Yau
BACK Kenneth Fung, David Chiu, Ken Fong, Heron Lau, Stephen Sy, Kevin Fung



Men's B Team

FRONT S. K Ng, C. L Fung, Dicky Mak, Esmond Lee, Patrick Choi, Stephen Chan
BACK Warren Cheung, Edmond Chan, Edmund Yiu, Frankie Siu, Terence Lee, Danny Ho



Men's D Team

FRONT Ian Yau, Dexter Chan, Wagner Chan, Gerry Yim, Anson Wong
BACK Marshall To, H. B Chan, Stanley Luk, Howard Lok, Roxy Ho, Philip Chan, Matthew Lee, C. S Suen



Men's E Team

FRONT Cyril Leung, Grandy Lui, Johnny Tsang, Edmund Leung, Clement Mak, Kelvin Siu
BACK Neil Roberts, Philip Sze, C. M Chan, K. H Wong, Francis Chau, Thomas Tam, Anthony Yip, Chan Shu Wing



Men's F Team

FRONT Harold Low, Vitas Wu, Keon Chung, Sunny Chung
BACK Cheng Koon Wing, James Cheuk Kenneth Pang, Eddie Loke, Henry Cheung, Bernard Young, Barry Ho, K K Law

HKFC EXCELS IN PREMIER LEAGUE 2023

The 2023 Premier League season has been one of the most successful in the history of lawn bowls at Hong Kong Football Club. Five teams finished the season as Champions, including both the Men's and Women's A Teams finishing as Champions of Division 1, and two teams secured Runners up places. One particularly pleasing consequence of these results is that the Club will have both its Men's and Women's A and B Teams playing in Division 1 in the 2024 Premier League. All in all, this is an outstanding achievement by the Club's bowlers.

MEN'S CHAMPION SKIPS

During the season many of the Club's skips motivated and led their rinks with skill and performed strongly. However, six of the Club's skips with the support of their rinks finished the season with the accolade of being the Champion Skip.

LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, CHINA PREMIER LEAGUES 2023

HKFC MEN'S TEAMS

HKFC A	Division 1	Champions	Heron Lau, Side Captain
HKFC B	Division 2	Champions	Esmond Lee, Side Captain
HKFC C	Division 2	7th	Wilson Kwong, Side Captain
HKFC D	Division 5	Champions	Philip Chan, Side Captain
HKFC E	Division 6	Champions	Francis Chau, Side Captain
HKFC F	Division 7	Runners up	Eddie Loke, Side Captain
HKFC G	Division 10	4th	Louis Ko, Side Captain

HKFC WOMEN'S TEAMS

HKFC A	Division 1	Champions	Camilla Leung, Side Captain
HKFC B	Division 2	Runners up	Priscilla Lam, Side Captain
HKFC C	Division 3	4th	Jacqueline Liu, Side Captain
HKFC D	Division 6	5th	Joanne Chan, Side Captain

MEN'S CHAMPION SKIPS

HKFC A	Division 1	Heron Lau
HKFC B	Division 2	Warren Cheung
HKFC C	Division 5	Philip Chan
HKFC D	Division 6	Thomas Tham
HKFC E	Division 7	Bernard Young

WOMEN'S CHAMPION SKIPS

HKFC A	Division 1	Emmie Wong
--------	------------	-------------------



Women's A Team

FRONT Emmie Wong, Honor Siu, Yunse Ha, Camilla Leung, Rita Shek
BACK Cherry Tsoi, Shirley Ma, Phyllis Wong, Phoebe Ho, Christina Yeung, Eva Yu, Celina Leung, Josephine Lam, Connie Chung



Women's B Team

FRONT Irene Chan, Peggy Fai, Calinna Chan, Priscilla Lam
BACK Shadow Law, Yumi Wong, Dasiy Mcnie, Winnie Au, Connie Chan, Anna To, Grace Chu, Celina Leung (Lita Lee, Irene Muk, Honor Siu, Connie Chung, Fonda Law, Stephanie Li, Karen Li)

BEST TEAMS



Best team in Men's Division 1

Kenneth Yiu, David Chiu, Heron Lau (SKIP), Stephen Sy



Best team in Men's Division 2

C L Fung, Warren Cheung (SKIP), Edmond Chan, Frankie Siu



Best team in Women's Division 1

Christina Yeung, Emmie Wong (SKIP), Phyllis Wong, Shirley Ma



Best team in Men's Division 5

Matthew Lee, Leo Yau, Howard Lok, Philip Chan (SKIP), Anson Wong, Gerry Yim



Best team in Men's Division 6

Kenneth Pang, Eddie Loke, Bernard Young (SKIP), Barry Ho



Best team in Men's Division 7

Francis Chau, Clement Mak, Anthony Yip, Thomas Tam (SKIP)



CLUB SINGLES CHAMPION 2023

After a day of knockout rounds, the final was played by **Philip Chan** against **Longinus Ha** in Men's group and **Phyllis Wong** against **Christina Yeung** in Women's group. In the end, **Philip Chan** and **Phyllis Wong** won this year's men's and women's club singles championship. They both will represent the club joining this year's Champion of Champions competition.

In the bustling city of Hong Kong, amidst the high-spirited sports community, one event stands out like a peacock in a flock of pigeons - the Annual Wing Dings Charity Squash Tournament. Held at the prestigious Hong Kong Football Club, this unique event brings together 14 teams from the Hong Kong squash community in a riotous display of fancy dress, color-coded chaos, and a fast-paced time limit style of squash, with this year being the incredible 25th anniversary of the event.



THE HILARIOUS HIJINKS OF THE ANNUAL WING DING CHARITY SQUASH TOURNAMENT





The Annual Wing Dings Charity Squash Tournament took place on Saturday, 18th November amid much hype and fanfare, with the aim of breaking previous donation records for Operation Santa Claus (OSC) – a charity jointly run by the South China Morning Post (SCMP) and Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK).

