



AT THE HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

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CLUB MAGAZINE

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. For information and requests for placement of advertisements in "Club" please call 2830 9503. The opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Hong Kong Football Club or the General Committee. The Club reserves the right to edit and clarify all content. The copyright of all materials is held by the Hong Kong Football Club.









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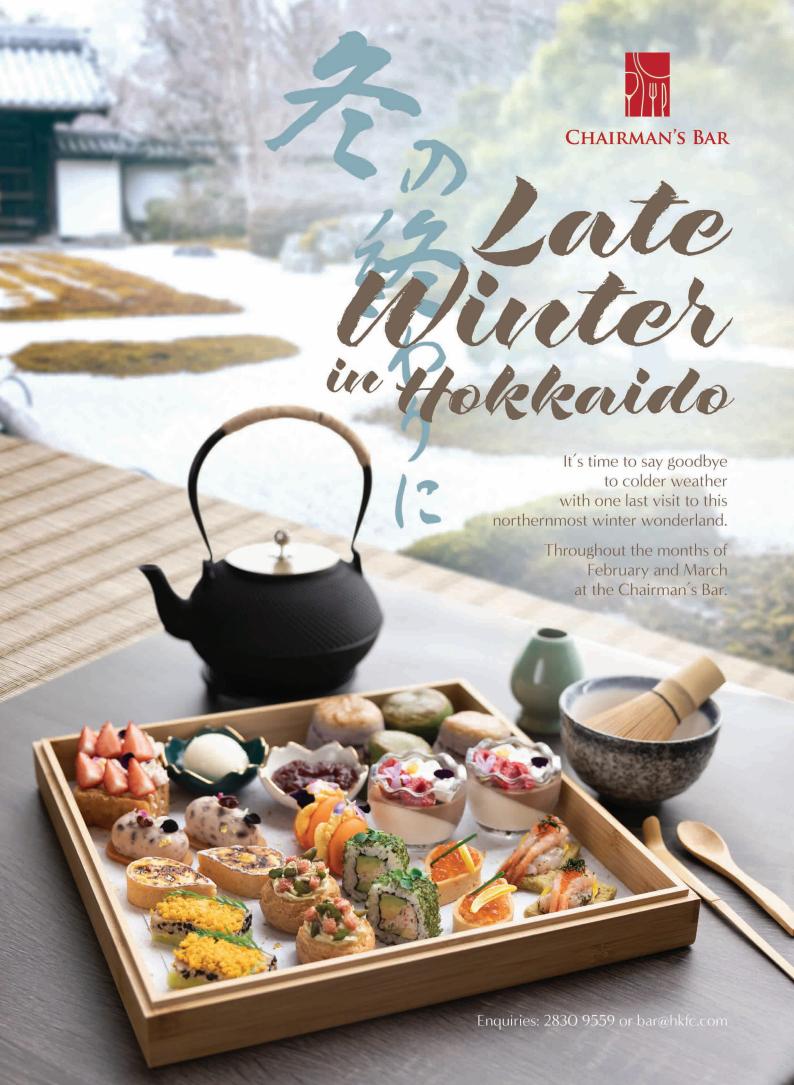
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THE THOUGHTS OF THE CHAIRMAN

主席的話





Happy Lunar New Year, wishing you and your loved ones happiness, health and good fortune in the **Year of the Rabbit**. Whilst it might be the shortest month of the year, February will have plenty packed into it. Along with the usual Section Sports, Activities and Classes, keep an eye out for the following highlights:

SOCCER

Sports Road will play host to three Hong Kong Premier League home matches. Don your Club colours and head down to support our 1st Team at the following home games.

5th February HKFC vs RCFC HKFC vs Sham Shui Po 19th February 26th February HKFC vs Kitchee

LAWN BOWLS

The winter month provides an ideal opportunity for further development on and off the Greens. HKFC will play host to the HKLBA International Technical Officials Briefing and Assessment on 11th February.

TENNIS

Our Tennis programme remains busy through the winter. Hot on the heels of the Chinese New Year Tennis Camps will be two popular tournaments. We encourage all tennis lovers to consider taking part.

11th February ATA Red, Orange, Green Ball Tournament (for children) 14th February ATA Valentine's Day Mixer (for adults)

As previously mentioned, we will be providing a new experience for Members in the area that was previously our **DVD Library**. Starting in March, we will introduce "Workspace", a cozy nook where you can get work done on your laptop while enjoying some Barista coffee and light snacks. We are looking to gather your feedback on this space in next few months so please drop in and take a look.

Another area that is undergoing a refresh is our **Club Shop** as we look to refocus the products sold there to relate to sports clothing and accessories, HKFC branded merchandise and Hong Kong related lifestyle products. There will be a poll on Club's social media pages about this so please let us know your thoughts.

I would also like to pay a personal tribute to **Craig Wootten** who recently passed away. He was most deserving of the life membership given to him a few years ago and I know the rugby and club community will be celebrating his life and paying tribute to him in the weeks ahead. My sincere condolences to Craig's family on behalf of everyone at HKFC and thank you for everything that he did for us over many years.

Neil Jensen Chairman

踏入兔年,祝大家新年快樂,身體健康,財源廣進!儘管 是每年日子最少的月份,2月還是會有一連串活動等著 大家。除了體育部日常的賽事、活動及訓練班、記得留意 以下的精彩部分:

足球部

本會未來連續3場香港超級聯賽賽事將在體育道主場 進行,快點挑選代表本會顏色的衣著,前來支持「第一隊」 的比賽,詳情如下:

2月5日 港會對晉峰 2月19日 港會對深水埗 2月26日 港會對傑志

草地滾球部

冬季月份正好是草地滚球場內外發展的理想時機,本會 將於2月11日作為東道主舉辦香港草地滾球總會國際 技術主任簡報及評估大會。

網球部

本會的網球項目在冬天時依舊熱鬧,新年網球訓練營 過後,緊接而來的是兩個大受歡迎的網球錦標賽,非常 鼓勵所有網球愛好者參與其中。

2月11日 ATA 紅橙綠網球錦標賽(兒童組) 2月14日 ATA情人節網球混合賽(成人組)

上期會刊提到我們會改造原來的**DVD館**,給會員一個 全新體驗。現在正式宣佈「工作空間」將於3月起開放, 到時大家可以帶電腦到愜意的角落工作,同時慢慢享用 咖啡及輕盈小食。未來幾個月大家不妨來看看,任何意見 都無仟歡迎。

本會的會所商店也正在重新定位,希望將售賣焦點集中 在運動服飾及用品、港會自家品牌商品以及香港特色生 活產品,我們很快便會在社交媒體專頁發起有關商店的 投票,大家可以隨意表達自己的想法。

最後,本人亦想向最近逝世的Craig Wootten致敬。本會 幾年前曾向Craig頒發永久會員名銜,他絕對實至名歸, 相信欖球界及本會的所有人未來幾個星期都會為Craig 舉辦追思會及向他致敬。在此僅代表港會所有人希望 Craig的家人節哀順變,並感謝他過去多年來的付出。

主席 Neil Jensen

OBITUARY

We were saddened to hear the news of the recent passing of longstanding Member

Craig Wootten

Our thoughts and prayers go to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.



GENERAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

總經理的話





As the saying goes, February is the border between winter and spring. Within this month's magazine, you'll find some fond memories of 2 winter season activities that were good for both the Club members and the community. Throughout the winter season, we put a **toy donation box** in our main lobby, under the grand staircase. Thanks to your generous donations, we managed to fill it up 5 times and after sorting them out, we had enough to share with Rugby section's donation to 270 Po Leung Kuk children and the rest were sent in 2 full truck loads to YMCA for their Toy Bank Programme. A new winter activity that we tried was our **Party on the Pitch**, which was our new spin on the Christmas Fete. We gathered a lot of great feedback and suggestions thanks to a survey that was sent out to all those that attended the event, so it will be back bigger and better at the end of this year. Indeed, the holiday season was great, especially due to the last-minute elimination of any covid restrictions. Except the masks...

We have now entered the Year of the Rabbit and I hope you were able to enjoy any of the Lunar New Year activities, especially the lion dance that was at the front entrance of the club on 29th January. Also in January, we tried to invite as many of Sportsman's Bar's most regular patrons to have an advance tasting of the new menu that will be launched when our favourite bar reopens. Don't worry if we couldn't fit you in. We count on your feedback for the first few months to make sure we get it right. By now, our **swimming complex** has reopened after regularly scheduled maintenance works.

February is the month of love and there are some charming **Valentine's Day** food & beverage promotions to consider. Please look out for them. There are other promotions that are late winter trends and early spring previews, lots to choose from, as usual. Please book early to join the **Super Bowl Breakfast** down that the Sportsman's Bar front patio on 13th February, with the game showing on the big screen with brand new surround sound. **Finally, the Club is going social!** We have officially launched our own Facebook and Instagram pages so why not stay connected and share your experiences and happy moments down at the Club and please don't forget to tag us. I might just photo bomb you in the background.

Hope to see you down at the Club soon.

Randal Linhart General Manager 2月是冬天與春天的分界線,在迎接春天前,本會舉辦了兩項惠及社區及充滿節日氣氛的冬季會員活動,大家會在今期會刊找到這些美好回憶。本會於冬日季節前夕在大堂的大樓梯下設置了玩具捐贈箱,全賴各位的慷慨捐贈,我們前後足足清理了5次捐贈箱,並於玩具分門別類後,把所需的數量分給欖球部轉贈予保良局270位小朋友,餘下的玩具則塞滿兩輛貨車,送到香港基督教青年會的玩具銀行。另外,本會更舉辦了全新的Party on the Pitch,為聖誕遊樂會寫下新定義。感謝各出席者填寫問卷,我們收集到很多寶貴意見及建議,今年年底的派對將會以更盛大的規模強勢回歸,敬請期待。這個冬季長假期實在愉快,尤其是在最後一刻幾乎所有防疫措施都已解除,只是口罩令仍繼續維持。

踏入兔年,希望大家都喜歡本會的農曆新年活動,特別是1月29日在正門舉行的舞獅表演,相當精彩。除此之外,我們1月還嘗試邀請眾多Sportsman's Bar老常客預先品嚐新餐牌,當我們最喜愛的酒吧重開時,新餐牌亦會隨之推出。假如我們未有安排邀請你的話,別擔心,我們期待大家於餐廳重開頭幾個月提供意見回饋,以確保Sportsman's Bar盡善盡美。游泳池的定期維修保養工程也順利完成,現在已經重新開放。

除了是代表季節的分隔,2月更是充滿愛的月份,大家可以留意一下讓人心動的情人節餐飲推廣。除此之外,會所各餐廳還有很多冬末初春推廣任君選擇。我們2月13日將在Sportsman's Bar的前庭舉辦超級盃早餐會,在戶外大銀幕上播出賽事,加上全新的環迴立體聲系統,確保大家能享受最好的賽事體驗,有興趣的話請盡早報名,免失良機。最後,香港足球會正式登陸Facebook及Instagram,快點追蹤我們的專頁,並分享在本會的體驗及歡樂時刻,分享時記得要Tag我們。我或許會在你的照片亂入!

期待與大家在本會相見。

總經理 林克朗

CLUB NEWS





Scan the QR Code









THE GIFT **OF GIVING**

Thanks for the generous donations from our Members, we collected 2 full truck loads of toys and books. After cleaning and repackaging by our staff volunteers, everything was sent to our charity partner YMCA of Hong Kong. The donated items were distributed to underprivileged children in the city under the Toy Bank Programme.











fter a 2-year break due to Covid restrictions, HKFC PSA Open is back on the calendar with a bang. For the first time in HKFC history, we organised a bronze level event which saw two Top 10 players Marwan ElShorbagy and Mazen Hesham leading the pack at seeds 1 and 2 respectively. We also had representation from two HKFC members Max Lee and Alex Lau. Max Lee is the local favourite, former Top 12 and 3 times HKFC Open Champion, playing his last PSA event ever in front of his home crowd, whilst Alex Lau, current Hong Kong #1, trying to replicate his form from the HKFC Open to continue climbing the rankings.

All throughout the week, in true HKFC fashion, we had plenty of events for both the players and members to accompany the high quality of squash on display. We started with an opening ceremony to welcome the players to the club and to kick off the event. We also had a couple of squash clinics for the juniors who have plenty to learn from some of the world's best players. We also took this opportunity to show the players what

Hong Kong is like with a tram party around the island, the hallmark of Hong Kong's transportation.

As for the squash, it was smooth sailing for the Top 3 seeds into the semi-finals. The forth seed **Nicolas Mueller** lost to compatriot **Dimitri Steinmann** in the second round, with Steinmann cruising into the semi-finals. In the semi-finals, the top seed Marwan ElShorbagy faced

fellow countryman Youssef Soliman in a tug-of-war battle, with ElShorbagy scraping through a tough 3-2. In the other semi-finals, the second seed Mazen Hesham made much lighter work on his opponent, despatching Steinmann 3-0 to set up a thrilling final. The final was full of entertainment in front of a packed gallery as both players tried to impose their game. ElShorbagy started the better of both players to take the lead 1-0, but Hesham fought back hard in the second to level things at one game apiece. The third was a rather scrappy

affair with ElShorbagy squeezing ahead only to then close off the match to claim his maiden HKFC Open title. It was also ElShorbagy's first title of the season.

It capped off a wonderful two weeks of squash in Hong Kong to close the squash calendar for 2022. A final note, we would like to thank all the Patrons of HKFC Squash Section and our generous sponsors at Snow Kiwi and Blue Pool Capital for their continuous support in making this event a success and we look forward to a bigger and better event in 2023.

