

**For discussion  
on 23 April 2018**

**Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs**

**Opening up School Facilities  
for Promotion of Sports Development Scheme**

**PURPOSE**

This paper briefs Members on the “Opening up School Facilities for Promotion of Sports Development Scheme” (the Scheme) jointly launched by the Education Bureau (EDB) and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) from the 2017/18 school year and reports progress on its implementation to date.

**BACKGROUND**

2. It has been the Government’s policy to encourage schools to open up their facilities for hire by community organisations as a means to fostering collaboration between schools and the community. EDB has stipulated general guidelines for levying charges for hire of accommodation. According to a territory-wide survey conducted by EDB in 2016, more than 80% of schools had opened up their facilities in 2014/15 school year during non-school hours to various groups and organisations, including parent-teacher associations, alumni associations, school sponsoring bodies and non-profit-making organisations for organising different types of activities.

3. To encourage public sector schools (i.e. government, aided and caput schools) to further open up their facilities, EDB and HAB jointly launched the new scheme at the beginning of the 2017/18 school year to provide additional subsidy to those public sector schools which open up their facilities to sports organisations for organising sports activities. The objective is to increase the provision of sports facilities, while enhancing the sporting culture in schools and encouraging students to develop a healthy sporting habit on the other.

## **THE SCHEME**

4. Public sector schools are encouraged to open up their facilities, such as school hall, activity room, covered or open playground with ball court, sports ground, classroom and soccer pitch, for use by “national sports associations”(NSAs), their affiliated club members, District Sports Associations (DSAs) and sports organisations to organise sports activities during non-school hours. To ensure cost effectiveness, each programme under the Scheme should consist of at least 24 hours of content (i.e. 12 sessions of 2 hours each).

5. To facilitate the cultivation of a strong sporting culture in schools and increase students’ participation in sports activities, sports organisations using school facilities under the Scheme are required to reserve one-fourth of the places in each programme for priority enrolment of students, teachers and/or parents of the school concerned, subject to their fulfilment of the qualification(s) of that activity, if any.

6. The Scheme also provides financial incentives to encourage schools to open up their facilities. Apart from levying hire charges<sup>1</sup> as provided under the prevailing circulars issued by EDB, schools that hire out their facilities to sport organisations under the Scheme will receive a subsidy from EDB and HAB to cover relevant expenses incurred. The amount of the subsidy is \$20,000 for accommodating the first programme and \$15,000 for each subsequent programme, up to a maximum amount of \$80,000 per school in each school year. The subsidy can be used for hiring extra manpower, strengthening security measures, defraying additional utility costs, and carrying out urgent minor repair works.

7. To allay schools’ concerns on management, security and safety, participating sports organisations are required to observe the conditions of use of school facilities and make necessary measures to reduce loss or damages caused to schools due to negligence. Sports organisations are also required to procure adequate insurance, including third party liability insurance, for their use of school facilities.

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<sup>1</sup> For example, the standard rate of school hall is \$1,840 per 4-hour; the standard rate of covered playground, basketball court, gymnasium and sports fields is \$555 per 2-hour. Details are at EDB’s Guidelines for Levying Charges for Hire of Accommodation in Aided Schools (September 2017).

## **FUNDING ARRANGEMENT**

8. The funding resources required for the Scheme are equally shared between EDB and HAB. The subsidies would be disbursed by EDB to the participating schools.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME**

9. EDB issued two circular memoranda in June and November 2017 to invite schools to join the Scheme. Under the two rounds of applications, over 130 schools in total indicated their willingness to open up their facilities to sports organisations during certain specified hours. HAB then proceeded to distribute information on the schools' opening time slots and facilities to over 100 sports organisations, including NSAs and DSAs. After coordinating with interested organisations and relevant schools, a total of 17 sports organisations have arranged to run 45 sports programmes in 15 schools. These programmes include squad training programmes, young athletes training programmes and district sports activities, covering a variety of sports including basketball, volleyball, archery and badminton. Details of these programmes can be found at [Annex](#). It is estimated that there will be over 1,200 participants.

