

CLUB

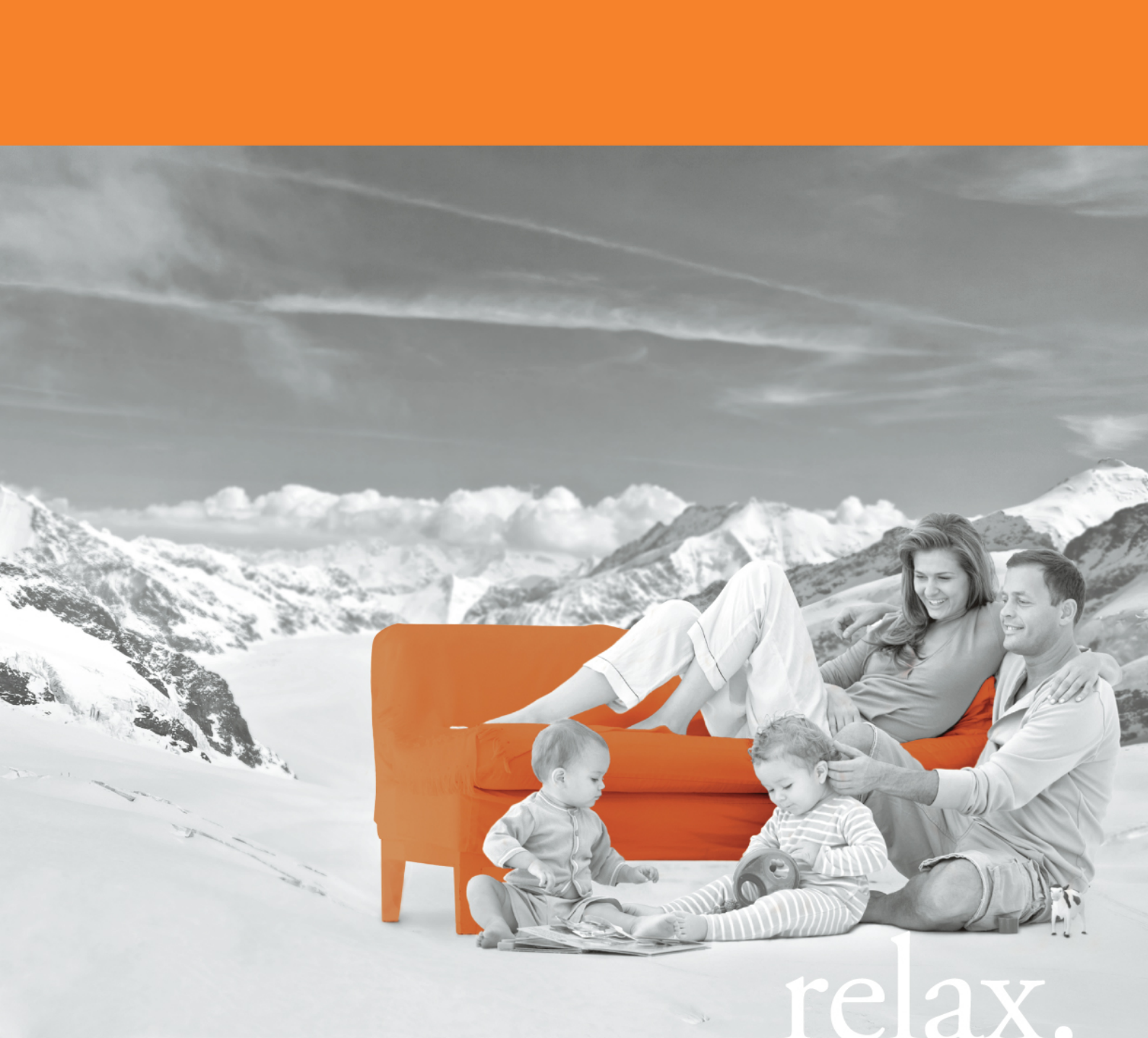
HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 DECEMBER 2011



*Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year*

Festive Celebrations at the Club

- Christmas Fête on Saturday 10th December
- New Year's Eve Party - one of the best parties in town!
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HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: To be recognised as one of the leading sports clubs in the world.

Mission: To deliver quality services on the principles of accountability, consistency and transparency.
To develop an organizational culture that recognises the importance of staff contribution and commitment.
To facilitate the development and participation of recognised sporting activities.

Values: Being accountable – to communicate, consult and provide information.
Living within our means – to plan ahead within available resources.
Developing a culture of service – to encourage commitment, integrity, courtesy and responsiveness.
Managing for performance – to set the direction and develop the necessary skills.

Aims: To provide the services the Membership needs.
To improve the quality of Club life.
To up-hold the Constitution and Bye-laws.
To encourage Members to play their part in the Club.

General Committee

President	: Dermot Agnew
Vice President	: Nick Hunsworth
Vice President	: James Collins-Taylor
Vice President	: Bobby Lawson
Vice President	: Iain Valentine
Chairman	: Fook Aun Chew
Hon. Secretary	: John Shanahan
Hon. Treasurer	: David Howell
Sports & Recreation	: Lynn Edwards
Development	: Mark Clift
Discipline	: Mike Wood
Constitutional Affairs	: Desmond Ko
Membership	: Maurice O'Brien
Hockey Officer	: Fergus McCoig
Lawn Bowls Officer	: Roger Nissim
Rugby Officer	: John Molloy
Soccer Officer	: Martyn Russell
Squash Officer	: David Reeves

Management

General Manager	: Mark Pawley
Director of Operations	: Tony Sealy
Director of Food & Beverage	: Dominique Artigolle
Financial Controller	: Ricky Chan
Executive Chef	: Lewis Lau
Facilities Manager	: Evan Tao
Membership Services Manager	: Kerry Ogle
Human Resources Manager	: Angela Chan
Executive Housekeeper	: Lily Huynh
Front Office Manager	: Shirley Lo

Club Magazine

Monthly journal of the Hong Kong Football Club. Arranged by Karen Chan-Mulvenna. 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.

