

Newsletter

January 2019



HKCBA LTD

<http://www.hkcba.org>

Member of World Bridge Federation

Member of Pacific Asia Bridge Federation

Member of Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

目 錄

Table of Contents

	Page
Minutes of the 9th Council Meeting. 2018/19.....	3
Minutes of the 10th Council Meeting. 2018/19.....	6
Minutes of the 11th Council Meeting. 2018/19.....	9
Captain's report (17 th World Youth Team Championships)	12

9th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 7, 2018 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: 20/F, Kelly Commercial Centre, 570-572 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)
Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)
Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)
Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Charlie Lee (XL)
Crystal Tang (CT)
John Tsang (JT)
Ronald Hui (RH)
Tony Lau (TL)
WK Lai (WK)

Apologies:

Council member:

KF Mak (KF)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Follow up matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): i) Captain's report for 51 st APBF Championships: Still waiting for David CC Ng to submit the Senior Team report. PC will follow up. ii) Tax Reporting: KF to collect the instructors' personal details for tax reporting purpose and pass to CL for tax filing. iii) Application for Elite Sport Scholarship: LC has submitted applications for 24 applicants who are eligible to apply the scholarship. LC will also apply for the training subsidy separately.		PC KF, CL LC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv) Hiring a permanent staff for Clubhouse: LC proposed to put this on hold until we received funding from LCSD. v) Host for 2021 APBF: LC has checked with LCSD regarding government subsidies, it is possible to apply subsidy for major events which is up to HKD1million. 		
3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.22mil (repayment of Asian Game subsidy not deducted yet, paid HKD280.8K for intercity deposit. 		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Tournament Sub-committee feedback: 1) suggest to increase the no. of boards for trial. 2) If more than 16 teams participate in the trial will use seeding to arrange, max no. of enrollment for trial should be limit at 24 teams, over 24 teams use ranking points to determine who can play in the trial. 3) Reduce registration fee for trial. 4) Add more ladder events (such as ladder team, ladder pairs). 5) If too many teams/pairs join the Cup event (with Gold points) then should consider adding another day for the event. 6) Year-round events to be schedule on Tues and Fri. 7) Non Year-round events schedule on Sat afternoon/evening. <p>Tournament Committee feedback: 1) Trial should start in Sep if possible as there are too many categories and more time is needed for more boards to be played. 2) Although Open League is year-round, propose to keep it on Sat. 3) Invitational Teams can still be played on Tues. 4) Will limit the no. of tables for cup events to 15 on first come first serve basis and will reserve additional day just in case. 5) Trial: top 3 teams base on trial points will be qualified automatically while the remaining teams will play a swiss format for qualification.</p> <p>Tournament Operation will send the above in details to Council for further discussion.</p>		
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 2019 APBF delegate’s meeting: for the purpose of recognizing 		

	<p>APBF as an “Asia level” event by Hong Kong government, will propose to include Zone 4 to co-organize the APBF Championships going forward, and suggest adding more categories of pairs events so that representatives can get more chance to gain experience for the next Asian Game.</p> <p>ii) Bridge classes in schools: many in progress. LC has informed LCSD about our bridge promotion campaign as well.</p> <p>iii) Connection with 聖醒橋牌學校: The idea is to set up an independent bridge school run by HKCBA instructors (may need 1-2 full time instructors). Instructors will need to receive training in Shanghai from 聖醒橋牌學校. Initial focus will be form 1-3 students.</p> <p>iv) Asian Game case: Regarding the case filed to APBF about the Men’s pairs final, Esther has formed a committee (chaired by Nakatari-san) to review the case.</p> <p>v) Yeh Bros Cup 2019: will be held on April 19-23 in Shanghai. The organizer has invited Hong Kong Open Team members (1st runner-up in Asia Cup) to participate in the event.</p> <p>6 AOB:</p> <p>i) Youth Team trials (Junior/Youngster/Girls/Kids): Youth Team committee need to review all enrollments to the Youth Team trial to determine if all players are qualify to enter the trial. Assessment will be based on behavior and discipline etc.</p> <p>ii) Member list has been updated by WK.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on December 12, 2018 (Wednesday)</p>		
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10th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12, 2018 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: 20/F, Kelly Commercial Centre, 570-572 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)
Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)
Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)
Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Crystal Tang (CT)
John Tsang (JT)
KF Mak (KF)
Ronald Hui (RH)
Tony Lau (TL)
WK Lai (WK)

Apologies:

Council member:

Charlie Lee (XL)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Follow up matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): vi) Captain's report for 51 st APBF Championships: Still waiting for David CC Ng to submit the Senior Team report. Since it has been outstanding for too long, JT will follow up with Vincent Li to get it completed asap. vii) Tax Reporting: KF to collect the instructors' personal details for tax reporting purpose and pass to CL for tax filing.		JT KF, CL, RH

3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <p>ii) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.29mil</p>		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <p>ii) Tournament Sub-committee feedback: TO submitted the details to Council for discussion, will revert any feedback by January.</p> <p>iii) Trial winner/ representatives: it is agreed that the trial winners are required to fulfill training requirements to make sure they prepared well for the Championships, failed to do so may be disqualified to represent Hong Kong subject to Council's decision. TO will inform the participants of trials that there will be such requirement.</p> <p>iv) LCSD broad grant: HKCBA will apply for the funding in 2019 provided the following conditions are fulfilled:</p> <p>a) Rewrite the constitution per LCSD request as it is outdated</p> <p>b) Increase no. of members to certain level, can extend the teaching to German bridge/other type of bridge to increase members and publicity</p> <p>c) Website: information not understandable by public who are interested to learn bridge, need to make it more user-friendly</p> <p>d) Director list: need to update the directors' profile and experience, path to develop etc.</p> <p>v) Endorse open team trial winners for 2019 APBF Championship subject to fulfilling the training requirements: Derek Zen, Samuel Wan, WK Lai, KF Mak, Baron Ng and Tony Lau</p> <p>vi) Elite application: Result of the applications will be available in April 2019.</p> <p>External Affairs:</p>		
5	<p>vi) Bridge school: will announce to public that HKCBA has interest to set up a Bridge school and invite for partnership or proposal</p>		
6	<p>AOB:</p> <p>i) Board of TD: shared the case with Council happened during APBF Open Team Trial Semi-final</p> <p>ii) Warning to Bubble Ho: Council received a complaint on</p>		

11th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 16, 2019 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: 20/F, Kelly Commercial Centre, 570-572 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)
Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)
Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)
Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Charlie Lee (XL)
Crystal Tang (CT)
KF Mak (KF)
Louis Tam (LT)
Ronald Hui (RH)
Tony Lau (TL)
WK Lai (WK)

Apologies:

Council member:

John Tsang (JT)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Follow up matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order):		
	viii) Captain's report for 51 st APBF Championships: Still waiting for David CC Ng to submit the Senior Team report. Since it has been outstanding for too long, JT will follow up with Vincent Li to get it completed asap.		JT
	ix) Tax Reporting: KF to collect the instructors' personal details for tax reporting purpose and pass to CL for tax filing.		KF, CL, RH
	x) Warning to Bubble Ho: Council received a complaint on		LC

	<p>Bubble Ho regarding his unethical behavior in APBF Open Team trial. After reviewing the complaint, Council agreed that there is a need to give him a verbal warning.</p>		
3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <p>iii) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.16mil</p>		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <p>vii) Certificate to Mr. Huang Kuanghui to certify him as the coach of the Hong Kong team: LC will prepare.</p> <p>viii) Endorse the representatives for 2019 APBF Mixed Team: Council endorsed the following players to represent China Hong Kong in 2019 APBF Championships Mixed Team series subject to fulfilling the training requirement of HKCBA: CC Mok, Christine Booth, David Ip, Fu Cheung, Irene Ho, Peter Poon</p> <p>ix) AGM: PC to issue notice 3 weeks before AGM.</p> <p>x) Internal events: “Friday Pairs” added (will be held with at least 4 tables)</p> <p>xi) Schedule for new bridge year: have been sent to Council members for review</p> <p>xii) Trainings for 2019 APBF representatives: HKCBA will pay for the rental and director fees for the trainings to be held on every Wed starting Feb 20, 2019.</p>		LC
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <p>vii) Letter to APBF: DZ has sent a letter to APBF informing that HKCBA would like to nominate LC as the Treasurer of APBF Committee for the new term.</p> <p>viii) Proposal of organizing 2021 APBF Championships: will bring up this topic for discussion in the coming APBF delegates’ meeting.</p> <p>ix) Letter to Patrick Choy: DZ has sent a letter to Patrick Choy proposing to organize Bermuda Bowl in Hong Kong in 2025. HKCBA will need to review the cost and confirm if it is possible to receive enough funding from the government.</p>		PC
6	<p>AOB:</p> <p>v) Bridge School: Request to be made to those who are interested in the project to submit their proposal to HKCBA for review.</p>		

	<p>vi) EBL Director Course: XL will represent the NBO to attend the director course in Turkey in Feb.</p> <p>vii) Youth Committee: JT and XL proposed to include Kelvin Chung in the committee to help on training logistics. Council approved.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on February 13, 2019 (Wednesday)</p>		
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17th World Youth Team Championships

Wujiang, China

8th August to 18th August 2018

China Hong Kong Youngster Team

Captain's Report

Prepared by: Rocky Tam

Introduction

We had more time to prepare the event than the APBF in 2017. Therefore, we started the training earlier. With the new team members, it was not easy to raise their bridge knowledge without a proactive attitude from them. Besides the trainings with partnerships, I also played with the team members online or at some local club events and helped them to find some great players to play with them. We had intensive training scheduled since May for almost every weekends.

