



香港網球總會  
HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Room 1021, Olympic House, 1 Stadium Path, So Kon Po, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.

RECEIVED  
22 NOV 2010

Written submission from the Hong Kong Tennis Association

concerning whether or not Hong Kong should bid for hosting the Asian Games 2023



The Hong Kong Tennis Association fully support the bid to host the Asian Games in 2023. We feel that it is a unique opportunity for the people of Hong Kong to embrace as part of their life sport and all the healthy and social benefits that automatically follow. The Asian Games could be a focal point for encouraging the people of Hong Kong to take up a healthier lifestyle. It would encourage young people to turn to sport and subsequently improve the standards of the local athletes, as well as awakening interest in sport amongst the public of Hong Kong. The momentum commenced at the East Asian Games, and the Asian Games in 2023 could maintain it.

The HKTA do strongly feel however that the Games **should only be hosted in Hong Kong** if a significant programme of improvement to existing venues and construction of new Stadia and sports grounds is embarked upon.

The sporting facilities for international sport in Hong Kong are currently seriously sub-standard and should Hong Kong host an event of such magnitude as the Asian Games then a complete rethink of government policy for the building and improvement of sporting facilities is required. Hong Kong is years behind most of the major cities in Asia where International sporting facilities are concerned. The recent Asian Games in Guangzhou is a prime example of how a city should prepare for a major event. The previous Games in Doha were hosted in magnificent facilities and in Incheon for the next Games plans and photographs of the new stadia are truly spectacular especially those for tennis. Hong Kong also needs to be equally impressive to showcase our usual high standards of excellence to the world.

Building International standard facilities would not be a white elephant as has been suggested, as we are seriously under-provided in terms of sports hardware. The new stadia and sports facilities would after the Games provide great opportunities for Hong Kong to host more top international events and also to utilise these new facilities for public usage.

The Hong Kong Tennis Association hope that common sense will prevail and that the people of Hong Kong and the Government will realise that only good can come from hosting such a prestigious event as the Asian Games. The whole of Hong Kong yearn to see our city take its seat in Asia's top sport hosting arena, **but we must take note that to start much money is needed to be spent on the much needed facilities.**