Hong Kong Football Club • 3 Sports Road, Happy Valley,
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Website: www.hkfc.com.hk

December 2011



Silverware for Mini Rugby U12's



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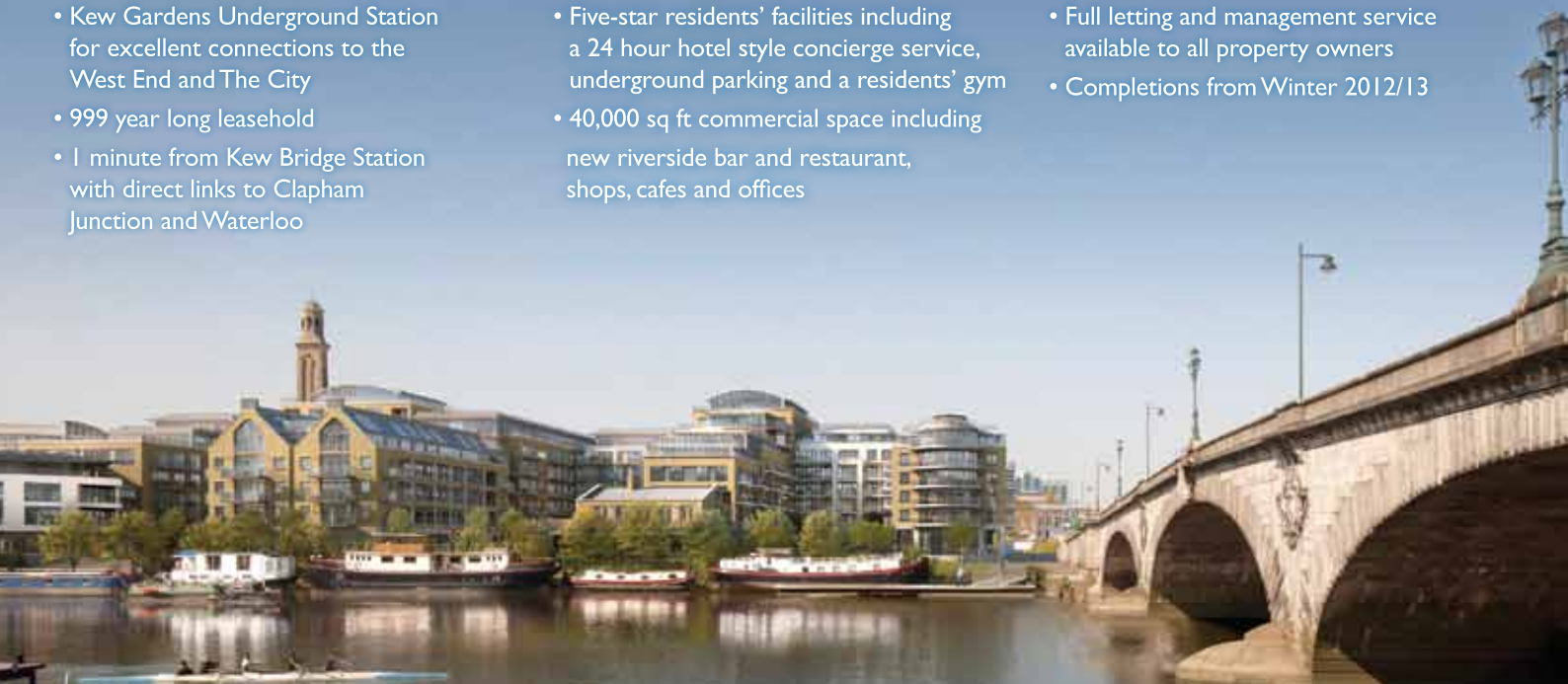


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The Thoughts of the Chairman

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Club was held on 10th November 2011. Firstly, I would like to thank those of you for your support in attending the AGM. We had around 200 Voting Members plus some Spouses/Partners attending which is one of the best attended AGMs I can remember since becoming a Member! As usual, an excellent Cocktail Reception was put on after the AGM for all who attended the meeting.

My thanks go to **Lynn Edwards** and **Fergus McCoig** who stood down from the General Committee (GC) after many years of service between them. I also want to thank **Bill Burgess**, **Jeff Lane** and **Diana Li** for standing for election to the GC. I am pleased to welcome onto the GC new General Committee members, **Philip Woolf** as General Officer and also **Nicola Russo** as the Hockey Section representative.

The GC in November met and the chairmanships of the five Standing Sub-committees have been assigned by me and confirmed by the GC as follows :

Chairman of Constitutional Affairs Sub-committee	Desmond Ko
Chairman of Discipline Sub-committee	Mike Wood
Chairman of Development Sub-committee	Mark Clift
Chairman of Membership Sub-committee	Maurice O'Brien
Chairman of Sports & Recreation Sub-committee	Philip Woolf

At time of writing, the Squash Section has just raised HK\$1.1 million for Operation Santa Claus in the 13th HKFC Wing Ding Squash Charity Tournament held on Saturday, 19 November 2011. As always, congratulations to **Tim Everest**,

Chairman of the Organising Committee and the other members of the Organising Committee for their continued efforts in organising this charity event.

Many congratulations as well to **Ruth Mitchell** who was recently chosen as the International Rugby Board Women's Personality of the Year and this on the back of becoming the Asian Rugby Football Union Women's Personality of the year awarded earlier in the year in June!

Lest we forget, I laid a wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Club together with many representatives from other clubs and associations in Hong Kong in honour of those who fought for Hong Kong in the two World Wars.

Due to the success of the Club's Family Fête in April which was held as part of our 125th Anniversary celebrations, the GC asked Management to organise on an annual basis a family fête. This year it will be a **Christmas Fête** and will be held on **Saturday 10th December** and I urge all Members, particularly those with families to come down and join in with all the activities organised on the day.

Finally as the festive season approaches, on behalf of the General Committee and myself, I wish You all a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!

See you at the Club!

FOOK AUN CHEW

Chairman



From the Desk of Mark Pawley

By the time you receive a copy of this magazine you should have already received a copy of the Club's Festive Events schedule, which I hope, will be a useful aid to planning all your Xmas and New Year activities at the Club with family and friends. Please note too, that the Xmas Sales Counter is already open at the Ground Floor Lobby and well worth a visit with a number of items that you could fill a few Xmas stockings with!