OSC has aimed to make a difference to the community and beyond since 1988, by combining the fundraising power of two of the most respected news organisations in the city. In doing so, they bring Christmas cheer to those less fortunate, from children to the elderly and across various sectors of the community who are in need of support.

Brace yourselves for a tale of laughter, athleticism, and sheer silliness as we dive into the unforgettable world of Wing Dings!

When it comes to dressing up, the Wing Dings participants surely know how to make an entrance. Picture this: teams decked out in vibrant hues, each representing a specific colour assigned beforehand. From a gang of purple Pokémon to a squad of orange convicts, a baking tray of gingerbread men to a crew of Top Gun pilots, from a dojo of karate black-belts to a court of silver and gold court jesters, the creativity

knows no bounds. And let's not forget the groups dressed as little Wednesday Adams or the Red Hot Chilli Peppers. The sight of these characters darting around the squash court was enough to make even the most serious players crack a smile.

In the world of Wing Dings, time is of the essence. The organisers introduced a unique twist to the traditional squash game by imposing a time limit. Each match is a fast-paced, action-packed affair, where players have to make lightning-quick decisions and show off their squash skills within a set timeframe before dashing off to another court where the fun starts all over again. Amidst the chaotic rallies,

there's no room for dilly-dallying or pondering strategic moves. It's all about hitting the ball, dodging costumes (or people dressed as pints of beer), and keeping the laughter in check while maintaining a competitive edge. Oh, and keeping your heart rate below its max, if you can!

As the games progress, the squash courts transform into a playground of silliness and hilarious mishaps. Picture a player dressed as Ken (from Barbie fame), attempting a gravity-defying dive to save a shot, only to find themselves rolling around like he's fallen off his skates. Or imagine the turquoise team, with their surgeon's scrubs sometimes going from doctors to patients,



SPORTS

occasionally finding themselves tangled in a web of hair nets. It's a spectacle that combines athleticism with slapstick comedy, leaving the spectators in stitches and the players gasping for breath – or grabbing at the bits of their cardboard airplanes.

The event concluded with the announcement of the victors, "Time for Team HKFC L's+G" (aka Gingerbread men), and the winners of the silent auction and lucky draws, where generous donors had put up great prizes like junk boat trips, photography classes and signed prints, along with a whole host of drinks and dining prizes and vouchers, sporting equipment and experiences.

Beyond the laughter and fun, the Wing Dings tournament holds a deeper purpose - charity. Every year, the event raises funds for Operation Santa Claus. Beneath the wacky costumes and frantic squash matches, the participants and spectators come together to make a difference in the community. It's a heartwarming reminder that even amidst the zany antics, sweat and red faces, there's a serious commitment to giving back.

While the teams were celebrating their feats of athletic endurance and skill, there was occasion to raise another toast – exceeding the goal of funds raised last year, with a total of four hundred and forty five thousand HK dollars. A fantastic achievement and one which the OSC beneficiaries will be very appreciative as we get into the festive season.

The Annual Wing Dings Charity Squash Tournament at the Hong Kong Football Club is truly a one-of-a-kind extravaganza. From the kaleidoscope of costumes to the whirlwind squash matches, this event showcases the perfect blend of athleticism and humour. It's a testament to the power of sports in bringing people together, spreading



joy, and making a positive impact on society. So, if you ever find yourself in Hong Kong during the Wing Dings, be sure to grab a front-row seat and prepare for a laughter-filled experience you won't soon forget!

All the teams and OSC would like to thank the organisers, **David Murray** and **Steve Gollop**, as well as all their generous volunteers in putting together another fantastic tournament. Others who put extra effort into the day were the 14 team convenors, **Carmen Lee** in sorting out the Juniors and **Phil Head** for effort in many directions. There were some sore and stiff bodies the following day! For this year's edition, 25th anniversary squash shirts were produced with some 180+ sold, each providing donation to OSC. Thanks to our kit sponsors Phentex for their help and generosity. Finally, special thanks must be given to HKFC for its amazingly generous hospitality, and all our corporate sponsors who bought naming rights to teams and really lifted the total raised:

St James's Place Foundation
Time for Tea
Pelican Financial
Hill Dickinson
Burke and Co
Help Bnk

We would love to see each team with a sponsor next year!

Brad Scheepers



MATCH REPORT

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB VS. ROYAL BANGKOK SPORTS CLUB



In an exciting sporting event, the Hong Kong Football Club (HKFC) played host to the Royal Bangkok Sports Club (RBSC) in a thrilling squash match. The visiting team from Thailand brought along 16 players of different skill levels, along with their friends and family who came to support them.

The atmosphere at the squash courts was electric as both teams displayed incredible skill and determination throughout the matches. Each game was closely contested, with players from both sides showcasing their prowess on the court. Spectators were treated to nail-biting rallies, impressive shots, and strategic gameplay.

Despite the fierce competition, it was HKFC that emerged victorious, clinching the overall victory with a final score of 10-6. The hard-fought win was a testament to the dedication and teamwork displayed by the

HKFC players. They showcased their resilience and skill, ultimately prevailing against RBSC.

Following the conclusion of the matches, all players and spectators gathered at the Family Lounge to celebrate the exciting competition. The atmosphere was filled with joy and camaraderie as everyone enjoyed a sumptuous buffet and drinks. It was a time for the players to relax and bond with their friends, both old and new.

As a symbol of the enduring friendship between the two clubs, RBSC Captain Win presented HKFC with their club plaque. Adrian, the tour captain of HKFC, graciously accepted the plaque on behalf of the team. This exchange of tokens further solidified the bond between the two clubs, ensuring that their friendship will endure beyond this memorable sporting event.

Additionally, RBSC also brought a special gift for HKFC as a gesture of goodwill.