Mark Low

SPORTS







THE BEST THINGS ARE THE SMALL THINGS

MALAYSIA WORLD MASTERS OPEN 2022

The city's lockdown restrictions loosened up, the World Cup Football was on, the PSA Malaysia Open was on, and I said YES immediately when my son Adrian asked me casually if I wanted to play in the Malaysian World Masters. I enrolled in the 70+ age group.

n Wednesday 23rd November, we flew in arriving at the Suite Dreamz Hotel, a stone's throw away from the squash centre Bukit Jalil National Stadium. Food streets and bars lined both sides of the road right along the hotels. Entertainment would not be short.

The following day (Thursday), I was joined in by **TK Yeung** who had just retired, and the beautiful **Jasmine Tan** who was now stationed in KL. I played my first match at 9:30am, just made it in the fifth 11-6. Played my second in the afternoon, lost 1-3 and progressed to the plate.

Meanwhile, **Adrian** did better, winning his first squash match 3-1, and played his racket ball match to the Malaysian National Coach and went down 0-2. TK had an impressive run, winning both his squash and racket ball matches. Jasmine had a tough draw, played the former national champion **Sharon Wee** in the first match and went down 0-3.

On Friday, I played my third match at 10:30am, went down in straight games and was quite worn out. I could swear I would have won it all, if I stayed in the Foodie's gym a little longer, my fitness a little better, or so I thought.

Adrian played his second match against Jahangir Khan, went down 0-3 and played his second racket ball match winning 2-1. TK played and won his second squash match 3-2 and progressed to the final which took place in the prestige centre court. Unfortunately, TK has a much shorter recovering time than his opponent, losing 3-2 to secure a silver medal. Jasmine met strong opponents both from local and Japan, finishing with her final position at No.4.

Later that Friday night, Tournament Director **Choon Hong Teh** took us to the famous Alor Street for dinner and oh, what a sight! The food was fantastic, the beer was super cold, the atmosphere was electrifying, and I came to see the true colours of the KL night.

On Saturday, I played my fourth and last match. My opponent was **Mr Leong Ching Wah** from Ipoh, who was very fit and a hard hitter. He beat me in straight games. Mr Leong warmly invited me to play in Ipoh on another occasion. I would give it some serious consideration to level my score. TK played well in racket



ball and came third to secure another bronze medal. Adrian finished 4th place in squash and came 2nd runner-up in racket ball. And that pretty much wrapped up my Malaysia World Masters 2022 expedition.

A final word: Senior years are about taking new challenges, making new friends and celebrating all the old ones. The most important thing is to always be true to yourself, no matter what others say.

Please note next squash tour is on 16th -19th February 2023, the President Cup in Singapore, to be held in the famous Tanglin Club.

Simon Ng



THREE-MATCHTEST SERIES AGAINST SINGAPORE

etween 10th and 13th December 2022, Hong Kong and Singapore played three test matches in Singapore's Sengkang Hockey Stadium. With the Hong Kong team, the HKFC representatives included Hamish Leung, Windfall Monthong, Matthew Ma, Luis Lui as the manager, Byron Poon and Ryan Wong. These test matches were played in preparation for the Men's Junior Asian Hockey Federation Cup that will take place in January 2023 in Muscat, Oman. The majority of the players were junior players accompanied by three Hong Kong senior players including Windfall Monthong.

A portion of the Hong Kong junior team members played together in Hong Kong Hockey Association's Division 1 from late September this year, but it was not until the team arrived in Singapore that the team got to play together for the first time. We arrived on 8th December and had two days to prepare for the first test match against Singapore. We had to get used to Singapore's hot and humid climate compared to Hong Kong's winter and the unfamiliar pitch conditions. On the first two days, we had intensive trainings sessions to get used to our new teammates and tightly packed schedule where we played continuous hockey on similar hours for the next four days.

In the first game, we conceded early in the 5th minute of the first quarter and played a defensive second quarter. We scored one close to the end of the third quarter and played a risky fourth quarter to end the game with a 1-1 draw. Most of the players gained their first senior international cap as well as confidence going forward into the second game.

In the second game, we played a highly defensive first quarter, but we conceded one in the second quarter, another in the third and two more in the fourth quarter and ended up losing the game 4-0.

In the final game, we were met by the same Singaporean team, but with a different mentality that brought a difference in rhythm and tactics. It resulted in a similar result in the third game where we conceded twice in the first and second quarter and once in

the third, finishing the final test match off with a 5-0 loss. We ended the three-match test series with 1 draw and 2 losses.

We knew we were the underdogs with little collective international hockey experience compared to the Singapore team. Hopefully we can use the week in Singapore and the two weeks in Hong Kong to prepare ourselves for the Men's Junior Asian Hockey Federation Cup where we will play against Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan in Oman in order to reach the next stages and qualify as a team.





CONGRATULATIONS

WOMEN'S CLUB SINGLES

Champion SHIRLEY MA

Shirley will represent the Club in the National Champion of Champions competition scheduled to be held in February and March 2023. We wish Shirley the best of luck in the competition.



CLUB UNISEX INDOOR SINGLES OPEN TOURNAMENT



Champion **EDMOND CHAN**



First Runner-up STEPHEN SY

Joint Second Runner-up ANNA TO AND MOBIN YAU

CLUB UNISEX INDOOR SINGLES NOVICE TOURNAMENT



Champion **JUSTIN LAW**

First Runner-up **EVA YU**





Joint Second Runner-up JACK LAW AND **DICKY MAK**









on Saturday, 19th November 2022. Though we are still reeling from the sudden loss of our dear friend, we are humbled and touched by her time here with us.

Wanis' lawn bowls journey began in 1986 when she first picked her bowl at Victoria Park. She was recommended by Coach FA Santos to join the Filipino Club a year later. Lawn Bowls became her sports. When it came to weekends, it was no surprise to see her on green, either playing or coaching. Wanis joined HKFC in 2004 as a family member of Philip, her beloved husband and since 2006, she never took off her HKFC jersey.

Starting off as a skip in HKFC, she later became a side Captain and eventually - even in her last days - our Ladies Captain. Her achievements speak for her extraordinary bowling journey. As a former Hong Kong squad member, she held a number of national championship titles. And of course, she was a club Singles and Pairs winner, a member of League Champion rink and League Champion Team.

Wanis' life was not faint. Her memory will always be with us, and her legacy will continue through her students. She started to coach the Youth Athletes Scheme in 2006 and the Youth Development Team in 2008. It was not difficult to see her calling players on and off, noting the goals and providing words of encouragement around the green.



She became YDT Co-ordinator in 2018 and retired from the post earlier this year. Her parting advice: "We are not coaching only trainees' skills but also developing them to respectful bowlers." All coaches and youth members will not forget her enthusiasm and spirit in this sport.

Wanis was an excellent skip, a great captain, a good friend and above all, a devoted wife. She met her lifetime partner Philip Sze on the green. They tied the knot on 28th August 2003 and since then, they always did everything together. Apart from lawn bowling, her biggest interest was to travel across the seven seas and to explore the world with Philip.