The now traditional **Family Christmas Carols** evening at the Main Pitch is on **Monday, 19th December at 7pm**. As with last year, we are going to seat Members in the Forsgate Stand (the seating stand nearest the Sportsman's Bar). We welcome back the very popular and in-demand **Hong Kong Welsh Male Voice Choir** who will be singing many of your favourite carols. As regards the above mentioned seating arrangements, the Choir will be located on the Pitch and facing the Forsgate Stand. Members are urged to come down early for this event. Per tradition, mulled wine, minced pies and soft drinks will be made available at the finish of the carol singing to all those in attendance.

Don't forget, too, the **Christmas Quiz Night**, held by Santa on **Wednesday, 14th December** in the Sportsman's Bar. A big thank you to the guys who are helping to organise this quiz and don't forget that Santa will not wait, so do book your quiz team early and don't be late!

And, for bringing the New Year in, look no further than the **New Year's Eve Party** at the Club. A fantastic way to see in 2012 – including bringing in a number of musicians from the UK, a sumptuous Gala Buffet, an early Breakfast Buffet, and **all** drinks (including Champagne at midnight) throughout the night. Some tickets are still available so, as ever, book early to avoid disappointment!

Last, and by no means least, on behalf of the Management and Staff of the Club, may I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club!

MARK PAWLEY
General Manager

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- Assembly of furniture & repair

Electrical

- Install light fitting & chandelier
- Install ceiling fan & ventilation fan
- Install additional socket & power extension

Flooring

- Remove tile/wooden flooring
- Supply & install of tiles
- Supply & install of carpet
- Wooden floor polish

Renovation

- House Painting & Wall Patch-up
- Supply & install Kitchen Cabinets



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CHRISTMAS HIGHLIGHTS

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PROGRAMMES

The F&B Department has lined up a number of exciting Christmas and New Year activities for you and your family to enjoy during the festive month. Please refer to the Christmas Brochure available on our website.



Hong Kong Football Club

CHRISTMAS FÊTE

— Saturday 10th December 2011 —

Date: Saturday 10th December 2011

Time: From 2pm – 6pm

Venue: Main Pitch

Cost: \$200 per Adult

\$100 per Child (aged 6 – 18)

**** Please note this is a Member and Member's family only event***

Bring the family along to partake in the Christmas Festivities where you will be able to enjoy seasonal arts and crafts, games and activities, delicious treats and fantastic music and entertainment.

Pre-registration for this event is essential.

If you would like to pre-register for the Christmas Fête, please fill in a booking form available at Reception or from the HKFC website, and hand it in to the Reception or fax it to: 3110 1176.

Please submit all booking forms no later than *Friday 2nd December 2011.*

Please note that wristbands, which will gain you entry to the Christmas Fête, will be available for collection from the Reception from Friday 2nd December 2011, *and cannot be collected on the day of the event.*

HONG KONG WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

At the Sportsman's Bar

Monday 19th December
from 7pm until 7.45pm

Seating will be arranged at the Forsgate Stand
(facing the Main Pitch).

Mulled wine, Minced Pies and soft drinks will be available for all those in attendance at the end of the performance.

Christmas QUIZ NIGHT

• Welcome glass of bubbly on arrival
• Light-hearted
• Entertaining
• Join in the Christmas Cheer!

Festive Buffet
starts at 7pm
Quiz starts at 8.30pm sharp
Maximum of 6 persons per team
(with a least two being club Members)

**Wednesday
14th December**
in the Sportsman's Bar
at 7.00pm – 10.30pm
\$288 Inclusive of Buffet,
Festive Drinks, Snacks

**PLENTY OF
PRIZES TO BE
WON!**

**EASY
QUESTIONS
AND FREEBIES!**

Please call at the Sportsman's Bar at 2830 9531 or email: karen_jimbu@hkfc.com to book your team table



CHRISTMAS HIGHLIGHTS

24TH DECEMBER – SATURDAY

★ THE RESTAURANT

Christmas Eve Lunch Semi-Buffer
12 noon – 2:30pm
Adult \$308

Christmas Eve 5-Course Set Dinner
7:00pm – 10:30pm
Adult \$528

* Live Entertainment is available for Dinner
**No à la carte

★ COFFEE SHOP

Christmas Eve Lunch Buffet
12 noon – 2:30pm
Adult \$268, Child \$145

Christmas Eve Dinner Buffet
6:30pm – 10:00pm
Adult \$348, Child \$198
* Santa Claus will be offering presents to all children
**No à la carte

26TH & 27TH DECEMBER – MONDAY AND TUESDAY

★ THE RESTAURANT

Forever Favourites Family Sparkling Brunch
11:00am – 2:30pm
\$308 Adults with Sparkling wine and wine
\$168 Children with Soft drinks and Chilled juices

Forever Favourites "Seafood" Family Dinner Buffet
6:30pm – 9:30pm
Adult \$308, Child \$168

★ COFFEE SHOP

Forever Favourites Lunch Buffet
12 noon – 2:30pm
Adult \$208, Child \$135

Afternoon Tea Set
3:00pm – 5:30pm
\$110 for 1, \$200 for 2

Forever Favourites Dinner Buffet
6:30pm – 9:30pm
Adult \$248 Child \$135

25TH DECEMBER – SUNDAY

★ THE RESTAURANT

Noël Deluxe Family Brunch
11:00am – 2:30pm
\$438 Adults with Sparkling wine and wine
\$208 Children with Soft drinks and Chilled juices

* Special entertainment, party favours and Santa Claus will be offering presents to all children during Lunch.

Noël 5 Course Set Dinner
7:00pm – 10:30pm
Adult \$528
* Live Entertainment is available for Dinner

★ COFFEE SHOP

Noël Lunch Buffet
12 noon – 2:30pm
Adult \$298, Child \$175

Christmas Celebration Dinner Buffet
6:30pm – 10:00pm
Adult \$348, Child \$198
* Special entertainment, party favours and Santa Claus will be offering presents to all children during Lunch and Dinner.
**No à la carte

**Please note that on the day the A la carte menu will not be available for either Lunch or Dinner in The Restaurant and the Coffee Shop

1ST & 2ND JANUARY SUNDAY AND MONDAY

★ THE RESTAURANT

New Year's Day Sparkling Family Brunch and Live Jazz
11:00am – 2:30pm
\$308 Adults with Sparkling wine and wine
\$168 Children with Soft drinks and Chilled juices

New Year's Day Family "Seafood" Dinner Buffet
6:30pm – 9:30pm
Adult \$308, Child \$168

★ COFFEE SHOP

New Year's Day Lunch Buffet
12 noon – 2:30pm
Adult \$208, Child \$135

New Year's Day Dinner Buffet
6:30pm – 9:30pm
Adult \$248, Child \$135

* Limited Lunch and Dinner à la carte





Saturday 31st December 2011

7.30pm Reception

8.30pm Buffet Dinner

Ticket price: \$1,400 (per Member)

\$1,900 (per Guest)

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR TABLE YET?