Background of the Championship

The championship was held in Wujiang, Suzhou. It is about 2 hours from the Shanghai Pudong Airport. We rented a minibus to travel between the airport and hotel directly and it was very smooth in the transit. The hotel was nice and just 5 minutes away from the venue. The weather was hot during our stay. The food in the area was not quite suitable for us and some of us were not feeling well.

Team Members

Three members of the original team which won the 1st runner-up in the last APBF Championships were exceeding the age limit for this World Youth Team Championships. We have each partnership contains one current member and new member to form three new partnerships, and keeping the original partnership in the team as the 4th. They are Derek Wong – Ivan Loy, Harry Hung – Brian Wong, William Cheung – Larry Fong, and Derek Wong – Harry Wong. All of them are new to world championships and the three new members are having less experience in bridge. The team members are of age 18 to 20, so some of them are still eligible for the next APBF and/or World Youth Team Championships. The experience in this event will be an important milestone for their development in bridge.

Performance

The format of the championship was a qualifying round of single round robin of 14 boards each round against all the other 21 teams and the best eight teams will qualify to the knock out stage of quarter-final. We need to play 4 rounds or 3 round per day alternatively in 6 days. The first match starts at 10AM followed by a 1.5 hours lunch break and the day ends at either 5:50PM or 8:10PM.

We did not have a good start on the first day as we only had a small victory against India. Although Poland, Canada and Netherlands are finishing at better positions than us, there were too many mistakes that our team made without pressure. We ended up at rank 16th after the first day.

On the next day we played against Botswana and Chile in the first two matches. We defeated them by 50 IMPs to get 19.47 VP each, as we reached the highest ranking throughout the event – the 8th. In the last match of the day we met the Champion this year, Sweden, and being defeated by 22:52 to finish the day at rank 11th.

The third day was a critical day for us, as our position was not satisfactory, I decided to use the 4th partnership we have. They have experience in playing as a pair before so I was confident in their performance. We played against France in the 1st round of the day, they were at rank 18th at that time but at the end they qualified to the knock out stage. We did not grab the chance to defeat them when they are not in shape and almost got less than 1 VP. After lunch, we lost to Norway by 5 IMPs but defeated Italy and Thailand, finish the day at rank 14th.

Although we had a good start on the 4th day with over 16 VP in the matches against USA and Japan, we were defeated by Israel by 24 IMPs ending at rank 13th. The team tried hard in the remaining 7 matches but only managed to have 2 more victories against Singapore and England. The journey was finished with 188.61 VP at rank 15th.

Evaluation

Observing the youth players from other countries, they started playing bridge when they were little. Our competitors are having 8 years or above experience which is never an easy job to play against. To develop bridge in Hong Kong, we definitely need to think about starting youth development at an earlier stage.

There was a 2 VP penalty to our team due to the lateness of a player, William Cheung, in round 16. It was the round after the lunch break. After a quick lunch, he went back to hotel for the convention card of his pair and caused the lateness. At the time, I asked the pair to sit out for the rest of the day and tried to investigate the issue. During the collection of fact from this player, I was told that in the first round of the day, he took the wrong set of convention cards to the venue and play. That was the reason why he went for the convention cards after lunch. Moreover, I was told that they were not having the correct convention cards for the matches in the last two days of event just when I asked about the whole story after this incident. Reflecting on this incident, I believe that our youth players need to be educated again on the importance of responsibility and commitment. Before the start of the event and every morning whenever I can, as a NPC I had reminded the team to make sure they have the team uniform, badges and convention cards with them before going out from hotel rooms. This incident was happened on the 4th day on the event which somehow showed the lack of responsibility of a player. As a player in an international tournament, he should know to reach out to the NPC for any problems he cannot solve during the tournament. It was not a difficult situation to solve if I had been told. There were extra copies of convention cards with me and I had the soft copy in my computer. This player was in the team for APBF last year, it is shocking that he did not reach out to me at once.

如有會員有興趣投稿, 歡迎電郵到 wklai2@yahoo.com, 或與 Dicky Lai 聯絡(電話 94152075)