



Chairman's Report

Annual General Meeting 2019

2018-2019 was a busy and productive year for the Association on numerous fronts. Thanks to our committed team and strong member base, the Association continues to strengthen and consolidate its position as the industry.

Here are some of the highlights from the past year.

I. HKBA Board

The 2-yearly board elections conducted by the HKBA according to its Articles of Association, resulted in the election of myself as Chairman and Philip Li as President. The following directors were elected as Board members:

- Au Hok Leung, Vice-chairman (Elite & Women's Development)
- Leung Tak Kwong, Vice-chairman (Promotion)
- Ng Kwong Yuen, Vice-chairman (Games)
- Dave Ho, Secretary General
- Lam Ho Yi, Treasurer
- Lui Chun Pong, Financial Controller
- Au Wing Leung, Director (Coach Development)
- Chan Sze Leung, Director (Venue & Facility)
- Chan Tsz Yeung, Director (Men's Elite Training)
- Cheung On Kiu, Director (Open League)
- Leung Ka Ho Sam, Director (Schools Promotion)
- Pun Wo Sau, Director (Youth's Elite Training)
- Wong Ki, Director (Umpire-in-Chief)

II. HKBA Honorary Advisory Board

I thank Mr. Lester Lam, Dr. Adam Lee, Mr. Thomas Lee and Dr. Wong Ying Ho, Kennedy, BBS, DCL, JP to join our Honorary Advisory Board as Honorary President, appreciate their support to the Association.

III. Performance of Hong Kong Teams

As at 17 December 2018, the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) announced the baseball world rankings; Hong Kong Men's Team ranked 6th in Asia, 28th in the World while Hong Kong Women's Team ranked 4th in Asia, 10th in the World.

Sources: <https://rankings.wbsc.org/>

Hong Kong Men's Team achieved the second runner-up in the XII BFA East Asia Baseball Cup which was hosted by the Association in June 2018. Our team has also qualified for the 29th Asian Baseball Championship that to be held on 14-20 October 2019 in Taichung striving for one of the two positions in the Final Qualification to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. Hong Kong Women's Team finished the tenth place in the WBSC Women's



Baseball World Cup in August 2018. The key performance target of Women's Team this year is the Qualifier to the 2020 WBSC Women's Baseball World Cup - II BFA Women's Baseball Asian Cup which will take place at Zhongshan on 9-15 November 2019.

The Association selected players in our elite training programmes with U19 men, U15 boys and U15 girls to represent Hong Kong participated in the 2nd National Youth Games (2nd NYG) preliminary round and final round in the month of April, May and July 2019. Three teams attained encouraging results in the finals.

- ✧ U19 Men's Team, 7th out of 8 teams
- ✧ U15 Boys' Team, 4th out of 7 teams
- ✧ U15 Girls' Team, 4th out of 7 teams

The above major events were funded by the Arts and Sport Development Fund.

In 2018, Team U12, Team U18 and Women's Team did not meet the target in the major baseball events. The Board has reviewed with the coaching staff about the training effectiveness and participation performance. One of the weaknesses is lack of experience in formal game. Due to the limited supply of venue for baseball activities locally, our Games Committee has to limit the game duration and the number of games in the season. The Board is seeking possible alternatives to provide better environment for our Hong Kong Team players to train as excellence.

The Association also recommended our affiliated clubs or club teams to participate in international invitational events for the players and coaches to gain experience in games and strengthen their skills.

IV. Major Local International Events and Local International Events

Major Local International Event

The Association hosted XII BFA East Asia Baseball Cup in June 2018 with the funding support from the Arts and Sport Development Fund, Home Affairs Bureau, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, title-sponsored by the Centum Charitas Foundation (百仁基金) and the following sponsors:

HKBA Sponsors:

- ✧ Fulum Group 富臨集團
- ✧ Gatorade
- ✧ MEKO
- ✧ Million Group 萬通集團
- ✧ Oakley
- ✧ ASPPA 亞洲運動心理專業聯會

BFA Ancillary Sponsors:

- ✧ Pro Star Sports 布瑞特
- ✧ SSK
- ✧ Nagase (Kenko)
- ✧ TransGlobe Life 全球人壽
- ✧ Highwealth Construction 興富發建設

Five national teams played in the event, including Hong Kong Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Hong Kong finished 3rd place.