Nobody should miss the finale to the Club's 125th year! See out the old and bring in the New Year at the Club!

The ticket is inclusive of a very extensive Dinner Buffet with regular favourites, as well as unlimited standard drinks all night, Champagne at Midnight and a fabulous Breakfast early in the morning.

In addition, we will be bringing two live bands from the U.K. which undoubtedly will help make this NYE party a memorable one.

Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Booking form available at the front desk and from our website or email: kenny_chu@hkfc.com



CHRISTMAS GOODIES COUNTER

The Christmas Counter will be open until Tuesday 27th December.

We will be offering a selection of festive food and beverage goodies. Stop by the Christmas Counter for gift ideas for your family and friends, and office and clients.



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Share the joy of the festive season by sending hampers to your loved ones, friends, relatives or business partners. Hampers can either be picked up at the Club or can be arranged for delivery to the lucky recipients!

Order forms are available at Reception or can be downloaded from our website.



Photo for reference only

TURKEY AND FESTIVE TAKE AWAY SELECTION TO GO

Available from 1st – 30th December

Sit back, relax and let the professionals take care of the hard work.

Turkeys and a variety of delicious dishes can be ordered for takeaway for those looking to host parties at home or at the office.



Photo for reference only

◆ RESTAURANT ◆

DINNER WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**in the Restaurant****Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th December**

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with live performances on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th December during dinner in the Restaurant.

Chef Julian has prepared a Noel 5-Course Set Dinner. Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

Sparkling Brilliance

It is time to indulge!

in the Restaurant**Tuesday 13th December****from 7 pm to 11pm****\$498 per person***(inclusive of dinner and free-flowing Sparkling Wine)***or****\$398 per person** *(without wine)*

Let's celebrate the winter season with a selection of culinary treats inclusive of free-flowing Sparkling Wine.

** No A La Carte available on the evening.*

1st Course

*Caramel Seared Scallops on
Pumpkin Purée and Parsley Risotto*

2nd Course

*Seared Crusted Duck Breast with Confit Ravioli
and Aged Balsamic Reduction*

Main Course

*Slow Cooked Beef Tenderloin with Thyme-scented
Sweet Potato, Parsnip Crisps and
a Venezuelan Red Wine Sauce*

Before the End

Cheese Plate served with Artisan Bread

Dessert

Gingerbread Crème Brûlée for the Holiday Season

*Freshly Brewed Tea or Coffee and
Festive Petits Fours*

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

Last day for cancellation: Thursday 8th December.

**Cancellations for F&B events received after the final cancellation date will be charged in full to the Member's account unless there are exceptional circumstances.

WINTER SOLSTICE FEAST**in the Restaurant**

**every evening
(except on Sundays and Festive Days)**

A specially designed Festive Set Dinner Menu will be available every evening in the Restaurant, except on Sundays and Festive days.

Set Menus available from \$388 per person.

◆ RESTAURANT ◆

SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH LIVE JAZZ

with unlimited flow of Sparkling Wine

in the Restaurant and Chairman's Bar

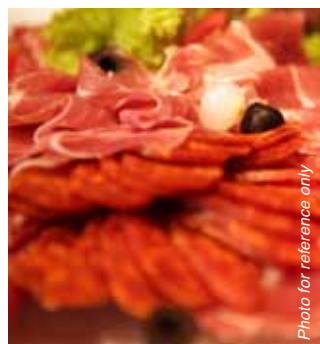
(except on Sunday 25th December)

from 11am to 2.30pm

Sunday Brunch continues in December with a themed musical performance to set the mood. A Jazz duo will get your feet tapping while you enjoy your brunch.

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for a reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com

Dress Code: Club Casual. No Collarless T-shirts, no Flip Flops, no short Casual Shorts (Knee length – no beach wear). Ladies are required to dress to a comparable standard.



LOBSTER AND WAGYU BEEF

in the Restaurant

available in the evenings (Except Sundays and Festive days) from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Chef Julian has created a range of new lobster dishes as well as Wagyu Beef specials for your enjoyment.

Take this opportunity to savour the kings of the sea and land.

Please contact the Restaurant at 2830 9562 for reservation or email: restaurant@hkfc.com



◆ COFFEE SHOP ◆

WINTER COMFORT FOOD

in the Coffee Shop

for Lunch and Dinner

throughout the month of December

As the weather gets colder, stop by the Coffee Shop for some hearty comfort dishes made from seasonal produce and warming spices.



AFTERNOON CREPES

in the Coffee Shop

every day from 3.00pm to 5.30pm

throughout the month of December

Freshly baked vanilla pancakes are available daily between 3.00pm to 5.30pm.

Please call the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 for more details.



HOT POT EVENINGS

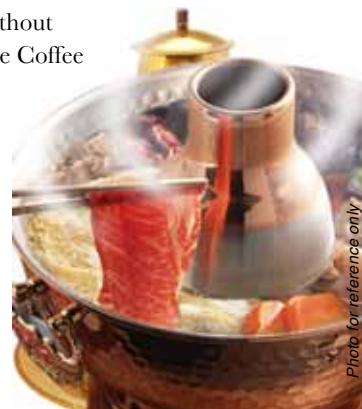
in the Coffee Shop

from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Fridays and Saturdays (except 24th and 31st December) and every day during the week from 18th to 23rd December

Winters are not the same without our Hot Pot Favourites in the Coffee Shop.

Our Hot Pot Buffet counter includes a variety of seafood, meats, and vegetables in an alfresco setting. Come along with your family and friend for a leisurely, warm meal under the stars.



◆ CHAIRMAN'S BAR ◆

OYSTERS IN THE EVENING

in the Chairman's Bar

every day from 6.30pm to 10.30pm

throughout the month of December

- Get two jet-fresh oysters and a glass of Sparkling for just \$98 or
- or 6 oysters and 2 glasses of Sparkling for \$150
- or 12 oysters and 2 glasses of Sparkling for \$250



“WINE-DERFUL” WINE CAROUSEL

in the Chairman's Bar

every day from 6pm to 10pm

throughout the month of December

From 6pm until 10pm daily, you can enjoy 2 hours of free-flowing wines specially selected to match the season at a set price of **\$140 per person**. There are 12 wines on offer. Alternatively you can select any two glasses of wine for only \$75.