Each player from HKFC was gifted with a personalised water bottle featuring RBSC's unique design. This thoughtful souvenir served as a reminder of the memorable encounter between the two clubs and further strengthened the bond of friendship.

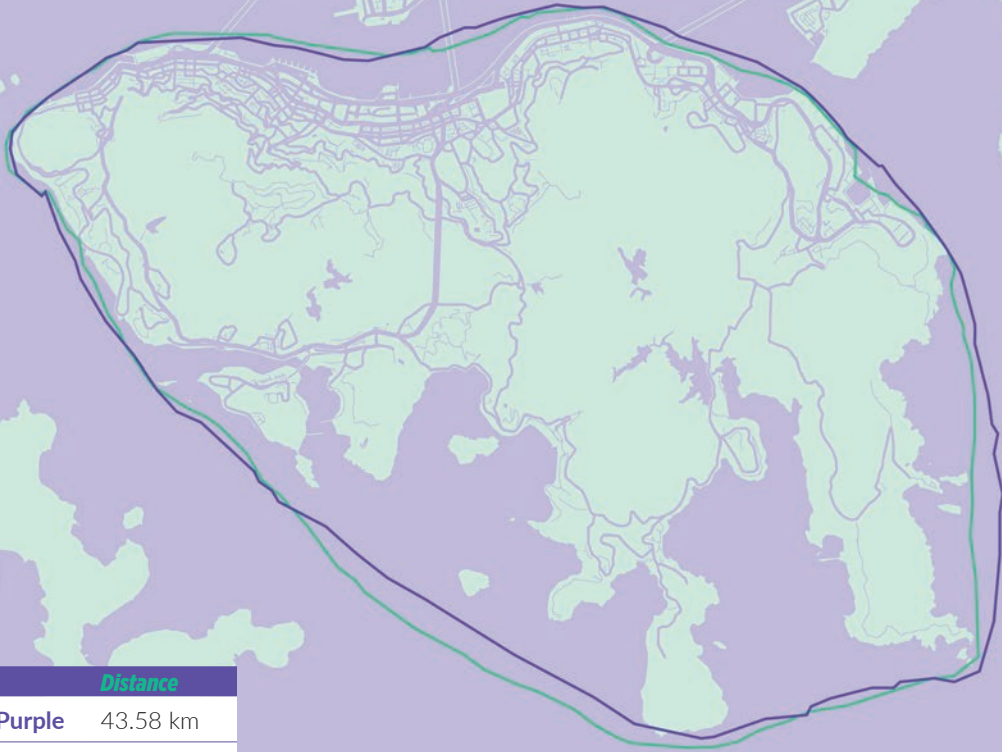
The match between HKFC and RBSC was not only a display of skill and athleticism but also an opportunity for players from different countries to come together and celebrate their shared love for the sport. Both teams showcased great sportsmanship and mutual respect throughout the event, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

As the night drew to a close, the players and spectators left with cherished memories of an exhilarating match and newfound friendships. The squash match between HKFC and RBSC will be remembered as a testament to the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie that unites athletes from different parts of the world.



HKFC SWIMS AROUND HONG KONG ISLAND WITH A DEEP PASSION!





Position	Team	Distance
3rd	— Purple	43.58 km
6th	— Green	43.90 km

On 4th November, five teams of passionate swimmers, including Hong Kong Football Club's very own members: **Farah Master**, **Vasco van der Flier**, and **Shane Davis**, came together to complete the inaugural 'Make Waves for Hong Kong', a 45km multi-relay swim around Hong Kong Island. The swim relay successfully raised over HK\$3 million for Splash Foundation, a charity dedicated to addressing chronic swim illiteracy in the city by providing free learn-to-swim programs to underprivileged individuals, including low-income families, children with special educational needs, and domestic workers.

The first relay swimmers, from each team, which were labeled by colours: Blue, Red, Green, Purple and Orange, started at 3:15am in the dark from Sandy Bay near Cyberport. **Davis** started the relay off for Team Green, plunging into the dark waters, to be relieved 30 minutes later by the next relay swimmer stepping in outside Kennedy Town, and then progressing clockwise through Victoria Harbour as the sun came up, to Chai Wan, Shek O, around Cape D'Aguilar and on to Stanley, Ap Lei Chau, and finishing around 10 to 11 hours later at Sandy Bay.

The swim event followed Marathon



Swimming Federation rules, the swimmers wore one standard issue swim costume and a pair of goggles, and they were not permitted to touch any of the support vessels around them or receive assistance in any way.

Despite some challenging conditions, the inaugural swim event proceeded smoothly. Swimmers navigated Victoria Harbour in the dark, reaching Chai Wan at sunrise. The stretch from Big Wave Bay to Cape D'Aguilar was the most picturesque, but also the choppiest section of the journey. Swimmers ventured through the Lamma Channel to complete the 45km circumnavigation.

The first team to reach the finish line was Team Purple, which included both Farah and Vasco, in 10 hours 14 minutes

and 55 seconds. Shortly thereafter, the other four teams finished the swim. The swimmers were greeted by celebration and enthusiastic supporters and beneficiaries of Splash Foundation.

“For me, swimming has been such an imperative part of my life and so I find it staggering that 47% of Hong Kongers don’t know how to swim and don’t have the opportunity to learn. I’m incredibly proud of all the teams who took part in Make Waves to raise funds to enable so many people to learn to swim.”

Vasco van der Flier

SPORTS

SWIMMING THE GRUELLING PENG CHAU CHALLENGE!



The Football Club was well represented at the Annual Peng Chau Challenge, which took place on 5th November, the third race in the Open Water Swim Series. This put the club in good position to take out top club in 2023. The tough event has 3 distances of 1.7km, 3.4km and a full circumnavigation of Peng Chau which totals 5.5km. We had swimmers take part in all distances with two course records and many other fantastic results.