Local International Events

With the continuous funding support from the Home Affairs Bureau and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Association organised two annually local international events in the reporting year.

Hong Kong International Baseball Open (HKIBO) was held in December 2018, title-sponsored by LAI SUN GROUP and sanctioned by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC). Same as last year, the tournament was designed with National Team Pool and Club Team Pool. The result would generate WBSC baseball world ranking points to each participating teams in the in National Team Pool. Hong Kong won over Team Russia and Team Singapore. In the Club Team Pool, Hong Kong Blue Team (our development team) won the championship.

“Phoenix Cup 2019” WBSC Hong Kong International Women’s Baseball Tournament finished in February 2019. There were a total of 9 teams to play for the championship, including teams from China (3 teams), Guam (2 teams), Japan (2 teams), Singapore and Hong Kong. Hong Kong Allies ranked 5th out of 9 teams.

V. Local Leagues

In view of the sport development, in addition to the competition for amateur participants and schools; the Association organised competition for youth in the reporting year. We look forward to keep running the league for youth.

Competitions funded by LCSD

◇ Hong Kong Baseball Open League

Division	Teams	Games
Men A	6	17
Men B	11	18
Men C	34	64
Women A	6	17
Women B	9	20
Kenko A	6	17
Kenko B	18	38
Novice	16	27
Schools	24	41
Total	130	259

Self-sustain Competitions

◇ Hong Kong Youth League (HKYL)

◇ Coach Pitch League (CPL)

League	Division	Teams	Games
HKYL	U11	9	57
HKYL	U12	5	30
HKYL	U16	6	30
CPL	U10	5	13
Total		25	130

VI. Squad Training Programmes

Squad Training

To improve the physical fitness and skill level, whole year training programmes were organised for men, youth, women, youth and feeder system.



Five-Year Development Programme for Team Sports

The Home Affairs Bureau rolled out the “Five-year Development Programme for Team Sports” (the TS Programme) in January 2018 which covers 8 team sports with team size of 5 or more featuring in the Asian Games or Asian Winter Games, namely baseball (men’s team), basketball, handball, hockey, ice hockey, softball (women’s team), volleyball and water polo. Apart from the training grant support, members of Hong Kong team would receive a monthly allowance of HK\$4,000 if their attendance in the scheduled training is more than 80% of the training hours, but not less than 10 hours, in a week. Currently, there are 28 selected male players train intensively under the TS Programme to prepare for the major events.

School Sports Programmes

Through the School Sports Programme which subvented by LCSD, there were 84 training programmes and one competition with 9 games conducted during the year, over 2,900 students enjoyed the training. HKBA was successfully raising the popularity of baseball to the local primary, secondary schools and special schools.

Programme	Courses	Participants
Sport Demonstration	37	1626
Easy Sport Programme - Baseball Six	16	421
Outreach Coaching Programme (Non-School Team)	15	415
Outreach Coaching Programme (School Team)	16	420
Easy Sports Competition - Baseball Competition	9	71
Total	93	2953

VII. Development Programmes

District Promotion Programmes

The development Programme was structured in three stages with elementary level and intermediate level. In the reporting year, we organised 50 training courses with nearly 1,700 participants enrolled in the promotional training.

Division	Courses	Participants
Kids aged 5-8 & parents	8	169
Children aged 7-14	12	348
Youth & Adult aged 13-64	30	1176
Total	50	1693

Community Sports Club Programmes

As at end of the reported period, there were 20 HKBA affiliated clubs registered under LCSD Community Sports Club Projects. The clubs organised 50 activities in total with the subvention from LCSD. To enhance the standard of baseball at the community level, we will continue promoting and strengthening the sports development for young players and encourage lifelong participation in sports.



VIII. Official Training Programmes

For the reporting period, there were 123 coaches actively to conduct training classes with players in local baseball activities and school teams at different levels. 41 umpires and 27 scorers provided their professional services in local competitions.

The Association organised elementary training course for umpire and scorer to expand the official pool; and also continuous professional training to enhance their skills.

The following officials were appointed in the international events that organised by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) or the Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA).