All these wines can be purchased from our takeaway list. Forms are available on our website or at Reception.



DECEMBER IN THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

Nourishing Winter Stews

Our delicious and hearty stews are prepared using natural and nutritious ingredients, come and try them all this month.



Lazy Daze at the Sportsman's Bar Patio

Monday to Friday

\$220 per person

Three hours of free-flowing sparkling wines, spirits, wine, beer and delicious pizza (Minimum of 4 people)

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

During the Festive Season from Thursday 1st December to the New Year, we have home-made Mulled Wine with a choice of Mince Pies on promotion for those cool evenings at the Sportsman's Bar.

Special Christmas Quiz

The Special Christmas Quiz will take place on **Wednesday 14th December** with a Festive Buffet starting at 7pm. The quiz starts at 8.30pm sharp (The Quiz Master will not wait!) Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Carols Performance by the Welsh Male Voice Choir



On **Monday 19th December**, the annual Christmas Carols performance by the Welsh Male Voice Choir will take place next to the Sportsman's Bar. Seating will be arranged at the Forsgate Stand (facing the Main Pitch) as we try to accommodate as many of you as possible. A light early Dinner Buffet will be available at the Sportsman's Bar from 5.30pm.

Mulled wine, Minced Pies and soft drinks will be available for all those in attendance at the end of the performance.

New Year's Day Youth Rugby Festival

Don't forget the **New Year's Day Youth Rugby Festival** on **Sunday 1st January**, the first event of the year where the crowd is always large. There will be a Bar and a Food Outlet set up around the pitch, please come out with family and friends to support Hong Kong and the overseas rugby players! Games will start from mid-day, so let's kick off the New Year Day with a Bang!

Rugby News

Newedge

Section Captain's Report



Antony Phillips,
Section Captain

Dear all,

Welcome to my last report before the Christmas Break. Can I take this opportunity to wish you and you families all the very best and hope you have a great festive period....For those players amongst you make sure you keep the mince pies and the Eggnog to a minimum as we are back in

action on the park very soon in January.

To kick us off this month we have a report from our trusted Membership Secretary, **David "Animal" Slater** on the launch of the Rugby Section Centurions Club.... and don't worry you don't need to be as old as "WOOTS" to get in !!

Rugby Section Centurions

The recent Club 125th Anniversary celebrations gave the Section committee an idea, a novelty in itself you may say. We recognise that Club commitment is four years and that players do not have to continue playing the game after that period. However we do know that there are many individuals who bring their boots week in week out for much longer. It's a tough old game and players risk major injury and the wrath of their long suffering partners every week in an effort to get away from the family on Saturday afternoon and enjoy a few beers with their mates whilst trying to relive golden moments from their youth. Depending on the team they play for, they also risk ridicule and expense at the fines session after the game.

We felt that any player who has turned up for 10 seasons or 100 games has shown tremendous dedication and commitment and should be given well deserved recognition. And so the 'Centurions' idea was born.

Centurion status will mean that the individual has their name on a Roll of Honour, similar to the one naming Club Captains, placed in a prominent location on the



way to the Sportsman's Bar....management permitting of course. They will also be presented with a Club Blazer bearing the pre WWI Club badge and other tasteful additions to denote this exalted status; a bit like an Old Age Pensioner Bus Pass really. To ensure that they get at least one good meal every year they will be invited as guests of the Section to the Captain's Dinner and, provided they can still catch, should be able to stock up on bread rolls for the next month at least. Most important of all is that any Centurion, no matter whether still an active player or an Absent Member, can purchase two HK 7's tickets through the Section. All they have to do is contact the Rugby Section one month before the 7's and turn up to collect the tickets in person.

At first we will have to rely on good memories and honesty as we assess eligibility but in the future will be able to instantly access this information from the weekly team sheets submitted to the Union and the Section. Nomination is simple and requires the nominee to submit his written application supported by two other Section members. Each nomination will be examined by a sub-group chaired by the Section Membership Secretary who will be assisted by two gullible types to be press ganged into service as and when necessary. After ratification the Committee will announce the new 'Centurions' in the Club magazine before sending them off to a tame tailor.

So, don't be afraid to show your age, send the applications in and see your name and contribution recognized.

While the Adult teams have been winning more than they are losing...the victories have not stopped there...The Colts kicked off their season with some excellent successes in the Colts Ten's Tournament. Thanks to **James O'Connor** for the report below:

Colts dominate curtain-raising 10s competitions

"HKFC Colts achieved considerable success in the 2011/12 season curtain raising 10's competitions. HKFC was represented at all age groups with 6 teams competing in the Under 14's, 4 in the Under 16's and 2 in the Under 19's.

The Under 14 First team won the major prize, the Cup and the Third's won the Plate.

In the Under 16 Tournament two of our teams took the Plate and the Bowl.

The Under 19's beat off some very strong competition to win both the Cup and the Plate with convincing wins. The Under 19's Cup win was all the more gratifying given two of the team were still "indisposed" in the Gents at the



start of the Final, the Coaches were relieved (but not as much as the two players were, probably) to have them back on the pitch soon after the start. With a fluid game, they soon dominated the opposition. Winning the Cup left the team flushed with success.

The victorious Under 19 Team Captain, Raef Morrison, can be seen accepting the Cup from Brandon Huang of the HKRFU."

We would also like this month to introduce some of the Ladies ICE team...

Meet the HKFC Ice Ladies!

Time and time again on a Monday and Thursday night we get asked "Who are these crazy ladies playing rugby with the lads?", and given that we have quite a few new and returning players this year, the Ice Ladies have decided it would be a good idea to introduce ourselves! So here you are, the first in a series, of Meet the HKFC Ice Ladies – **Kim Kan**, **Fiona Atkinson**, **Allison Lee**, and **Dani Means**.

Name: Kim "Karnage/El Capitano" Kan

Age: 30

Profession: Business Development Manager

Position Played: In order - Fullback (yes that is right!), Flanker, Prop.

