

周年會員大會

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2022



主席報告

Chairman's Report

10. 2022

香港棒球總會有限公司

The Hong Kong Baseball Association Limited





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Annual General Meeting 2022

The period of 2021-2022 was another challenging year for the sport sector as the global pandemic continued to pose unseen obstacles to all sports and baseball was no different. With strict adherence to travel restrictions and preventive measures, most of the inbound and outbound international events were either postponed or cancelled. Despite these unfavourable conditions, our baseball association continued to soldier on the uncharted territory with optimism and extra efforts to bring the sport of baseball across all sectors within our available capacities. In particular, the Hong Kong Men's Team continue to show perseverance to overcome the challenge after challenge. Before the Asian Games has been postponed, the coaching team brought in extra overseas coaches to help strengthen and improve different skills and technical aspects of the team. Under the ever changing social protocols, the team had conducted their regular trainings via online model, in 2s, 4s and full team according to local legal measures to maintain their physique and improve their performance. Hats off to the coaching team and players! More good news deriving from our Baseball 5 team, one of our newly focused disciplines to grow the sport and penetration to schools, our inaugural Hong Kong team of elite mix-gender players managed to produce a surprising and exhilarating result in

the first ever Baseball5 Asia Cup held in July in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Our HK Team have won critical matches to advance each round and fought hard to superior opponents that have garnered a lot of respect from their opponents and BB5 community all around with breath taking matches going wire-to-wire. At the end, we finished 4th in the tournament, one spot out of the Mexico World Cup Qualifying, nevertheless it is as impressive of a result as we can hope for, a heartfelt thank you to players, coaches and everyone who has contributed in the assembling, managing and training of the team. This unforgettable tournament has vastly accelerated our learning curve and brought valuable experience for coaches and players. Looking ahead, we strive to build a solid foundation going forward.

In view of the significance of promoting the sport of baseball to the public, the Association has launched various promotional campaigns on our social media platforms, at the same time; we are working closely with local and sports media in promoting and reporting of our events and program highlights to the public. We are also collaborating with different media outlets to heighten the awareness of baseball across different sectors. With the aim of enhancing the popularity of baseball in Hong Kong, through

organizing events like Sports Festival, SummerFest carnivals, MOU signing with Newly Emerged Sports Association (NESA), cross-over flash booths with other sports, we strive to vigilantly co-operating with different businesses and social partners to build our brand's image and penetration to promote baseball in communities.

Here are some of the highlights from the past year.

I. Performance of Hong Kong Teams

According to the report from the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) on 31 December 2021, the Hong Kong Men's Team retained 6th out of 20 in Asia but dropped from 28th to 33rd out of 85 in the world rankings. During the pandemic, countries in Europe and the Americas continued their baseball events in 2020 and 2021, while most of the Asian competitions were either postponed or cancelled, adversely impacting the ranking of Asian teams in general.



Similarly, with most of the female baseball competitions either postponed or cancelled in 2020 and 2021, there were no major changes in the ranking of women's teams. Hong Kong Women's Team retained 4th out of 8 in Asia and 11th out of 20 in the world.



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

The rampant spread of the pandemic had led to the postponement and cancellation of countless sports activities, the Asian Games fell victim with no exception. In spite of the uncertainties ahead, the Hong Kong Men's Team remained positive and prepared for the tournament. On top of the funding support from the government, the Association allocated extra resources to support the training regime with the aim to boost player's skills, strategies and psychological performance. In particular, the Association employed two highly accredited overseas coaches with professional league experience to lead the team. Not only did the coaches provide professional advice to every player according to areas of strengths and weaknesses; they also provide various game enhancement strategies for the team, significantly improving the players' skills and setting great examples for the coaches.





Even the year long postponement of the Asian Games, our team's positive mentality and strong desire for excellence in training and improvement is certainly evidenced. May our elites continue their journey with passion and positive mindset. Looking forward to harvest the fruits of success in the upcoming Asian Games.



Apart from the traditional baseball, an increasing number of local players have also participated in Baseball5. As Baseball5 has grown more and more popular around the world, various international competitions are organized to facilitate exchange between players around the world. Dedicated to broadening their horizon, eight of our mix-gender athletes

and two professional coaches participated in the Baseball5 Asia Cup in July in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which was also the qualifier for Baseball5 World Cup. In addition, two umpires participated in the Baseball5 Game Official Seminar to prepare for the competition.



Benefiting from the relaxation of travel restrictions, our Hong Kong team was able to conduct their training once they had arrived at the venue. As a newly recruited team, our elites showed no fear in the face of eight other Asian teams. The preparation of the tournament has certainly had its hiccups with stoppages and delays due to COVID. With only a few months of preparation, our team had undoubtedly stepped up to the challenge, surprisingly stealing the limelight on the big international stage. As a result, Hong Kong Baseball5 Team finished 4th place in the tournament. The final match was thrilling with off the charts intensity. The Team

performed excellently against strong teams such as Japan, Taiwan and Korea. It was truly a milestone for Hong Kong baseball players as they are recognized in the tournament. A monumental achievement that surprised many of their peers and opponents; while earning the respects of many along the way. After seven days of quarantine in Hong Kong, our heroes have already resumed their training and all became the ambassadors of the game.