"You can cry and close your mind or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on." Wanis would be remembered as a kind and caring iron lady whose calm demeanour, gentle touch and elegance would be deeply missed - not only by the lawn bowls community but in the lives of all those who knew her.

Mr. Walter Kwok, Ms. Josephine Lam and Ms. Eva Yu







We are finishing Term 1 on a high after a wonderful Autumn League in the JNA. Congratulations to all players on a hardfought term of netball, with ten of our teams making the playoff stages of their respective divisions!

The Parent vs Players games to celebrate the festive season were the most well-attended event to date, and we would like to thank everyone for their involvement and support to the programme and the players over the course of this term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on court in January and wish everyone a very happy holiday season.











It's the Best Breakfast of the year and the Best Monster Bloody Mary's.

MONDAY 13.04.63 LIVE from 7 AM



Remarks:

- Sportsman's Bar will open at 6am on the day. The rest of the Club facilities will
- Should the number of bookings be insufficient, the event may have to be cancelled.
- For the rest of terms and conditions, please refer to the reservation form.
- This event is subjected to change based on policy updates from the HKSAR Government.

*Same price for adult and child.



Advance reservation preferred and please scan the QR code to download the reservation form or visit the HKFC.com.

Fportsman's Bar



AYERS

5 HKFC Players (Luke Bannon, Marco Conti, Tanner Holland, Minjun Koo and **Dewi Simons**) were part of the Hong Kong U19 squad that travelled to Kuala Lumpur to compete in the Asia Rugby Championship in early December. Hong Kong won against Malaysia (43-9) and Chinese Taipei (19-12), earning a place in the U20 World Rugby Trophy in 2023. Marco and Dewi, both long-term HKFC players, returned from the UK for the competition while Luke, Tanner and Minjun are locally based and at just 16 years of age will be excelling for many years to come.

Other HKFC U18 players (Henry Alder, Adam Farquhar, Nirvan Rai and Thaddeus Sandeen) also trained with the team and HKFC Head Coach **Logan Asplin** was responsible for the campaign. Well done all!



MASTERCLASS!

he rugby section's Movember fundraiser included a number of exciting prizes, one of which was a kicking masterclass with Club's Glyn Hughes. Two of our youth rugby players Jessica and William (U10G & U7) were lucky enough to win the session with Glyn who provided some great tips and advice as the kids looked to develop their own kicking and follow in the footsteps of our Prem star. A number of our senior players generously gave their time to coach our younger players, with all age groups from U9 upwards having a dedicated pro-coach in addition to special events like this. HKFC Youth Rugby is privileged to have this connection to our senior teams and the bonds across the section serve as inspiration for the next generation of senior players!



HOT OFF THE PRESS! MORE SILVERWARE!

Huge congratulations to our U13 team, winners of Pool A in the U13/14 Championship on 18th December!

REST IN PEACE

The Flying Welshman

MIKE ASHTON

ike Ashton, a Soccer Section stalwart for more than 42 years, passed away on 22nd March 2022 after a longstanding illness which kept him away from the Club the last two years. The man with a huge heart made a big contribution to the Section and club, and is sorely missed by all Rovers and the Soccer Section.

He was a fixture at the Club for

decades as a player, a referee and a friend in Sportsman's Bar. I recall almost always finding Mike settled in an armchair in the foyer reading as I entered the Club for the next Rovers fixture at 7pm — always quick with an anecdote about football, politics or a classic movie.

He joined the Club on 1st October 1979 and became a Life Member in March

> 2002 for his long-term contribution with the Club Movie and Book Library. Mike played for a number of Club teams, mostly with Club B (which became Albion) as for German All Stars, holding an executive YYL committee the Rovers in the 80s, as one teammate recalls. he seamlessly transitioned from speedy left winger to sturdy left midfielder, and later to solid left fullback.

well as in the Yau Yee League position at times. After joining





As long-time Rovers Dr David Owens poignantly articulated: "He was a great ref because he had humour, empathy and total insight into the fact he was a crap ref and we were crap footballers playing out our old dreams and hopes."

as the whistle-free ref, merely calling

"play on".

And of course, who can forget his epic post-match write-ups which were extremely long but incredibly wellwritten and entertaining. They were a must-read if you had the time. Nam Nguven recounted Mike remembered the fine details of the match, every player's contribution and added so much colour.

"He was a fantastic storyteller in his writing as well as at the Sportsman's Bar. We had many nights talking about the Vietnam War and growing up in America. Mike was an encyclopaedia of history. He was also a very positive person. He spoke highly of every Rovers player's football ability, even though you knew most of the players he was talking about were rubbish."

In dedication to a true character and delightful person, Rovers will award the Mike Ashton memorial trophy for the player exemplifying his disposition and temperament at the end of each season, coupled with a game.

Joe Waring **Rovers Team Rep**





n an Extraordinary General Meeting held on Monday, 5th December 2022, Graeme Lane was unanimously voted into the role of Soccer Section Captain, therefore succeeding Sebastian Page who had held the role for the previous five years.

A native of Derby in the UK, Graeme ioined the Football Club in 2004 where he was Player Manager of HKFC Lucky Mile for the 2004/05 season and then Manager until 2011 in the HKFC Divisions 1 and 2. Over the course of those latter seasons. Graeme completed the English FA Level 1 and Level 2 Courses (Birmingham FA).

Graeme also coached Under 6s and Under 7s between 2007 and 2015 in the HKFC Junior Soccer Programme, and from 2020 to present day he has been coaching Under 12s. From 2017 to present day, he has been coaching Youth Pathway Development Under 14s in the HKFA Premier Youth League, and in 2018 he coached the HKFC Under 16s in the Gothia Cup in Sweden.

Between 2019 and 2022, Graeme also completed his UEFA C and UEFA B License Certificates (FA of Wales).

Prior to joining the Football Club, Graeme played football in the UK and Japan with his playing experience set out in the right:

1977-1981

GRAEME LANE

Soham Village College - Captain of First XI (Selected for Cambridgeshire Under 15s County team)

1982

Ipswich Town Youth team

1983-1986

Sheffield Polytechnic - First XI

1984

Derby County Third team

Bristol City Reserves

1987-89

Enfield Town - FA Vauxhall Conference

1989-1994

Isthmian League various London clubs: Bromley, Dulwich Hamlet, Barking

1994-1999

Kent League: Crockenhill (Player/ Coach), Cray Wanderers

1994-2004

Japan - Yokohama (Club Captain and Coach)

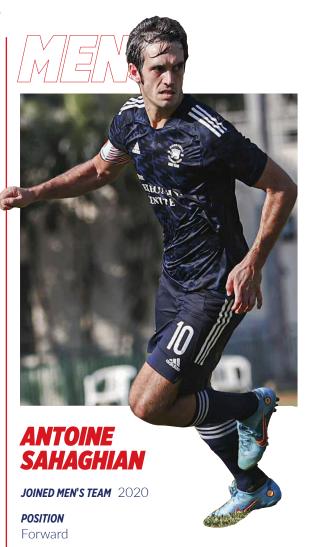
2004-2005

Hong Kong - HKFC Lucky Mile



and approachable Soccer Section / Football Club person, and we are very fortunate to have him join us as Section Captain and fill the large shoes of his predecessor. And depending on the quality of the red wine in his hand at the time, he may be persuaded to showcase his karaoke skills obviously honed from his time in Japan.