Years of playing rugby: 10

Rugby hero and why: Royce Chan. She's the one who motivates me on the pitch to tackle harder and to run faster (normally by calling me lazy)

Favourite World Cup Moment (on or off the pitch): Canada beating Tonga! Also when Sonny B Williams just HAD to replace his torn jersey...

Favourite food: I can never say no to a medium rare steak!

Superhero power you would like most: Super speed – every prop secretly wants to be a winger!



Name: Fiona Atkinson

Age: 28

Profession: Finance Manager

Position Played: Flanker/No. 8

Years of playing rugby: 2

Rugby hero and why: Piri Weepu - the scruffiest, least likely looking rugby player ever.

Favorite World Cup Moment (on or off the pitch): Tough call. Either Tonga beating France, or the video cameras honing in on Sonny Bill Williams being helped into a new shirt



(continue...)

Favourite food: Salty chocolate - it's weird but I can't resist.

Superhero power you would like most:

To be unbruisable - rugby bruises aren't so attractive on a girl.

Name: Allison (Allie) Lee

Age: 26

Profession: Credit Risk Analyst

Position Played:

Number 8, Flanker, 2nd Row

Years of playing rugby: 2

Rugby hero and why:

Kim Kan - our leading try scorer last year and one of the greatest wingers of all time

Favourite World Cup Moment (on or off the pitch): Once America was out of it, mocking the French

Favourite food: Grilled cheese, made with the proper highly processed and artificially coloured Kraft American cheese

Superhero power you would like most:

Superhuman strength to beat **Dani Means** at the bench press



Name: Dani Means (aka Beast from the East)

Age: 21

Profession: Sales and Marketing for Fidera Ltd.

Position Played: Centre

Years of playing rugby: 4

Rugby hero and why:

Elly "Wifey" Nixon - a true example of the meaning of "manning up". Inspirational.

Favourite World Cup Moment (on or off the pitch): France beating Wales. So Much Satisfaction. Also when Trinh Duc came onto the pitch in the final.

Favourite food: Steak tartare. PROTEIN!

Superhero power you would like most:

To be able to fly, obviously. And then super strength.



By the time you read this we will have had both of our "Sponsors Days" for 2011...the first against our local rivals from the Valley did not end up the way we wanted it on the scoreboard, with Club leading with only 3 minutes left on the clock, a couple of poor decisions led to the ball remaining on the park for Valley to string together a good fluid backline move to go over in the corner in the 8th minute of injury time.

The second and first ever game against the new Hong Kong Scottish team in the division was a much brighter affair both on and off the pitch....Bouncy Castles, Face Painting and that was only **Alex Duperouzel** and **Donough Foley!!!** But in all seriousness, we had over 300 Mini players down at the ground during the day thanks to **Kevin Taylor** and his team...Big thanks to **Jimmy Richards** for his assistance in organizing (plus a big well done to your 4 tries on the day for the Drags against the PLA.)

Both the Hong Kong Scottish and the Club side ran out with mascots for the junior teams, plus the Club ran out of the tunnel which had about 40 future players lining it. With over 50 sponsors in the crowd and more people in Blue and White hoops than I can remember, it was set to be a cracking game...

And it didn't disappoint. The noise from the crowd helped the Club team to a 30-17 victory and from my perspective on the pitch it was great to hear so many in the crowd cheering us on, so on behalf of all of us on the park that night, a big thank you to everyone!

Watch out for future Sponsor's Days and also a "Ladies Day" coming up in 2012.

On than note I will wish you all a happy holiday period and see you in 2012... ■

Antony Phillips (Club Captain)

Mini Rugby News

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Sun shines on HKFC Mini Rugby at DEA festival as U12s win loads of silverware

The sun was shining on Hong Kong Football Club's Mini Rugby section as it had a massive turnout for the DEA Tigerfest at King's Park, the first festival of the season on 6th November. From the silverware winning performances of the U12s who won the cup, plate and bowl as well as the U12 girls who entered the plate competition for the first time and won, through to the rugby debuts for the U6s, it was a day of victory, learning and enjoyment.

"What a fantastic day of rugby and fun, all our teams throughout all age groups performed extremely well," said Mini Rugby Chairman **Kevin Taylor**. "I would like to thank all our children, parents and coaches for the fantastic effort in supporting HKFC Mini Rugby.

"I would like to congratulate our U12 boys and girls. The U12's won the Cup, Plate and Bowl a magnificent display which bodes well for the rest of the season. Well done, **Russell, Steve, Jon, Maggie** and all associated with the U12's. I would also like to congratulate the U12 girls who entered the plate competition for the first time and won it! The spirit of the team was terrific and it was great to see a few of our U10's helping out by playing up to support. Well done **Liz, Alastair, Marcus** and all associated with the U12 girls. It was also good to see supporters from both the Mens and Ladies Senior teams supporting us on the day.

"Our efforts to promote girls' rugby are also progressing well. There were girls' teams for the first time for a number of age groups and the future looks strong based on the enjoyment and fun which the girls had as well as the strong turnout."



U12

The U12's enjoyed a phenomenally successful first Tournament of the season with FC1, FC2, and FC3 winning the Cup, Plate and Bowl. FC4 also contributed to a fantastic Club-wide performance, and came very close to winning the Shield which would have meant HKFC achieving an unheard of quadruple!!

Played 18 matches, 14 wins and 4 draws – it was a first for this age group, to complete a tournament unbeaten.

There were many individual strong contributions among the outstanding team performances, and each of the coaching teams deserve praise for their direction of teams, not to mention some inspired position selections.

For FC1, four wins and a draw clinched the Cup, including an epic victory against an unbeaten HKU1 in the final match. There was superb commitment from all twelve players throughout, and it was a genuine winning mentality that secured the Cup. Standout players on the day were **Jean Louis Desgouttes**, **Jon Simpson** and **Sam Lawson**.

FC2, with a small forward pack and some players playing in new positions, meant there was an experimental look to the side. Speed getting to the breakdown was important and exciting backs, led by the excellent **Jacob Stewart**, produced 10 tries in four wins and one draw. **Rory Cartlidge**, **Tristan Cheung** and **Olivier Muh** stood out for their contributions.

FC3 team secured 4 wins from 4 to take the Bowl. The team was ably led by **Luke Seow** and **Niall Jacob** and there was some exciting running from **Tahi Fiu**. While the opposition could have been stronger, FC3 will relish the challenge of the plate competition at the next tournament.

