

18 January 2016
For information

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

Race Routes for the Hong Kong Marathon 2016

Purpose

This paper informs Members of the race routes for the Hong Kong Marathon 2016 (the Marathon) scheduled to be held on 17 January 2016.

The Hong Kong Marathon

2. The Marathon will enter into its 20th anniversary in 2016. It has been organised by the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association (HKAAA) on a self-financing basis since its inception in 1997. The event has the support of relevant government departments by sending representatives to sit on the Organising Committee, including the Auxiliary Medical Service, Civil Aid Service, Environmental Protection Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Hong Kong Police Force, Highways Department, Home Affairs Bureau, Home Affairs Department, Information Services Department, Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Transport Department.

3. In recognition of the significance of the event, the Sports Commission and its Major Sports Events Committee awarded “M” Mark status to the Marathon for the twelfth year. The event has been upgraded to Road Race Gold Label by the International Association of Athletics Federations in November 2015.

Event Updates

4. In order to further improve the race route condition for runners and give the public more opportunity to cheer for the runners, both the marathon and half marathon race routes this year will be extended on Nathan Road where runners will turn towards the West Kowloon Highway on Argyle Street. The Yau Tsim Mong District Council is

supportive of the revised route. The latest route information as well as the related safety arrangements for the event as provided by the HKAAA is at the **Annex**.

5. On the other hand, with the successful experience in 2015, the OC will continue to organise the "Youth Dash" in the Marathon 2016 for young people aged between 12 and 15. A total of 600 teenagers will participate in this 2.2km-race in 2016. Introduced in 2006, the Marathon 101 Education Programme has been helping students to develop the marathon spirit of perseverance and covered over 80% of local secondary and primary schools. The Youth Dash will take the level of engaging young runners up to an international sporting event, where they would also experience the support of spectators along the course.

Advice Sought

6. Members are invited to note the information provided by the HKAAA on the race routes for the Hong Kong Marathon 2016.

Home Affairs Bureau
January 2016

Race Routes and Related Arrangements for the Hong Kong Marathon 2016

Background

Scheduled for 17 January 2016, the Hong Kong Marathon 2016 (Marathon 2016) is organised by the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association (HKAAA) and sponsored by the Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong). The event will include marathon, half marathon, 10-kilometre (km) races and wheelchair races.

2. For marathon, half marathon, 10-km and wheelchair races, registration began on 25, 29 September 2015 and 2, 5 October 2015 respectively. The entry quota for this year's event is 74 000. The enrollment has closed on 12 October 2015.

Race Routes

3. The Marathon 2016 Organising Committee (OC) has proposed an alternative route in West Kowloon area to improve the race route condition for runners. Details are as follows:

(A) Marathon



Start on Nathan Road (Tsim Sha Tsui) near Hotel Mira → Nathan Road south of Kansu Street → Nathan Road (northbound) north of Kansu

Street → Argyle Street → Cherry Street (westbound) → Lin Cheung Road (southbound) → West Kowloon Highway (southbound) → Ngong Shuen Chau Viaduct (Kowloon bound) → Stonecutters Bridge (Kowloon bound) → East Tsing Yi Viaduct (Kowloon bound) → Nam Wan Tunnel (Kowloon bound) → West Tsing Yi Viaduct (Kowloon bound) → Tsing Ma Bridge (Kowloon bound) → Ting Kau Bridge (southbound) → Cheung Tsing Tunnel (Kowloon bound) → Tsing Kwai Highway (southbound) → West Kowloon Highway (southbound) → Western Harbour Crossing (southbound) → Connaught Road West Flyover (eastbound) → Man Po Street → Man Yiu Street (southbound) → Lung Wo Road (eastbound) → Fenwick Pier Street (eastbound) → Convention Avenue (eastbound) → Hung Hing Road → Marsh Road Flyover → Lockhart Road (eastbound) → Percival Street → Hennessy Road (eastbound) → Yee Wo Street (eastbound) → Sugar Street → **Finish at Victoria Park, Hong Kong**