Feel free to share any ideas or thoughts you may have with Graeme directly or at comms@hkfcsoccer.hk.



Antoine started playing football at 6 years old in France, joined a football academy at 12 before starting early with the semi-professional team at 15 years old. After a few years playing at this level and seeing that reaching full professional level would be challenging, he paused his career at 19 to refocus on his studies.

After not playing football for six years, he started again after moving to Hong Kong in 2014 to work in finance, joining the first team of the Hong Kong Football Club one year later. Antoine has now played eight seasons for the first team, including the past two seasons in the Hong Kong Premier League.

Antoine says: "Although our first season in the top league was difficult as everything was new for the team that needed time to adapt, the start of the current season has been very encouraging. The team ended up the first half of the season at a promising 4th place and will aim to keep the strong momentum into the second half, opening up good prospects for the future of the team and the club in general. The support of the club and atmosphere around the team has been fantastic this year! Bringing us this extra motivation needed to perform week on week. The development of the youth academy has also been very important, giving the possibility for young talent to integrate into the first team early on, a necessary step in the long-term development of the club."



JEAN CARLLO MACIEL

JOINED MEN'S TEAM 2018

POSITION

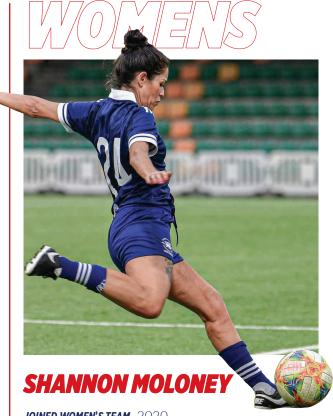
Midfielder

Jean first started playing football in Portugal when he was just 5 years old. For the first couple of years, he played for FC Porto, then moved to Boavista FC where he played from U8 to U14.

From U15 to U18, he played for SC Salgueiros where he made the first team when he was 19. He then played in the Portuguese 3rd Division for Nelas and Santa Maria.

After a long break of football, he decided to join HKFC when he moved to Hong Kong four years ago. This is his fourth season playing for the first team.

Jean says: "I think that we have a stronger team compared to last year, with a mix of a few new experienced players and young players coming from the youth teams. We had a great first half of the season and we are expecting the same from the second half. Having a first team playing on the premier league is a great motivation for the young kids playing at the club. Hopefully we can see more of them joining the first team."



JOINED WOMEN'S TEAM 2020

POSITION

Centre Midfielder

Shannon started playing football at age 5 with a number of English clubs under her belt - namely Arsenal, Portsmouth, Brighton and Tottenham Hotspur. She spent eight seasons at Spurs and was a big contributing factor to the developmental growth of women's football. During her time at Tottenham, she received many accolades, including winning the league at White Hart Lane, and being treble medal winners in various regional and national cups.

Her playing days at Tottenham came to an end in 2019, where she began teaching for the first part of the year. At the end of 2019, she commenced her role with Tottenham and AIA in delivering football and health initiatives across Asia. Her key focus is to represent women in sport, not only in a playing sense but also from a coaching and involvement perspective. Her love for football is inspirational, and she continues to help the women's and girls' game grow not only in Hong Kong but all across Asia.

Shannon started playing for HKFC in 2020, but unfortunately due to covid and issues with travel, she missed a large chunk of the 2020/21 season. However. upon returning in 2021 and under the appointment of our new manager Chancy Cooke, HKFC were flying, finishing tied first place with an undefeated first half of the season.

Shannon says, "I am excited for the future of HKFC Women's Team. There is some phenomenal talent in the younger age groups. Our aim is to finish as high as we can this year and build on developing our squad."



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Sportsman's Bar

Table Guests Server

APPT - SOUP/SAL - ENTREE - VEG/POT - DESSERT - BEV A favourite of the 1940's Midwestern Hoosier

diner scene, these open-faced sandwiches are on soft bread with mashed potato

and meats, all smothered in piping hot gravy.

Oh yeah!

Available throughout the month of February at the Sportsman's Bar.

Chef Kit

Enquiries: 2830 9531 or sportsmans@hkfc.com



This month, we interview new ATA Tennis Professional Craig Taylor who has been in Hong Kong for 7 years now and recently joined the coaching team in September 2022.

When and where did you start playing tennis?

"I first started playing tennis in Wollongong, Australia when I was about 9 years old but played more regularly as a 13-year-old when my parents moved to a house with a tennis court next door. My twin brother and I were fortunate enough our neighbour gave us the keys to the court so we could play most afternoons after school. We prepared for tournaments many times with our cousin David Taylor who went on to become Australian Fed Cup coach. Tennis was played frequently within the family as well as many other sports. Our grandfather was probably our biggest influence."

What advice would you give to anybody trying tennis for the first time?

"Playing tennis for the first time can be difficult, especially as an adult. If you enjoy the game and want to improve, you need to be patient. You also need a good coach!"

What attracted you to join the ATA coaching team at HKFC?

"I have known most of the ATA coaching staff since I arrived in Hong Kong 7 years ago. I always want to work alongside coaches with an exceptional work ethic and passion. Nathan and Toby have it as well as good chemistry and I wanted to be a part of that. When the opportunity came about to work at the HKFC, I jumped at it."

How are you adjusting to playing in the HK summer heat and humidity?

"Not always easy working in the heat and humidity, but you do get used to it. I spent 4 years in Singapore working as a coach so I think that may have helped me adjust to the Hong Kong summers."

What is your biggest strength as a tennis player?

"My biggest strength as a player is my movement and speed. Also, my backhand and volleys. I enjoy getting to the net as often as I could."

How do you prepare for a match?

"I would prepare for a match by listening to music and mentally prepare my game around my opponents' strengths and weaknesses. With matches, you need to be very present and not think about the outcome too much. A match can be lost very quickly if you're distracted and not aware of the present."

Do you prefer playing singles or doubles?

"I enjoy playing both singles and doubles. I find it easier playing doubles these days. It suits my game and style of play. I enjoy the speed and net game doubles gives me."

Which tennis player do you admire and why?

"I always enjoy watching players with an aggressive overall game with a mix of touch. I like watching Roger Federer and Nick Kyrgios. Anyone with a one-handed backhand is entertaining to watch. They usually have a creative game with a mix of slice and topspin."