FC4 faced a very tough set of matches in the shield competition against the likes of DEA2, VF3 and SKS3, and can be considered the unsung heroes of the tournament, narrowly missing out to winners VF3. FC4 remained undefeated in all their four games and gave one of the most impressive team performances of the day in a gutsy defensive display against VF3 in a 0 - 0 draw. In short FC4 rose to the occasion and played well as a team.

Russell Henderson

U11

Hornets:

The Hornets had a successful start to their season with three matches, winning two and drawing one. Their arch rivals, Valley Fort, were first up and despite having troubles securing ball from set piece, aggressive defence and constant pressure allowed the Hornets to dominate territory and come away with a one try victory. Next up was Sandy Bay and the Hornets played some excellent team rugby to lead 2-0 early on. They eased off in the latter part of the match which is something to work on going forward. The final match was against the hosts who applied a lot of

pressure early, surprising the Hornets and forcing them to lift their game. The Hornets dominated territory and possession but great defence from the Tigers held them out and the final result was a 0-0 draw. The boys had great fun and will look to build on this effort going forward.

Vipers:

The Vipers had a tough start to the year with a strong draw. Despite this the side played with a great deal of spirit and determination as they lost very narrowly to the Flying Kukris first team in a game they could have won and then played valiantly against the Valley first and second teams. There was some strong running from Lucas and Libby and the forwards with ball in hand showed that they can break through even the best defence. In the backs Josh showed some silky running skills, man of the tournament James Horsey tackled ferociously and Natasha showed great aggression when winning the ball. Our defence and first tackles did let us down a little as did our aggression in the rucks and these are things we need to work on over the coming weeks. A big thank you to all the kids and the coaches and we look forward to getting the results we deserve next time.

Scorpions:

The Scorpions had an enjoyable tournament. They played against strong opposition, winning one and losing two. The forwards (**Cameron**, **Hugo**, **Elliot**, **Alex** and **William**) showed plenty of fight and determination in all the games. **Andrew** provided good link



play at scrum half and the backs (**Jasper, Gabriel, Kate, Justin** and **Gordon**) ran and passed very well. The tackling improved as the day progressed. However one of the most impressive elements was the strong spirit and attitude shown by every member of the team. A big thank you to all the coaches for their ongoing support and encouragement”

Bulls:

The HKFC Under 11 Bulls Team faced a tough draw with all our opponents being first and second sides. Despite the daunting draw our team responded very well with stealthy attacking play, hard tackling defence and good continuity with excellent ball presentation.

Nicholas Lumley-Smith marshaled his back line superbly and led the way with some fine tackling. Following suit **Kyra Johnson** and **Imogen Alexander** on the wings defended and attacked well. At centre **Clement Tong** finished off with some fine scores to keep us in front and the matches close.

Up front our solid front five of **Hunter Hamilton, Kruger Lee, Gordon Tang, Hugo Cheng** and **Sean Ngai** rucked, tackled and moved us forward and held our line in defence diligently.

A steep learning curve for us all at times but fine performances that made all of us involved very proud indeed.

Euan Mcleod

U10

HKFC 1 had an enjoyable day with the team coming on leaps and bounds. It was a great forwards display in an excellent 0-0 draw with Valley. We had the edge but couldn't convert into points. The 2nd game followed quickly and after taking the lead the boys ran out of steam and Sandy Bay scored a good 4-1 win. Our final game



was back to Champagne rugby with a 6-0 win against DEA, a great display from the Club backs. Well done in particular to Player of the Day, **Sam Groves**, and Most Improved, **Will Harris**.

HKFC 2 came up against some very strong opposition in all games and was able to secure a win against THT and lost against two strong sides from Discovery Bay and Valley. The team was bolstered with some new forwards who performed strongly but the depth of the Valley Fort and DB opposition was evident. **Henry Fordham** was the Player of the Day with a very strong forward performance across all facets of play. **Alex Lee** was the Most Improved. Congratulations to both.

HKFC 3 and HKFC 4 have several new players to rugby and positional play was a challenge that we will work on in the coming weeks. Despite this both teams had a win with losses for the other two games. There were terrific performances from many players but the awards went to **Anton Ward** and **Sean Young** for the Player of the Day for HKFC 3 and HKFC 4 respectively. **Joshua Daydora** and **Lachlan Cummings** were the Most Improved for HKFC 3 and HKFC 4 respectively. Congratulations to all.

Michael Phillip

U9

U9 had 83 players in the tournament spread over six teams and could probably have entered seven teams. Head coaches had agreed to field team groupings of similar capabilities - this worked well and we generally saw evenly matched games.



Being the first competitive full contact tournament for this age group many clubs were feeling their way in terms of what to expect. The levels of intensity varied but no doubt the clubs now have a benchmark going forward. That said, our children played and dealt very well with the increased intensity needed for full contact in a competitive environment – there were some tears but many smiles.

All in all, an excellent start to the season's tournaments with a special mention to FC6 which consisted of many children new to rugby who won two and drew one game.

Ping Lam

U8

With six teams entered comprising 60 players, the U8s had an enthusiastic start to the season. Wins, draws and losses were fairly evenly balanced which indicated the players and coaches have plenty to focus on in coming weeks. Nevertheless, players had a good time and were keen to have as much fun as well as embrace the competitive side of the festival.

There were three categories of players: very enthusiastic and good performers; mixed performance and focus but with periods of concentration and some good skills shown on occasions; and needing some help on the basics.

The teams played well defensively against

well-drilled sides which usually managed to get the upper hand. After warming up with one or in some cases two games, our players were able to come together as more cohesive units and then attack with strong support for the line-breaking runners to take advantage of the new off-side rule. The golden metre approach which has been practiced extensively at training worked well when players adopted it. Our defence was also quite good at times but players need to get back to our line and be sure to span the wider field. The U8s learned a great deal during their matches and their possession was pleasing overall. They all appeared to enjoy the afternoon very much and defeats were not dispiriting at all. Smiles as medallions were presented was an indication of the day's success.