## **WAY FORWARD**

10. Based on EDB and HAB's preliminary observation, participating schools and sports organisations have responded positively to the Scheme. They were of the view that the Scheme could further encourage schools to open up their facilities and provide additional facilities for the organisation of sports activities, which would in turn strengthen promotion of sports at school and community levels.

11. EDB and HAB will collect feedback from participating schools and sports organisations by end of the 2017/18 school year and examine how the Scheme could be further enhanced. We expect to see more sports organisations utilising school facilities for their activities. In addition, EDB will consider expanding the Scheme to schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme with a view to providing a wider range of facilities for different types of sports activities.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

12. Members are invited to note the implementation and the way forward of the Scheme.

**Home Affairs Bureau**  
**April 2018**

## Annex

**Opening up School Facilities for Promotion of Sports Development  
Scheme**

**Details of confirmed programmes in 2017/18 school year**

(As at March 2018)

Sports organisations	School (District)	No. of Programmes	Type of sports	School facilities	Estimated no. of participants	
<b>First round applications</b>						
1	Eastern District Recreation & Sports Advancement Association Limited	1 SKH Li Fook Hing Secondary School (Eastern)	5	Basketball, Volleyball	Playground	100
2	Eastern Force Archery Club	2 Cheung Chuk Shan College (Eastern)	4	Archery	Covered playground	60
3	Hong Kong Badminton Association Limited	3 Hong Kong & Kowloon Chiu Chow Public Association Secondary School (Yau Tsim Mong)	1	Badminton	Badminton court	24
4	Shatin Sports Association Baseball Club	4 HKTA Shun Yeung Primary School (Sha Tin)*	5	Baseball	Baseball field	25
5	Sha Tin Sports Association Limited				Baseball field	100
6	Hong Kong Rope Skipping Association, China	5 Lung Cheung Government Secondary School (Wong Tai Sin)	2	Rope skipping	Hall, activity room	150
7	Hong Kong Kendo Association Limited	6 SKH St. Benedict's School (Wong Tai Sin)	2	Kendo	Hall	120
8	Hong Kong Kart Club Limited	7 TWGHs S C Gaw Memorial School (Kwai Tsing)	1	Karting	Hall	15
9	Yuen Long District Sports Association Limited	8 Yuen Long Public Secondary School (Yuen Long)	1	Yoga	Activity room	15
		9 The Jockey Club Eduyoung College (Yuen Long)	1	Basketball	Playground	20
		10 Tin Shui Wai Methodist Primary School (Yuen Long)*	4	Table tennis	Covered playground	80
10	Hong Kong Ice Hockey Association Limited*	11 YOT Tin Ka Ping Primary School (Sai Kung)*	3	Ice hockey	Synthetic ice rink	90

Sports organisations	School (District)	No. of Programmes	Type of sports	School facilities	Estimated no. of participants
<b>Second round applications</b>					
1	Explorer Sports Club	1	Handball	Playground	23
		2		Baseball field	60
2	Leap Judo Club	1	Judo	Covered playground / activity room	20
3	Sai Kung District Sports Association Limited	1	Badminton	Badminton court	20
4	Hong Kong Rope Skipping Club	1	Rope skipping	Hall	35
5	Hong Kong Ice Hockey Association Limited*	2	Ice hockey	Synthetic ice rink	60
6	Hong Kong Netball Association Limited	1	Netball	Netball court	30
7	Hong Kong Baseball Association Limited	2	Baseball	Baseball field	66
8	Tuen Mun Sports Association Limited	5	Basketball	Hall, playground	100
<b>17 sports organisations in total</b>		<b>45 programmes in total</b>	<b>14 types of sports in total</b>		<b>1,213 persons in total</b>

Note: Sports organisations and schools which have successfully participated in both rounds of applications are marked with \*