FALL 2022 LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS

HONG KONG TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Men's A+	
Men's A	6th
Men's B	3rd
Men's D	3rd
Ladies A+	6th
Ladies A	
Junior A	2nd
Junior B	5th
Junior C	6th

HONG KONG LADIES TENNIS LEAGUE

Div 3	Hustle Queens	8th
Div 4	Dream Team	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 14th February 2023

Valentines Mixer

Sunday 12th March 2023 Charity Cup

League Player Drinks





We returned to Kau Sai Chau East course for our December 1st golf outing, just five days after our last society day there. KSC's East Course is currently the only 18-hole course that is not undergoing extensive renovations. Both the South and the North Courses are undergoing extensive upgrades to their irrigation and subterranean drainage systems. The project is scheduled to be completed by the middle of 2024.

The winds picked up for our final 2022 golf outing at KSC; it felt like we were in a T3 for most of the front nine, and you needed to club up at least 2 clubs if you were playing into the wind.

The wind gradually died down towards midday, allowing for some enjoyable golf. In the end, the scores were challenging, with most Stableford scores being in the 20s. However, three golfers managed to score more than 30 points, and all finished on the podium. This month's report was a bit light but check out March's edition of the magazine for our first golf outing in 2023, when we return to the delightful KSC East AGAIN.

A great shot is when you pull it off. A smart shot is when you don't have the guts to try it. - PHIL MICKELSON

Happy golfing!

William Chan

Marco Jorge, Andy Ho, Jonny brock,

Jonathan Li, David Lindsay

STABLEFORD WINNERS

Dorothy Lam

Jonathan Li

Shane Burgess 31 points

NEAREST TO THE PIN

Terry Wright

Andy Ho

Greg Medhurst

Dennis Hui

Jonathan Li

Marco Jorge

LONGEST DRIVE HOLE 17

Dorothy Lam

Jonny Brock

BEST GROSS

Jonny Brock 85 points





Thomas Mcgillycuddy, William Chan, Greg Medhurst, Ryan Woollford





Jennifer Chapman, David Cross

Andy Ho





John Dainton , Doreen Dainton, Davif Lindsay, Jonthan Li



Mark Chow, Lucia Lee, Peggy Chan, Dorothy Lam



Gilbert Law, Andrew Chan, Dennis Hui, Raymond Cheung

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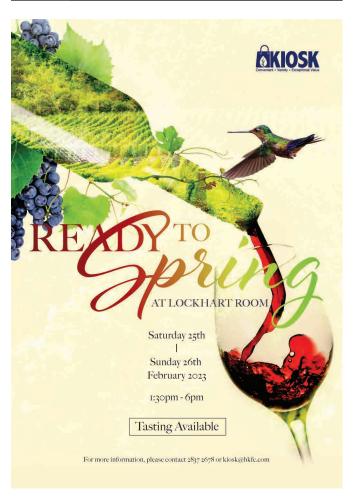
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****** Your enquires are always welcome *******



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The Country Club finally get their hands on the North South trophy after 7 years!

HKFC GOLF SOCIETY VS THE HONG KONG COUNTRY CLUB GOLF SOCIETY

MONDAY, 12TH DECEMBER 2022 KAU SAI CHAU SOUTH COURSE

The North South Trophy is an annual fixture first played in 2015 and, over the years, has been played at Kau Sai Chau, Clearwater Bay and in Macau. This "Hong Kong Island derby" is always eagerly anticipated for its social nature.

The Country Clubbers lost this match heavily last time out in Kai Sai Chau, so they were still looking to get their first "W" this year. They put out a very strong team, who were all members of either Discovery Bay, Clearwater Bay and Hong Kong Golf Clubs. We had a few withdrawals and with interest down due to increased holiday travel, with all due respect, this was not our strongest team.

The weather had been milder than usual for December and as we arrived in Sai Kung, the monsoon heading south from the mainland was in effect with gusty winds, cloudy skies and a chill in the air.

Our lead pair of Mike Button and Owen Davis were taking on Dorian Cheng and TK Chan. Dorian is a single figure handicapper and TK a stalwart of the team. Owen took time to warm up (in fact the first 8 holes!), so Mike was bearing his broad shoulders round the turn to lessen the losing margin. Owen got some rhythm on the back nine, alas too little. too late as the match got away from them. Our pair eventually losing 5 and 4.

The next contest took place between our life members Phil Nunn and Helen Hayward and Hong Kong squad members Lou Tan and Lawrence Ma. Lou was playing off a course handicap of +5. He hardly put a foot wrong, striking everything down the middle of the fairway, playing one over his handicap and gaining his second ever hole-in-one at #5! Too good for our experienced pair, who certainly made a fist of it by taking the match to #18, only for Lou to win it with a birdie! Close, but another loss, 1 down.

Outgoing Captain Andrew Wood partnered Kien Ng in their match against Captain/HKGA Rules Official Roy Lee and Matthias Kranich. The Sports Road pair went up early doors, but Matthias was belying his handicap with some very solid scoring. All square at the turn. Roy then reverted to his trusty 3-wood, choking any attempt from the opposition to get a foothold in this match. Suffice to say, Roy's clutch putt on #17 ensured them a victory 2 and 1. With only four flights, game over to the Southsiders.

So, with the first three matches going their way and the trophy heading South for the first time, could we at least gain a half point in the dead rubber?

Our anchor pairing brought together, Bill King and Sam Shei, looked a decent bet on paper to bring home that half point against ex-Captain Simon Cheung and Lee Chee Weng. Clearly the HKCC pair were having none of it as they raced to 2 up after 9 holes. Then came the comeback and was this wobble to become a fall? Unfortunately not as the holes were running out and this one also went their way with another victory 2 and 1.

So, the overall match position was a 4-0 hammering and the trophy gone for at least a year!

Most staved on for drinks (thanks to Lou in celebration and Helen for the roadies) at the G/F cafe (19th hole) as not many of us had taken the necessary RAT test to enter the 1/F restaurant.

It was great to see the Country Club folks again, always a fun and social match - although clearly they do have a few "ringers", so we will not be so generous with our line-up next year! (Note to Incoming Captain Andy Ho).

Suffice to say, not the way I would have liked to bow out of the Captain's role. but it just goes to show that winning streak over 2 years was quite something and then the wheels fell off.

Thanks to all golfers who gave up their time and showed their support, talent and willingness to compete during my fun-filled 3 years at the helm. It was honestly a great pleasure and truly an honour – and I wish **Andy Ho** the very best of luck during his leadership over the next few years.