Braedon Sharp and **Nicolas Gontard** took on the gruelling 5.5km race both winning their respective age groups. Braedon broke the record for the 40-49yr age grouping and claimed the overall crown for the second year running.

We had 3 swimmers in the 3.4km race with **Shane Davis** improving on his 2nd place result last year, to claim the overall title and smash the course record by 9 minutes. **Jo Hull** raced hard to claim the title for the 40-49 age group and 4th overall female, and new recruit **Emily**

Hull took out the 20-29 age group and claimed 2nd placed female.

The 1.7km had a large pool of swimmers with 120 in the event, **Megan Richardson** came in 6th in her age group.

The Football Clubs diverse results illustrate the strength and depth we have in the section as we aim to grow further in 2024.



RESULTS FROM 5.5KM

Name	Category	Category Position	Time	Overall Position
Braedon Sharp	Mens 40-49	1	1:19:13	1
Nicolas Gontard	Mens 50-59	1	1:32:05	5

RESULTS FROM 3.4KM

Name	Category	Category Position	Time	Overall Position
Shane Davis	Mens 30-39	1	49:38	1
Emily Hull	Womens 20-29	1	1:07:04	2
Jo Hull	Womens 40-49	1	1:08:43	4

RESULTS FROM 1.7KM

Name	Category	Category Position	Time	Overall Position
Megan Richardson	Womens 30-39	6	38:29	14



HKFC JOINS ASIA TRIATHLON CUP 2023

With the amazing backdrop of Hong Kong Skyline and opportunity to swim in the Victoria Harbour, S&T society member **Mayank Vaid** participated in the Sprint Distance triathlon on 19th November. A sprint distance triathlon involves a 750m swim, 25k bike and 5k run. Big thanks to Triathlon Hong Kong for organising this event with such an iconic setting. After a quick swim in the harbour and a bike ride with a lot of sharp turns, Vaid sprinted to finished second on the podium in his AG.



HKFC AT 11TH GAY GAMES OPEN WATER SWIM COMPETITION

In November, Hong Kong hosted the 11th Gay Games, and **Braedon Sharp** enthusiastically took part in the 5km open water swim. The event took place at VRC in Deep Water Bay and involved completing two loops, each spanning 2.5km.

Braedon took off from the start with his close friend and rival as it became clear it was going to be a two-man race. Throughout the first loop, they remained in close proximity, taking turns leading the way. However, at the 3km mark, Braedon managed to create some distance and maintained it until the end, ultimately securing the victory with an impressive time of 1:11:41.

Top work Braedon!



HOT & FAST AT LAGUNA PHUKET!

All eyes were on the Hong Kong Football club at the Phuket Laguna triathlon on 19th November.

Fred Clatworthy, Lennard de Haan and **Farah Master** won the overall mixed relay and placed second overall just behind the Thai national team. The effort was largely due to Fred's incredible bike leg which beat all the pro cyclists!

Deb Hanley showed off her power and strength as she placed third in her age group while **Vasco van der Flier** had a super race, tearing up the course from the two swim leg component to the hot and steamy golf course run.

Jessica McCarroll who had not biked for a year made a solid effort as she powered through the beastly course with temperatures hitting 35 degrees Celsius.

Congratulations team!

Slurp your way in with this noodle heaven selection from the east

Available throughout the month of January

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HKFC CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023

The HKFC Club Championship took place on 11th, 12th, 18th and 19th November 2023. This year, a large number of club members participated in the competition with the hope of having their names engraved on the wooden board. The matches were intense and thrilling, and the spectators enjoyed a wonderful weekend in November with perfect weather. We are grateful to **Franki** for their continuous support of the tennis society events and for capturing the memorable moments on the tennis court. We would also like to express our gratitude to Australasia Tennis Aces, particularly **Nathan** and **Toby**, for organizing this event. Here are some incredible moments that were captured!!

	<i>Winner</i>
Open Men's Singles	Andrew Town
Open Ladies' Singles	Julie Tringa
Open Men's Doubles	Alistair Todd & Toby Clark
Open Ladies' Doubles	Karen Hui & Rachel Hui
Open Mixed Doubles	Jeffery Wong & Karen Hui
Open Junior Singles Final	Jack Cooper & Issac Chan
Open Junior Doubles Final	Jack Cooper
Closed Men's Singles	Daniel Freihofer
Closed Men's Doubles	Phillip Dowding & Mark Hulbert
Closed Ladies' Singles	Vangie Gonzales
Closed Ladies' Doubles	Isabella Tang & Katy Chandler
Closed Mixed Doubles	Lennard de Haan & Charlotte Cheung
Closed Junior Singles Final	Shiv Mohan



REACH THE ELITE

Hong Kong Football Club Magazine is a monthly publication which is distributed to the Members of the Club, other prestigious clubs in Hong Kong and reciprocal clubs worldwide. The magazine has a circulation of over 3,000 per month and a readership of approximately 6,000 adults and 5,000 children.

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HKFC TENNIS SOCIETY *Gala Dinner 2023*

The HKFC Tennis Society Gala Dinner 2023 was a sensational evening that brought together tennis lovers on 25th November 2023. It was more than just a dinner; the event was filled with exhilarating activities that kept us entertained throughout the night. From a lively photobooth to fun games and a lucky draw, there was never a dull moment.

The highlight of the evening was the prize presentation for the winners of the club championship. It was a moment of recognition and celebration for their outstanding performances. We extend a heartfelt appreciation to our incredible sponsors, Tennis Society, Protiviti, and Australasia Tennis Aces, for their generous contributions in providing the amazing prizes for the lucky draws. Your support added an extra layer of excitement and made the event truly memorable.

A special acknowledgment goes to **Rachel** for her unwavering dedication, hard work, and infectious energy. Her efforts were instrumental in making this event an absolute success. We are grateful for her commitment and couldn't have pulled it off without her.