- Chan Sin Yee, Scorer, 18th Asian Games 2018
- Chan Sin Yee, Scorer, 2018 FISU World University Baseball Championship
- Chan Sin Yee, Scorer, WBSC U15 Baseball World Cup 2018
- Cheung Sui Man, Umpire, 18th Asian Games 2018
- Cheung Wai Ho, Umpire, BFA U18 Baseball Championship 2018
- Huen Kun Chi, Umpire, 2018 FISU World University Baseball Championship
- Lui Yiu Yin, Umpire, WBSC Women's Baseball World Cup 2018

- Nicky To, Technical Commissioner, WBSC U15 Baseball World Cup 2018
- Nicky To, Technical Commissioner, WBSC Women's Baseball World Cup 2018
- Wong Cheuk Kiu, Umpire, BFA U12 Baseball Championship
- Wong Kai Cheong Ricky, Umpire, PONY Baseball Asia Pacific Zone Bronco Tournament 2018
- Wong Pak Wah, Scorer, 2018 FISU World University Baseball Championship

IX. Exchange Programmes

Pilot Funding Scheme for Youth Sports Exchange (YSE)

Through the subvention from LCSD to organize international sports exchange programmes for the youth, its aims are to raise the sports skill level of the youth, broaden their horizons; and establish their network with counterpart country/city.

The Association organised two YSE programmes in the reporting period.

Hong Kong – Guam U15 Baseball Exchange Programme

with Guam Amateur Baseball Association. Established a fun four days of baseball for our team with 15 players and 2 coaches visiting Guam to play baseball and experience other countries; they also visited John F. Kennedy High School.



Hong Kong - Mexico U12 Baseball Exchange Programme with Centro Deportivo y Recreativo "Benito Juárez" de Mazatlán in February 2019. A group of 11 players aged 10-12 and 2 coaches visited Mazatlan, Mexico. The counterpart showed the children how amateur baseball players practice three times a day in order to become professionals. And also visited their pro stadium and met the manager of Venados de Mazatlan Pro Team, Mr. Juan José Pacho, who is also member of the Professional Mexican Baseball Hall of Fame.

Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland, with the subvention from the Youth Development Commission, the Association organised an exchange programme in April 2019. A group of 20 youth participants visited Shanghai and Wuxi, played baseball with local teams, and also visited schools, car factory and local attractions; enhanced their understanding of the development of the Mainland China.

X. Membership and Affiliated Clubs

As at 31 March 2019, there are 513 Full Members, 106 Associate Members, 443 Student Members and 30 Affiliated Club Members.

XI. Administration and Publication

The Association holds monthly executive directors' meeting, quarterly directors' meeting and monthly staff meeting to ensure the smooth progress of activities and monitoring of the administrative system. Respective executive committee meetings have also been held on a need basis, to attend the meeting physically or using conference call.

To promote the best practice in corporate governance and in response to the advice by LCSD to all National Sports Associations, our directors and senior management staff attended the Symposium on Corporate Governance in National Sports Associations - Governance, Leadership and the Future Development of Sports that organised by the Leisure & Cultural Services Department. To deal with the business and activities in an open, fair and impartial manner, we have set out the basic standards and Codes of Conduct of National Sports Associations for our Officials and Staff as work principles and guidelines

To support environmental protection and saving expenditure of the Association, with effect from January 2018, our publication quarterly "RUN" changed to biannual publication, digital copy is available on our website. HKBA updated its website and posted news in its Facebook pages. Members' pro-active suggestions and comments demonstrated their enthusiasm in promoting baseball together with the Association.



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XII. Growing Together Baseball Sport Education Fund

The Association was appointed by the Growing Together Baseball Sport Education Fund (the Fund) to keep and handle the Fund application. The Fund was set up to provide financial assistance for technical officials training, administrative staff further education and women's baseball development. Committee members comprise the Association's Counselor, President, Chairman and Secretary General.

XIII. Appreciations

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank all our advisory members for their financial support and guidance over the years; also grateful to Home Affairs Bureau, Leisure and Cultural Services Department for their subvention and continuous support; and thankful to Environmental Protection Department, Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, Hong Kong Sports Institute and the relevant District Councils for their advice and support too. Last but not the least, I wish to thank all Directors, committee members and volunteers for their continuous support, as well as office staff of the Association for their dedication and commitment to work.

Andrew Fan
Chairman
The Hong Kong Baseball Association Limited

October 2019