(B) Half Marathon



Start on Nathan Road (Tsim Sha Tsui) near Hotel Mira → Nathan Road south of Kansu Street → Nathan Road (northbound) north of Kansu Street → Argyle Street → Cherry Street (westbound) → Lin Cheung Road (southbound) → Route 3-Exit 3 → Tsing Kwai Highway (southbound) → Turning Point (near Exit 4A, Route 3) → Tsing Kwai Highway (southbound) → West Kowloon Highway (southbound) → Western Harbour Crossing (southbound) → Connaught Road West Flyover (eastbound) → Man Po Street → Man Yiu Street (southbound) → Lung Wo Road (eastbound) → Fenwick Pier Street (eastbound) → Convention Avenue (eastbound) → Hung Hing Road → Marsh Road Flyover → Lockhart Road (eastbound) → Percival

Street → Hennessy Road (eastbound) → Yee Wo Street (eastbound) → Sugar Street → **Finish at Victoria Park, Hong Kong**

(C) 10 km



Start on Island Eastern Corridor (eastbound, near City Garden) → Turning Point (near Oi Tak Street, Shau Kei Wan) → Island Eastern Corridor (westbound) → Victoria Park Road (westbound) → Causeway Bay Flyover (Exit to Gloucester Road westbound) → Gloucester Road (southbound) → Finish at Victoria Park, Hong Kong

(D) 10 km Wheelchair Race



Start on Island Eastern Corridor (eastbound, near City Garden) → Turning Point (near Oi Tak Street, Shau Kei Wan) → Island Eastern Corridor (westbound) → Victoria Park Road (westbound) → Causeway Bay Flyover (Exit to Gloucester Road westbound) → Paterson Street → Kingston Street (eastbound) → Gloucester Road (southbound) → Finish at Victoria Park, Hong Kong

(E) 3 km Wheelchair Race



Start on Wan Chai Sports Ground → Tonnochy Road → Convention Avenue (westbound) → Turning Point (near Fleming Road) → Convention Avenue (eastbound) → Hung Hing Road → Marsh Road Flyover → Lockhart Road (eastbound) → Percival Street → Hennessy Road (eastbound) → Yee Wo Street (eastbound) → Sugar Street → Finish at Victoria Park, Hong Kong

Safety Arrangements along the route

4. In response to the increase in the number of participants, the OC has further enhanced the safety arrangements for Marathon 2016 as follows -

- The Auxiliary Medical Services (AMS) will set up 38 medical stations and first aid stations at the Start, Finish and various points along the routes on the day of the race. The AMS will deploy medical personnel, including 780 first aiders, 44 nurses and 30 doctors, with 10 ambulances stand by to provide emergency medical services.
- The AMS will also provide four ambulance motorcycles and 17 first aid bicycles to patrol the Nathan Road new extension route (i.e. the first 2.2 km), Tsing Ma Bridge, Stonecutters Bridge, Connaught Road West Flyover to ensure a safe race.

5. The HKAAA, AMS and other concerned government departments will further discuss the detailed arrangements of first aid coverage on the day of the race. Moreover, the HKAAA together with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department has organised different levels of marathon training classes before the race, attracting over 3 100 participants. The HKAAA has also launched a Jogging Promotion Scheme in Wan Chai, Kowloon City and Sha Tin to instill proper safety concepts in the participants, thereby raising their safety awareness.

Emergency Vehicles Access (EVAs)

6. The Marathon 2016 has the following emergency vehicles accesses-

- Marathon and Half Marathon Races

To ensure the casualty could be reached in the most effective manner, EVAs would be set alongside with the race course on expressway. For the EVAs in urban areas, in view of the geographical limitation, it would be on a temporary basis, meaning officials on ground would clear the EVA for the emergency vehicles if needed.

- 10 km & 10 km Wheelchair Race

The 10 km race would take place on Island Eastern Corridor (IEC), with the slow lane of both eastbound and westbound reserved as EVA. A safety convoy comprising a rehab bus (with AMS members on duty) and a delivery truck (to remove any damaged wheelchair if needed) would follow the 10 km wheelchair

participants until inner Gloucester Road and turn into Paterson Street and proceed to the Finish at Victoria Park.

- 3 km Wheelchair Race

The 3 km Wheelchair race would start at Wan Chai Sports Ground, using the same route as marathon and half marathon race and finish at Victoria Park. A safety convoy comprising AMS ambulance, rehab bus and delivery truck would follow the 3 km wheelchair participants until Yee Wo Street before the participants turn into Sugar Street and proceed to the Finish.

Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association
Marathon Secretariat
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