Cheers to an unforgettable night filled with tennis, laughter, and celebration! Let's continue to come together and make the tennis world even more extraordinary!

GOLF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

FRIDAY, 20TH OCTOBER 2023
FANLING NEW COURSE

The annual Club Championship was held this year on the new course at the Hong Kong Golf Club at Fanling. This is when the best players from the golf society compete to be crowned club champion by scoring the best gross score in their category.

Terry Wright joined the other 27 male players to defend his title as Men's Champion, and **Jennifer Chapman** returned to compete for the Women's title alongside **Amy Cheng, Lily Chan,** and **Marilou Waldie.**

Overall, it was a competitive day, with more than half of the contestants shooting in the 80s or lower. Terry

Wright successfully defended his title and also sank an incredible 60 yard putt on Hole 14! There is video evidence, and I'm sure if you ask kindly he'd be pleased to show and tell you about his longest putt to date!! He was pushed hard by **Phil Head** and **Henry Lai** who played very well and were only three and four shots behind Terry.

Amy Cheng won the women's 2023 club championship. Jennifer comes in second place for the second time in a row, closely followed by Lily Chan.

Overall, another fantastic club champion, and we'll be back next year. Will Terry Wright be able to retain his title and win three straight time? Similarly, after finishing second twice, will Jennifer Chapman win the title they say third time is the charm.



2023 Club Championship Winners - Terry Wright and Amy Cheng



Marco Jorge Henry Lai, Terry Wright, Ted Li



Celebration drinks at the Sportsman's Bar



Phil Head, Robert Stevenson, Jonny Brock, Simon Hague



Shane Burgess, Justin Faulkner, Yong Pooi Soo, Andy Ho

LATE
winter
Tea Set

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Escape the chill and bask yourself in the comfort of our late winter afternoon tea. Throughout the month of January.

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MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP		
<i>GROSS STROKES</i>		
1st	Terry Wright	79 points
2nd	Phil Head	82 points
3rd	Henry Lai	83 points
WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP		
<i>GROSS STROKES</i>		
1st	Amy Cheng	97 points
2nd	Jennifer Chapman	100 points
3rd	Lily Chan	101 points
NEAREST TO THE PIN		
Hole 2	Phil Head	
Hole 4	Simon Hague	
Hole 8	Lily Chan	
Hole 11	Phil Head	
Hole 13	Andy Ho	
Hole 17	Phil Head	
LONGEST DRIVE		
Women's	Lily Chan	
Men's	Shane Burgess	

Chinese
INSPIRED
COCKTAILS

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

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GOLF OUTING

THURSDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER 2023
KSC SOUTH COURSE

We haven't had a full attendance for a social event in a while, as most members were away during the summer months, but all 32 spaces were filled during our September event at KSC South, which was anticipated to have rain but we ended up having a full day of sun! The bus was almost full, with most players opting in for the organised transport to Sai Kung Pier. Mr. **Colin Lunn** arrived four minutes late, nearly causing us to miss the 8:40 am ferry to KSC! But he made up for this by supplying the beverages on the Journey back! Thanks Colin!

We welcomed **Alistair Todd** as a newcomer to the golf social event. Alistair planned to play a round of golf before a crucial tennis match later in the day at the HKFC which I believe he later won!

We also welcomed back **Mike Duggan** as a guest to this social event, who played a decent round up until the 16th hole where he hit a cracking tee shot just missing inches from the green for a par 3, however perhaps Mike pushed a little too much on his follow through as he misses all of hole 17 as he made his way back to the club house.

Robin Zavou had the best round of his life, starting the 9th hole with only making 34 shots for a mid-20 handicap, only to shoot a 7 shots on the 9th, which he blamed on the group behind for being too noisy, which obviously distracted him. I was in Robin's 4 ball and I could say that I didn't even notice the group behind us, that's how noisy they were!

Despite this, he maintained his form and finished the round with a respectable 87 which is his best score to date and an impressive 37 Stableford points. Bravo, Robin! However, as Robin was not there in person to claim his prize by default the prizes gets rolled over to the next person. **Dorothy Lam** came first with an impressive 41 points, **Terry Wright** and **Jonny Brock** came 2nd and 3rd but they decided to forego their prize and award Robin his winnings which we put to good use at the Sportsman's that evening! Thank you for Terry, Jonny and Robin.

Also worth mentioning, **Susan Hall** also wins her first ever prize at our golf events, Susan won Nearest to the Pin not once, but twice on the same day!

Well done to all the winners!

William Chan

STABLEFORD WINNERS

1st	Dorothy Lam	41 points
2nd	Terry Wright	33 points
3rd	Jonny Brock	32 points

NEAREST TO THE PIN

Hole 2	Susan Hall
Hole 5	David Lindsay
Hole 8	Jonny Brock
Hole 11	Susan Hall
Hole 16	Dorothy Lam
Hole 17	Jonny Brock

LONGEST DRIVE HOLE 14

Women's	Peggy Chan
Men's	Anthony Ford

**"GOLF BALLS ARE LIKE EGGS,
THEY ARE WHITE, SOLD BY THE
DOZEN AND A WEEK LATER YOU
HAVE TO BUY MORE!"**



1st Place winner/NTP Dorothy Lam

2nd place winner Terry Wright
and 3rd place Winner/NTP
Jonny sharing their winnings
with Robin