Andrew Wood, Captain, Golf Society

NEAREST TO THE PIN

TK Chan

Lou Tan hole-in-one

Matthias Kranich

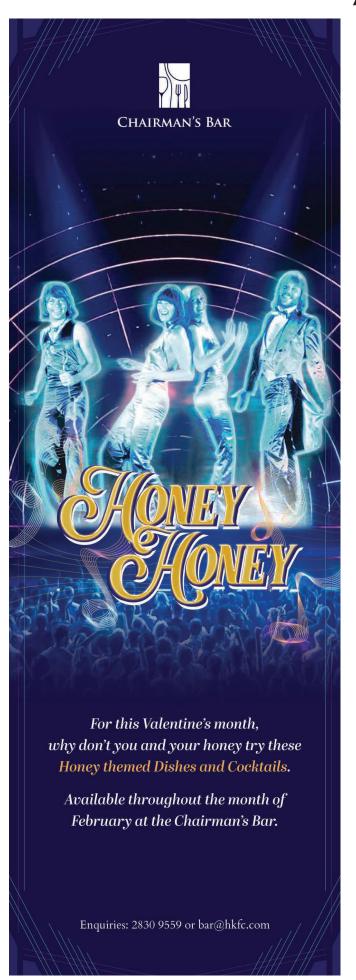
Hole 16 Simon Cheung











Sportsman's Bar

RETRO VIDEO GAME

Throughout the month of February

INSERT COIN

PRESS START BUTTON

JOIN THE ELIMINATION ROUNDS ON 6, 8, 15 & 20 February from 7 - 8PM. PLAY THE GAME ANYTIME YOU'RE AT THE BAR

TOP 2 ON EACH DAY GO THROUGH TO THE FINAL

FIGHT!

GRAND FINAL COMPETITION ON 25 FEBRUARY FROM 3 - 4PM.

READY PLAYER 1

DRESS AS A STREET FIGHTER, **GET A FREE PINT OF BEER**







GAME OVER

>>> ENROLMENT: BY EMAIL OR SIGN UP AT SPORTSMAN'S BAR
OPEN FOR HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB MEMBERS AGED 16 OR ABOVE



ENQUIRIES: 2830 9531 OR SPORTSMANS@HKFC.COM



SUNDAY, 11TH DECEMBER 2022

he Kowloon Tong Club (KTC) badminton team visited HKFC and enjoyed friendly games on 11th December 2022. Thirteen Official games were played and the winner was the KTC team. This result was anticipated with the average age difference of players this time between the two clubs. Nevertheless, friendship through fair competition is the most important spirit for sports. The Badminton Society demonstrated our enthusiasm in promoting the recreational side of the sports in addition to the competitive side and junior development. More inter-club

Chairman and the KTC friend in HKFC team jersey

matches are expected in 2023. Moreover, with the formation of the social team, we are expecting more fun and exercises in the coming year. Sport is not just competition!





Coraline battling her doubles event in Thailand. Coraline embarked her journey in Korea and completed it in Thailand.

JUNIOR ASSOCIATED MEMBERS REPORT

CORALINE LO1ST OVERSEAS TOUR – THAILAND

The first overseas junior tour for **Coraline** ends with her following conclusion:

"From 19th November to 4th December, I have been provided with great opportunities to participate in international junior tournaments. Although I may not have played my best, I still am able to gain a lot of experience from this. I was able to have a look at the different levels of badminton around

the world and learn from many players as well. Overall, I really enjoyed this valuable experience and found it quite interesting and enjoyable."

Coraline has completed her Thailand tour with round 64 in singles, round 16 in doubles and mixed doubles. The experience will certainly strengthen her mental preparation as a national player as well as to further improve her skill set in order to ascend in the international circuit.

UPDATES ON HKFC AND TORQ 2022 TEAM SERIES

The first HKFC and Torq Sports Team Series are coming to conclusion on 16th January 2023. HKFC U14 and U17 teams are in the third position and will enter the championship. Good luck teams!!

LOCAL DISTRICTS TOURNAMENTS

HKBA Bronze Award Competition 2022 Round 16

Tai Po District Tournament Semi-Finalist

Thomas Lee

Sha Tin District Doubles Semi-Final

Evelyn Zhu

Interschool Team Competition
First Runner-up

Thomas Lee and Jack Du

Interschool Team Competition Second Runner-up

Perry Mui

UPCOMING JUNIOR EVENTS

January to May 2023

HKBA Doubles and Mixed League

February to June 2023

Age Group Ladder Series (Spring) 2023

May 2023

HKFC & Torq Sports International Invitational Junior Tournament 2023



Happy Lo was having her fun moment during the tournament

> Saloni Mehta was fighting for her rightful place into the semi-final

HONG KONG ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS (NATIONAL) – ADVANCED LEVEL

The annual national tournament has commenced and the highlight is the advanced level in which all of the existing national team players will participate. Our elite JAMs **Saloni Mehta** fought her way into semi-final and **Happy Lo** unfortunately graduated in quarter-final.





JAMS' ACHIEVEMENT IN LOCAL TOURNAMENTS

YAU TSIM MONG DISTRICT CUP 2022



HKFC / Torq Sports Junior Squad Players and JAMs (left to right): Joey, Evelyn, Kenneth, Thomas, Curtis and Ethan in prize ceremony of Yau Tsim Mong

Our JAMs participated in an annual Yau Tsim Mong Badminton Tournament 2022 and all the hard work paid off this weekend. Wishing junior players will continue to grow and shine!

WINNERS

Boys' Singles Second Runner-up

Curtis Cheah

Boys' Singles First Runner-Up

Ethan Choy

Girls' Doubles Champion

Evelyn Zhu and partner

Boys' Doubles First Runner-Up

Kenneth Chau and Thomas Lee



RAINING MEDALS

n January issue, we reported the results of the Hong Kong Annual Long Course Masters Swimming Championships on 27th November 2022. Now here comes the story in the words of one of the participating swimmers, Patrick lp.

HKFC Swimming and Triathlon Society despatched a very competitive male swimming squad that put up a stellar performance in the Annual Long Course Masters Swimming Championships. Benefiting from the professional coaching and experience sharing by Hong Kong ex-Olympian and Hong Kong swimming record holder Alex Fong and the renowned Coach **Dominic Tsui**, the squad dominated the individual events and swept through the men's relay events.

Chris Cheng, being the first swimmer, touched the wall on a 27.27s in 50m fly in the 25-29 age group. Hong Kong ex-Olympian and record holder Arthur Li beat the first runner by a whopping margin to 3s in the 50m fly 50-54 age group, recording 29.8s. Our indomitable Edmund Wan continued his winning

streak, leaving all his competitors trailing behind in the 100m freestyle event in the 50-54 age group. **Edmund** had 2s at the end of the race to watch his next opponent touching the wall. Our coach Dominic Tsui walked the coaching talk by simply powering to the first place in 100m Freestyle 60-64 age group. **Alex** Fong narrowed missed

out on a gold to the **ex-Ireland** and record holder in 200 IM 40-44 age group event. Our evergreen and indefatigable Patrick Ip came in a respectable third and fourth in the 200 IM and 50 back 50-54 age group. His immediate promotion to the 55-59 age group in 2023 is a space to watch out for.