Delegation list of Hong Kong Baseball5 Team

Coaching staff:

- AU Wing Leung
- NG Wing Kei

Players:

- CHING Chun Kwan
- LAW Ka Wai

- LIU Tsz Yan
- MOK Chun Lam
- TAI Man Kwan
- TANG Chi Ching
- TANG Chi Chun
- YIU Yik Shun

Game Officials:

- NG Kwong Yuen
- LEUNG Wai Hung

II. Local International Events

To follow the advice on the Prevention of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the Association had grievously passed up on hosting local international events, including Hong Kong International Baseball Open for men, “Phoenix Cup” Hong Kong International Women’s Baseball Tournament and Hong Kong International Youth Baseball Championship.

As COVID-19 preventive measures continue to loosen up, we are eager to continuing to host local international tournaments, bringing overseas teams to Hong Kong and improving our experiences along the way.

III. Local Leagues

The Association is devoted to facilitate and promote baseball in community. We diligently reformed the Hong Kong Baseball Open League (HKOL), by constructing a fairer competitive environment for local players with the opportunity of introducing new players and sectors. We’ve also organized different programmes, such as baseball leagues for youths under a self-sustainable competition scheme, Hong

Kong Youth League (HKYL) in order to build and provide future pipeline of players.

Supported by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), the Association has actively promoted two newly emerged sports to continue to raise the public interest and build baseball foundations, the two disciplines, Baseball5 and Baseball SIX can be played on smaller surfaces, hard ground (indoors and outdoors), with each game span around 30 minutes.

We have hosted different Hong Kong Baseball5 Competition and Hong Kong Baseball SIX Competitions and are met with great fanfare and public support.



League	Division	Teams	Players
HKOL	Men B	9	145
HKOL	Men C1	10	164
HKOL	Men C2	7	105
HKOL	Women	9	146
HKOL	Mixed	10	183
HKYL	U11	5	77
HKYL	U14	9	132
HKYL	U16	9	114
Baseball5	Youth	5	36
Baseball5	Open	8	61
Baseball SIX	Youth	10	70
Baseball SIX	Open	4	31
Total:		95	1264

IV. Squad Training Programmes

Squad Training

To strengthen athletes' physical fitness and skill levels, the Association launched whole year training programmes for men, women and youth.

Five-Year Development Programme for Team Sports

Initiated by the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) in 2018, the "Five-year Development Programme for Team Sports" (the TS Programme) covers eight team sports, which include baseball (Men's Team), effectively equipping athletes for the Asian Games and major events in the funding period. Apart from the training grant support, players with not less than 80% attendance could be granted Athlete Grants of HK\$4,000 a month. In the reporting year, 28 players with high potential were selected to engage in regular training.

The Team is preparing for the 19th Asian Games to be held in September 2023 in Hangzhou, China.



Division	Courses	Participants
Kids & Parents	7	173
Children	12	246
Youth & Adult	26	929
Baseball5 & Baseball SIX	3	67
Total	48	1415

V. Development Programmes

District Promotion Programmes

The Development Programme, under the subvention of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), was planned to stage in three phases. However, the closure of training venues under group gatherings restrictions caused the cancellation of some classes. The Association organized 48 courses and with 1415 participants enrolled in the promotional training programme.



School Sports Programmes

To avoid the risk of the COVID-19 wave on campus, many schools shifted to distance learning in the past academic year, decreasing in schools' participation in the programme. As a victim of these measures, only 5 courses out of 32 courses were successfully held. We sincerely hope that more students can take part in our programmes in the coming academic year.

Community Sports Club Programmes

At the end of the reported period, 21 affiliated clubs registered under LCSD Community Sports Club Projects. The clubs planned to organize and host 60 activities in total; some of the activities were fully/partially cancelled due to the impact of COVID-19.

VI. Official Training Programmes

For the reporting period, 126 registered coaches provided their services in the training classes with players in local baseball activities and school teams at

different levels. In addition, 40 umpires and 25 scorers provided their professional services in local competitions.

The Association will keep organizing certification programmes to expand the officials' pool and commenced continuous professional development (CPD) programmes to enhance their skills and qualifications.

Association of Hong Kong China (NESA) with an MOU signing.



VII. Celebration Events

Hong Kong Elite Baseball Showcase @Summer Fest

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of HKSAR, the Association, organized the Hong Kong Elite Baseball Showcase at Central Harbourfront Event Space during the SummerFest with The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust as the event sponsor. The festive event attracted a public turnout with families and children to experience the fun of baseball and Baseball5 by watching the games and participating in various sports trials and games.

The Association set up numerous game booths where visitors could learn and enjoy the basics of baseball, as well as watched Baseball5 Open and exhibition matches from different local teams.