Longest Drive Winner - Anthony Ford



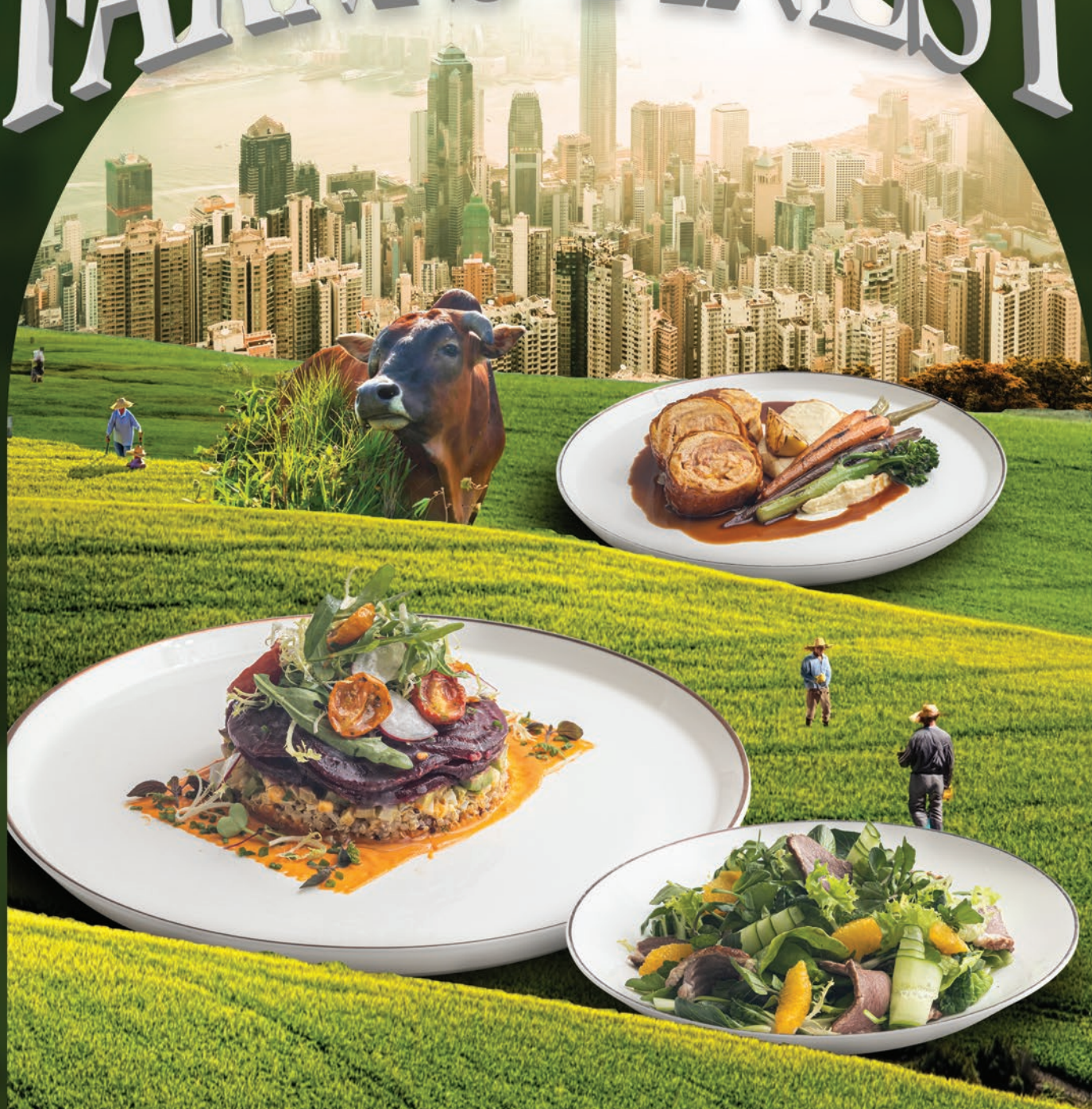
Longest Drive winner - Peggy Chan



NTP prize - Susan Hall

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HKFC BADMINTON SOCIETY



END OF YEAR UPDATE

November was a huge month for the HKFC Badminton Society – a variety of friendlies with local and international clubs, a couple of big wins in the annual Hong Kong President's Cup to re-introduce ourselves to the Hong Kong badminton circuit and full-to-the-brim social sessions. 2023 has been a year of revitalisation for the competitive adults section of the HKFC Badminton Society and we look forward to continuing what has been a great end to the year into 2024.



FRIENDLIES

HUI YIN

On 29th October, our Society Team played a strong local badminton club Yui Yin in a friendly match on our home ground. The opponent was well trained and came with a full squad who regularly compete on the local circuit. The HKFC team was represented by some of our new SPMs (**Shelson, Elliott, Jason, Derek**) as well as some club stalwarts (**Ben, Danny, Nora**). Over a 3 hour session HKFC showed their skill and mettle with a convincing on paper (but often challenging) win over Yui Yin. A particular highlight was a

number of close men's doubles matches with club veterans **Ben, TK** and **Danny** pairing well with SPM members to victory – a great example of the HKFC integration we have at our Badminton Society having two generations of members on the court (and a trend we plan to continue in future friendlies). Following the matches (in a well-established tradition) the HKFC Badminton Society we treated our

valiant (but vanquished) opponents to a great night of drinks and dinner at the Sportsman's Bar.

BROKEN STRINGS

On 11th November, our Society Team played a well-known English club the "Broken Strings" again with home ground advantage for a strong (almost at full strength) HKFC Badminton Society Team. This is one of the first

friendlies we have had with a visiting international club since Covid-19 and we were well represented both on the court and on the side-lines with a number of members cheering on the HKFC representatives and made our visitors feel welcome. We were well represented from the start – with our ladies’ representatives showing their depth (winning all their women’s doubles matches and performing well in mixed as well). The men’s team also performed well – with a particular mention to club veterans (**Ben, Arthur and Danny**) pairing well with SPMs **Jason, Lawrence, Derek and Raymond**. A highlight was a (very) close victory for Sammy (our Society Chairman) who was well-carried by new SPM **Elliott** over strong English opponents in men’s doubles. Following the matches, our entire Society Team and our English friends made proceeded to the Sportsman’s Bar for drinks and snacks in a great way to usher in a Saturday evening.