Alex, Arthur, Edmund and Chris bravely but unsuccessfully fought off the better team but secured a second place in the men's 4×50 IM relay team 160-199

age group trailing by 2s in a very high

standard time of 2.04.88s. The same team with a replacement of **Edmund** by **Patrick** also came in the second place in the men's 4×50 freestyle relay team 160-199 age group but was subsequently disqualified due to a mere technicality.

We congratulate HKFC swim team that has now firmly established itself in the Hong Kong master competitive swimming arena. The team is dedicated and will continue to train and improve to deliver more successes in 2023.



REPRESENTS HKFC TRIKIDS AT HKGSA MEET

Matt is the first ever swimmer representing Hong Kong Football Club in a Hong Kong China Swimming Association (HKGSA) age group meet. HKFC was accepted as a competition member by the HKGSA only back in 2018/19 season.

Matt is 14 years old and started swimming with the TriKids group about three and half years ago. Matt's talent in the pool is evident from a young age. Even though the pools had been shut for an aggregate of over 400 days since Covid-19. Matt had hardly trained compared with swimming club

programmes as his interests are diverse, from playing rugby in international tournament to lacrosse.

In this short course meter (SCM) race on 17th December at the Shing Mun Valley Pool, Matt swam the 100m backstroke and 50m butterfly, achieving easily two Division 2 qualifying times. There is much to learn from this experience, from familiarising with the logistics and the pool to sharpening skills at starts and turns. This is just a start of TriKids swimming journey.

The Swimming and Triathlon Society runs a TriKids swimming programme every Monday and Wednesday at 4:45pm throughout the year. Any young swimmers capable of swimming 100m and enjoying fun and learning are welcome. Drop by the pool next time and enquire.

SWIMMING AND TRIATHLON







The Swimming and Triathlon Society members came together to celebrate 2022 year end and Christmas at the tenpin bowling and with festive drinks at Sportsman's Bar on 9th December. 2022 has been another year complete with challenges and opportunities. Together we look forward to 2023 which will be a BIG year with many races and competitions.





HIGHLIGHTS IN FEBRUARY

FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS



"From This Moment On" Celebrate the day with your Valentine

At the Restaurant, there's a Valentine's Day set dinner available. Try the honey themed dishes and cocktails at the Chairman's Bar this month.

COFFEE SHOP



Delicious Dun 燉 Delicacies

Soups double boiled for double rich flavour and double soft texture.

Themed Buffet: Neo China
Upsell Dishes: Fusion Chinese Dishes
Takeaway: Chicken Wrapped in Lotus Leaf
Beverage: Natural Sugar Drinks

RESTAURANT



Northern Pacific Shellfish

These icy seas are the source of some of the most prized shellfish in the world. Clear, clean waters, careful handling and processing, outstanding variety and year-round availability assure unsurpassed quality, freshness and value.

Chef Alex has created a special selection of dishes celebrating Northern Pacific Shellfish.

From This Moment On

"You and I dear, We'll be ridin' high dear..."

There's a very special set menu available for lunch and dinner on Valentine's Day only at the Restaurant.

SPORTSMAN'S BAR



Manhattan Hot Shots

A favourite of the 1940's Midwestern Hoosier diner scene, these open-faced sandwiches are on soft bread with mashed potato and meats, all smothered in piping hot gravy. Oh yeah!

Daily Special: Paella Beverage: Local Craft Beer – Black Kite Fun Activity: Street Fighter Retro Video Game Live Sports: Super Bowl with the Big

Breakfast on 13th February 2023

CHAIRMAN'S BAR



Honey Honey

For this Valentine's month, why don't you and your honey try these Honey themed dishes and cocktails.



Late Winter in Hokkaido Afternoon Set Tea

It's time to say goodbye to colder weather with one last visit to this northernmost winter wonderland.

CAPTAIN'S BAR



Homemade Stromboli

Beverage: Super Berry Juices

FAMILY LOUNGE



Earl Grey Drinks

Food: Pocket Sandwich

POOL BAR



Healthy Casserole

Beverage: Natural Sugar Drinks

KIOSK



Meat Pies

New at Kiosk! Fresh and Club-made! Ready to re-heat!

WINE EVENTS



On Friday, 24th February

Rioja Wine Dinner



Saturday, 25th February Sunday, 26th February

Ready to Spring Wine Fair

PREVIEW IN MARCH

COFFEE SHOP

Thai Songkran

A themed dinner buffet is available every Friday and Saturday, special monthly dishes and special drinks with grass jelly. Chef Yan will bring the best recipes from Thailand. Available throughout the months of March and April.

Buffet Upsell Platter: Nabemono

Takeaway: Chicken Wrapped in Lotus Leaf

POOL BAR

Food: World of Flatbreads **Beverage: Grass Jelly Drinks**

RESTAURANT

Wagyu Beef

WINE EVENTS

Friday, 10th March

Wine Dinner: Vote for the New House Wines

Thursday, 23rd March

Wine Masterclass: Wine and Chocolate Pairing

Friday, 24th March

Wine Dinner: Western Australia

Saturday, 18th March | Sunday, 19th March Wine Dinner: Mega Sales Time

SPORTSMAN'S BAR

Outdoor Cooking Station: Yakiniku King

Daily Special: Crispy Fried Burgers and Hoagies

Beverage: Japanese Craft Beer

Fun Activities: St. Patrick's Day Celebration - Wear green

and get a pint of Guinness

CHAIRMAN'S BAR

Food: Food of Brittany

Set Tea: Late Winter in Hokkaido

Beverage: Aperitif and Digestif Cocktails

CAPTAIN'S BAR

Homemade Stromboli Chamomile Drinks

FAMILY LOUNGE

Tortillas Pizza Rolls Earl Grey Beverages

KIOSK

Korean Pork Knuckle Takeout

RESTAURANT

TEL 2830 9562 EMAIL restaurant@hkfc.com



TEL 2830 9569 EMAIL coffeeshop@hkfc.com



TEL 2830 9531 EMAIL sportsmans@hkfc.com



TEL 2830 9559 EMAIL bar@hkfc.com



TEL 2837 2622 EMAIL bar@hkfc.com



TEL 2837 2663 EMAIL bar@hkfc.com



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TEL 2837 2678 EMAIL kiosk@hkfc.com

CATERING SERVICE

TEL 2830 9513 EMAIL catering@hkfc.com





\$58

Aussie Beef Pie

Beef, white mushrooms, onions, carrots, celery, garlic, bay leaf, thyme and red wine reduction



Canadian Tourtière

Minced beef cooked with cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, garlic and onions



Cornish Pasty

Beef sirloin ragout, swede, potatoes and onions



Shepherd's Beef Pie

Guinness braised beef short ribs and vegetables



These icy seas are the source of some of the most prized shellfish in the world. Clear, clean waters, careful handling and processing, outstanding variety and year-round availability assure unsurpassed quality, freshness and value.

Chef Alex has created a special selection of dishes celebrating Northern Pacific Shellfish.

Available throughout the month of February at the Restaurant.

RESTAURANT

Enquiries and Bookings: 2830 9562 or restaurant@hkfc.com