The Association have also arranged the flag presentation ceremony during the SummerFest event, to cheer on for the Hong Kong Baseball5 Team for their upcoming in the Baseball5 Asia Cup in Malaysia. In addition, to enhance the promotional channels and platforms of Baseball5 in Hong Kong, the Association collaborate with the Newly Emerged Sports





“Inheritance of Baseball”. We organized a showcase exhibition with the national baseball team of different age groups, live demonstration by Hong Kong team elites and trial activities for the public to play and enjoy baseball. A sincere heartfelt thank you to the our staff, Board of directors, the coaches, umpires, scorers, volunteers and the HK men’s and woman’s team! Great atmosphere and spirit for this rewarding event and glad to see the crowd turnout with many smiling faces.



65th Festival of Sport: Inclusive day for Inheritance of Baseball

The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC) organizes The Festival of Sport in Hong Kong every year by inviting National Sports Associations (NSA) to join this annual local mega-sports event series. The Association co-organized the inclusive day for Inheritance of Baseball at Sai Tso Wan Recreation Ground with the theme of



圖集 | 第65屆體育節傳承棒球共融日開幕

2022-08-07 15:26:55

來源：香港電台



傳承棒球共融日今日在晒草灣遊樂場舉行。郭晉朗攝

VIII. Membership and Affiliated Clubs

As of 20 September 2022, there were 530 Full Members, 81 Associate Members, 411 Student Members, and 22 Affiliated Club Members.

IX. Administration and Publication

The Association regularly hosted monthly executive directors' meetings, quarterly director meetings and monthly staff meetings to ensure the activities are planned, executed and reported with high level of excellency. Respective executive committee meetings are also held on a regularly; members can attend the meeting physically or use a conference call or video call.

To promote Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for directors to improve the board's proficiency in corporate governance duties. The Association organized a Board Training Programme conducted by The Hong Kong Institute of Directors (HKIoD) in April and August 2021. The LCSD subvented the Board Training Programme under the Outreaching Corporate Governance Programme. Those programmes helped the directors to increase their ability on corporate governance responsibilities. The Association selected Cyber Security & Technology Crime Prevention, Value Creation by Directors and Deep Dive Understanding of Articles of Association (AoA) and its Impact on NSA as the topics for directors to increase their understanding of the significance of sound corporate governance procedures. HKBA encouraged the administrative staff to attend the above training sessions to learn, understand and apply in relation to the

content and values of corporate governance.



The Association has been publishing our self-funded biannual publication "RUN"; a digital copy is available on our website. In addition, HKBA distributed this to related parties, members and the public to raise public awareness, share leagues and clubs activities and updates of the association baseball activities' progress. In addition, we also utilized our social media platforms for public engagements and promotions; we look forward to reach out more to the public and baseball fans through our prints and online network.

X. Nomination of Cathay 2021 Hong Kong Sports Stars Awards

The Hong Kong Sports Stars Awards, known as the sports Oscar, returned after a year of absence. HKBA nominated the Hong Kong Men's National Baseball Team as one of the candidates in the "Hong Kong Sports Star Awards for Team Event". With the development and resulting COVID measures, the men's national baseball team overcame the many challenges including 21 days of quarantine to participate in the 14th National Games. Despite the hurdles and obstacles, all the players made an outstanding effort to compete at the highest level and represented Hong Kong well. Although our

Team did not win the award, they were praised for their hard work and performance, a heartfelt appreciation to the players and coaching team for your sacrifices and overcoming the challenges to participate in the games



XI. As a member at large in the Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA)

Baseball Federation of Asia announced the new Executive Board on 3 July 2022 in Taipei City. Our president Mr. Andrew Fan was elected as a member at large in the Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA) Executive Board.

We are honored and excited to be once again elected back to be a voice of the Baseball Federation of Asia. Our continued goal is to host more international events to amass hosting experiences and provide top end competitions to improve baseball and players skill levels.



XII. Exploring Potential Lands for Constructing a Baseball Field

One of our Association's main goals is our dedication to develop more baseball facilities in Hong Kong. With much preparation, hard work and excitement, The Lands Department finally granted the Association Tsuen Wan No. 2 Fresh Water Service Reservoir rooftop (the Site) in May 2022. The Site will be developed as a baseball training ground and competition venue for the youth. The long wait is finally over; we have hit the first milestone as we look forward to acquiring more resources for the development of baseball in Hong Kong.



XIII. Growing Together Baseball Sport Education Fund

To provide financial support for developing new facilities, Mr. Laurence Lee, the chairperson of Growing Together Baseball Sport Education Fund (the Fund), and the

committee members agreed to contribute the rest of the Fund to the Association to meet the purpose.

XIV. Appreciations

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to sincere thank our in-kind sponsors, Telford International Company Limited, Banitore, Suntory Beverage & Food Hong Kong Limited, Garmin, DAFU HONG KONG for their various collaborations and support, as well as all Honorary Presidents for their donations and guidance from Honorary Life Presidents and advisory members over the years. We are also appreciative to the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau (formerly known as Home Affairs Bureau) and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for their subvention and continuous support; and thanks to the Lands Department, the Water Supplies Department, Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, Hong Kong Sports Institute and the relevant District Councils for their advice and guidance.

Last but not least, I wish to thank all directors, committee members, and volunteers for their continuous support and the office staff of the Association for their dedication and commitment to excellence.

Dave HO

Chairman

The Hong Kong Baseball Association Limited

October 2022