HONG KONG CHARTED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

On 19th November, our Society Team played the Hong Kong Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) Representative Team in a thrilling friendly competition, also held at HKFC. The CPA team is known in Hong Kong for being one of the strongest teams of professionals, and it was a great test for the representative members of our team prior to some tough upcoming tournaments. Following a fantastic battle, the HKFC team came through with a 7-6 victory. Highlights included SPMs **Derek, Lawrence and Elliott** with convincing victories over their opponents in men’s doubles and singles respectively. All attendees enjoyed watching the “Father and Son” final match with club stalwart **Ryan** and his son **Matthew** pulling through in a competitive match against a skilled father and son combination from the CPA team (with three generations on the court!). Many club members cheered on the HKFC team (with the home advantage and cheering definitely helping get the team across the line!). Following the matches the teams decamped to the Sportsman’s Bar to enjoy some great company and enjoy some fantastic weather to finish the weekend.



On 22nd October, our Men’s Team competed in the first round of the Intermediate Level of the Hong Kong President’s Cup – a highlight of the Hong Kong domestic badminton circuit – the first time since before Covid. This was a great chance for the HKFC men’s team (with a number of new members) to prove their mettle against strong competition. And, prove their mettle they did with a convincing 5-0 victory over worthy opponents. Particular highlights were new SPM Jason showing his calibre as former runner up in the All-China University Badminton Championship with a very strong and skilful performance in men’s singles. All other players (**Bryan, Derek, Elliot, Lawrence, Raymond, Shelson**) also put in excellent performances.

On 26 November, our Men’s Team competed in Tai Po in the next round of the Hong Kong President’s Cup against the number 1 seeded team (and favourites for the title). The team put up a strong fight against well trained opponents however

unfortunately went down in a closely fought 3-0 loss. Following the match the players decamped to a local restaurant in Tai Po to celebrate some strong efforts and a decent first campaign for the men’s team, and to strategise on the upcoming 2024 tournaments.

On the same day, our Mixed Team also competed in the first round at the Intermediate Level of the mixed event of the Hong Kong President’s Cup against another strong local team in Tai Po. In a solid performance by the team on their first competitive mixed outing of the year HKFC progressed to the next round with a 3-1 victory. A particular highlight was a strong men’s doubles performance by new SPMs **Lawrence and Derek** which has given the men’s team renewed confidence for a competitive result in the Hong Kong Double’s League starting early next year. **Nora** and partner also showed great grit to get us across the line 31-30 in a tough women’s doubles match.



HONG KONG SAI KUNG DISTRICT CHAMPION NORA MAN

In another great result for the Badminton Society in November, Nora Man showed a huge amount of perseverance to deliver the women’s doubles title in the 19-34 category of the Sai Kung District Championships. In a competitive field of players we were very proud of this result from Nora and look forward to our wider team bringing more trophies back to the club in the district competitions to be held throughout 2024.

TEAM COACH REPORT

Team coaches are keeping busy over the Christmas and New Year festive season after finishing off our team series and President Cup with exciting events full of activities to maintain the development programs for a very busy new year. Coach **Fredi** will be traveling with the HKFC juniors to Dongguan, China from 29th to 31st December 2023 for a training camp and tournament. Coach **Dawn** will be coordinating the training programs for U8 players to progress in the HKBA and HKFC junior development pathway. Both coaches will also start preparing players in the upcoming HKFC Doubles/ Mixed League in January 2024. I myself, will continue to keep a close eye on our elite JAMs and their competition calendars to ensure they will receive the necessary coaching support.

John Leung

UPCOMING JUNIOR EVENTS

January - May 2024
HKBA Doubles and Mixed League

Jan 2024
Ongoing HKFC Junior Badminton Ladder Series

May 2024
HKFC and Torq Sports Junior Tournament 2024

Summer 2024
HKFC and Torq Sports Overseas Junior Invitational Team Tournament

JUNIOR ASSOCIATED MEMBERS REPORT



HAPPY LO

November 2023 was especially harsh on Happy Lo with 3 tournaments lined up back to back. After about two weeks of rest, Happy will again participate in the Odisha Masters in December and hopefully she can acquire more points towards her Paris Olympics qualification!



SALONI MEHTA

Congratulations to Saloni Mehta, our first runner-up in the Hong Kong Annual Badminton Championship 2023. This is the annual national tournament and Saloni tried her best but her opponent seemed to have a better day than her this year. Wish her more success in the upcoming tournaments!!

JUNIOR TEAM TOURNAMENT REPORTS



HKFC Men's Team 1
 Left to right: Coach Dawn, Perry, Caron, Kenneth, Andy, Shubh, Michael Chen and Coach Fredi

HKBA PRESIDENT CUP 2023 CONCLUSION

Our men's team-1 the third round of the President Cup 2023 elementary level. The day was proven not to be the best condition for our team because of injury and flu. However, players fought hard and even though the team lost a total of 1:3 games, however, the scores were all really close with the last Doubles games played up to the "sudden death" score of 30:31. These junior players will come back more prepared next year!!

HKFC JUNIOR TEAM SERIES 2024 CONCLUSION

Our teams have concluded their journey in the HKFC Junior Badminton Team Series 2023 by winning the first runner-up in the 2009 & under and second runner-up in the 2006 & under age groups respectively. The final on 1st December 2023 was the most exciting of all and unfortunately, our players lost a close 2:3 overall games to become the silver medallists.



Silver medallists of the HKFC 2009 age group
 Left to right: Coach Dawn, Parkus, Curtis, Michael Chen, Shubh Malik, Bosco, Ellen, Lauren and Hebe



SOCIAL GATHERING OF JUNIOR SQUAD

The success of the badminton junior squad will not be possible without the support from players and parents. Hence, a buffet gathering became the perfect occasion to celebrate in HKFC Coffee Shop to celebrate and for team-building. Close to 60 players and their parents come to an evening filled with laughter and good food and everyone enjoyed it so much that the parents have already started planning for the next gathering! Thank you all for the support!

Sportsman's Bar

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KEBAB KEBAB

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HIGHLIGHTS IN JANUARY

COFFEE SHOP



Nomadic Flavours

Inspired by the vast open landscapes, explore the rich culinary heritage of the nomads.

Buffet lunch and dinner available throughout the months of January and February on every Friday and Saturday evening!

Buffet Upsell Dishes: Nomad's Favourites
Beverage: Mengniu Milk with Cream Soda & Berries Mix



Asia's Best Soup Noodles

Slurp your way in with this noodle heaven selection from the east.

FAMILY LOUNGE



King's Cake

Have a slice for "mardi gras" and satisfy your sweet craving.

Beverage: Vitasoy Takeover

RESTAURANT



Wonder Lamb

Lamblicious temptations, culinary wonders await...

CHAIRMAN'S BAR



Hong Kong Farm's Finest

A taste of Hong Kong "terroir". Immerse yourself in these sustainable locally grown ingredients.



Late Winter Afternoon Tea Set

Escape the chill and bask yourself in the comfort of our late winter afternoon tea.



Chinese Inspired Cocktails

Raise your glass to the land of the dragon and discover the harmonious blend of Chinese spirits.

SPORTSMAN'S BAR



Turkish Doner Kebab

Beer and kebab? Why not!

Listen to your heart! It says, kebab kebab kebab



Seafood and Meat Stew

Stew-rrific!! Step right up and enjoy!

Beer: Wusu Beer

Entertainment: Gacha Machine

Unlock the thrill and try your luck! Many prizes to win!

Dinner only throughout the month of January at the Sportsman's Bar.

CAPTAIN'S BAR



Winter Stew

Warm up with hearty winter stew.

KIOSK



Chinese New Year Hot Items

Chinese New Year Gift Boxes available throughout the month of January.

WINE EVENTS



Thursday, 11th January 2024

Scotch Cask Whisky Investment Masterclass

TIME 7pm – 8:30pm
VENUE Happy Valley Suite 1, 2/F
PRICE \$258 per person
 \$50 refund for any wine purchased right after the class



Friday, 26th January 2024

Iberian Wine Dinner

SPEAKER Ms. Janice Tung, Brand Ambassador
TIME 7:30pm Welcome Drink, followed by Dinner
VENUE Restaurant, 2/F
PRICE \$838 per member
 \$888 per member's guest

Enquiries and Bookings: 2830 9532 or restaurant@hkfc.com



Saturday, 27th January 2024

Sunday, 28th January 2024

Chinese New Year Bazaar

TIME 1:30pm – 6pm daily
VENUE Lockhart Room, 2/F
 Tasting available

PREVIEW IN FEBRUARY

FESTIVE PROGRAMME

Welcome to the Year of the Dragon

God of Treasure will appear on the first opening date of the Club, 11th February 2024.

The Annual Lion Dance Performance is back and will be held on Sunday, 18th February 2024 together with the Sunday Brunch at the Happy Valley Suites.

WINE EVENTS

Friday, 23rd February 2024

The Pinot Family Wine Dinner

COFFEE SHOP

Festive Promotion: Chinese New Year Buffet
Monthly Special: Chinese New Year's Dinner
Buffet Theme: Nomadic Flavours
Buffet Upsell Platter: Nomad's Favourites
Beverage: Mengniu Milk with Cream Soda & Berries Mix

POOL BAR

New a la carte menu
Beverage: Mengniu Milk with Cream Soda & Berries Mix

RESTAURANT

Late Winter Braise
Festive Promotion: Valentine's Day Set Menu

SPORTSMAN'S BAR

Outdoor Station: Hog Roast
Weekly Special: Mussel and Fries
Beer: Wusu Beer
Special Sports Broadcast: Super Bowl Breakfast

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Wellington Dishes
Tea Set: Cupid's Tea Time
Cocktail: Chinese Inspired Cocktails

CAPTAIN'S BAR

Pastilla
Beverage: Detox Juice by Calvin

FAMILY LOUNGE

French Beignet
Beverage: Tea Bag Selection

KIOSK

Wine Fair: Discover the Wine from Asia
Hot Items: Chinese New Year's Dinner Takeaway & Giftbox

RESTAURANT

TEL 2830 9562
 EMAIL restaurant@hkfc.com



TEL 2830 9569
 EMAIL coffeeshop@hkfc.com



TEL 2830 9531
 EMAIL sportsmans@hkfc.com



CHAIRMAN'S BAR

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 EMAIL bar@hkfc.com



TEL 2837 2622
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CHINESE NEW YEAR GIFTBOX SPECIALS

AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JANUARY

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 1 | 甄沾記椰汁糕禮盒
Yan's Elegant Coconut
Pudding Giftbox | \$195 |
| 2 | 甄沾記椰露糕
Yan's Coconut Dew Pudding | \$98 |
| 3 | 甄沾記椰汁糕
Yan's Coconut Pudding | \$98 |
| 4 | 甄沾記海鹽軟糖
Yan's Coconut Sea Salt
Creamy Candy | \$38 |
| 5 | 甄沾記椰子薑糖
Yan's Coconut Ginger Candy | \$38 |
| 6 | 甄沾記椰汁蛋卷
Yan's Coconut Eggroll | \$85 |
| 7 | 甄沾記脆脆椰
Yan's Crispy Coconut Chips | \$35 |
| 8 | Golden Boria Nougat
Giftbox | \$128 |



Lamblicious temptations, culinary wonders awaits...

Throughout the month of January at the Restaurant.

WONDER *Lamb*

RESTAURANT

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