The first tournament of the season also witnessed the creation of the new U8 girls' team 'Ice'. After narrowly losing the first game the team decided to stick to the same game plan and try again. As confidence grew, errors diminished and the girls worked effortlessly as a team. The attacking phases ensured we were always in the opposition's half and the defence was faultless (most of the time). Although tries were not abundant the girls won their last two games convincingly, and the smiles were evidence enough that the team would live to play another day. Every player deserves a mention, they all had their moments of outperformance but the way they worked together and supported each other, as a team, was most obvious. Well done **Ellen, Riina, Coco, Sarah, Monamie, Thalia, Tanzin, Rachel, Emily and Olive.**

U8 coaches

U7

The Mighty under 7s had a great start to the festival season and one of the most pleasing aspects was that more than 70 of our 82 registered Champs participated.

This year we are fielding six teams, all named after the Senior Section teams; Dragons, Scorpions, Selects, Bulls, Vandals and Sequins.

We are also very fortunate to have parent coaches actively involved with nearly 40 keen parents waking up on Sunday morning week in, week out led by **Richard/Ben/David/Ron/Matt/George and Mike** with great support from **Rebecca Greaves** as Manager.

Getting back to the DeA Festival, we saw all of our teams make it onto the positive side of the ledger with some work needed in key areas which we will focus on in the coming weeks. There were good showings of passing, direct running and teamwork. Coaches for each team were asked to propose two "Player of the Festival" who are recognised for doing all the things asked of them.

For the upcoming Sandy Bay Festival we will be fielding 8 teams, 2 extra, an all-girls team and a makeup team for those extra energetic champs!

James Manders

U6

Many glittering rugby careers commenced at the tournament as the HKFC U6s had their first taste of 'competitive' rugby. Given the uncontrolled chaos of the first training sessions we were pleased and surprised to see our children playing a game that looked like something approaching rugby, with passes (mostly backwards) tackles (mostly of opposition players) and tries (mostly over the right line).

We fielded six teams from our four squads. All players had a lot of game time and showed real progress, but some highlights included the strong showing of the girls for the Leopards team, in particular **Taylor Sisterton** scoring a great try. **Tanner Holland** also kept the scoreboard ticking over and **Arthur Andrew, Han "Speedy" Loke and Felix Spooner** all played well. **Ben Hague** made amends for his first touch (throwing the ball over his head) with a couple of tries.

The Tigers played some quality rugby and quickly got to grips with the Club / Valley rivalry;



Rex Chan and Luca Ho leading the charge.

For the Cheetahs, **Samuel Jackson, Max Angove and William Hamp** ensured we kept the scoreboard pressure on the opposition but they were strongly helped by all of their team. A very pleasing tournament with all of the stars getting a chance to run with the ball (in particular **Bryan Chua, Koon Chung Hui, Mac Coleman and Vaitiare York** kept the opposition's defence under a lot of pressure).

The Lions were overrun in one game by a suspiciously competent Valley team, but fought back with **Charlie Pike** continuing his training pitch form, **Caleb Lee and Aiden Cheung** making some incisive runs and **Seb Gyngell** scoring a good try in the corner at the end of an expansive backline move.

Defence was much improved for all teams, a notable was **Charlie Ruffy** who clearly feels that full contact should be re-introduced for U6s and **William Riddick** whose commitment to possession extended to tackling his own player.

It was a great start to the season; bring on Sandy Bay!

Dominic Gyngell



Strong Start to the Season for U10 and U12 Girls' Mini Rugby



The U10 Girls and U12 Girls season started strong with an invitation to the Discovery Bay Pirates First All Girls Beach Rugby Festival in early October. The 6-a-side tournament was a great learning experience for both squads and the U10G team came away with the Bowl.

At the DEA Tiger Fest, we were able to field an U10G squad 10 players strong. With guidance from coach **Alastair Murray** and ICE players **Bonita Leung** and **Allison Lee**, the girls grew more confident each game. The team ended the festival with an exciting 11-0 victory. **Anna Rove** was named player of the day and **Caroline Salomon** was the most improved.

The U12G squad demonstrated how well they have unified as a team. For their first tournament in the Kim Lam League, the team played in the Plate division. There were outstanding performances by several players including **Portia Freeman**, who scored four tries, and excellent tackling by **Natasha Lee**. To complete our team of 12, a few U10G players stepped up to play and did not back down to the older opponents. Overall, the team won two games and tied their last game with **Savannah Dixon's** try. All of the girls were ecstatic to claim the Plate. The player of the day was **Libby Moser** and **Kyra Johnston** was named most improved player. ■



By Liz Moser

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Soccer News

Section Captain's Report



Scott Semple,
Soccer Section
Captain

Hello Hello,

It's a bumper edition this month with a number of Section members contributing articles. HKFC 1st team regular Freck Schipper has a summary of the season so far in Division 2 and there is also "*My Perfect XI*" from former Section Captain **Stewart Montgomery**. Personally it's been very enjoyable to read through the players **Monty** has selected during his

numerous years as a Member with a talented blend of past and present players included. It's sure to spark some lively debate in the Sportsman's Bar in the coming weeks!

During November, all competitive Section teams put together a good run of results and have managed to gain some consistency as the teams and squads settled further. At the time of writing the 2nd Division is a tight as ever with only a handful of points separating the top 6, thankfully the 1st team is right in the mix. **Martin Rainer** has been a standout for me pitching in with 3 goals from defence. Lucky Mile has proven to be a very tough team to beat in Division 3 and they are playing some very good, high-tempo football, with **Michael Hampshire** impressing on a consistent basis. Into the Yau Yee League and in another Sports Road derby, Wanderers proved victorious against Albion. In what was a very tight match, goals either side of half-time from big game player **Mark Hulbert** and Wanderers new boy **Paul Jarrett** were enough to ensure bragging rights in the Sportsman's bar were retained by last season's Cup winners. Onto Colts and with the exception of the Rugby World Cup final weekend, they have continued to impress and steadily climb to the top half of the 1st Division. **Harry Salnikow** leads the scoring charts for Colts and with the experience of **Kenneth Kwok** at the back; they really could be the surprise package in the YYL this season.

Onto Social football and this month we say farewell to Gazelle stalwart **Ian Stewart**. Ian and his family are heading to pastures new down in Oz later this month and having personally played and trained beside Ian for a number of years with Albion and Gazelles his enthusiasm for the game will be sorely missed. He has assured us though that business trips will mean he'll be around every now and again.

Onto other business now and later this month we have the annual **Soccer Section Christmas Party**, which will be held on **Friday, 9th December**.

Without doubt this has been one of the highlights of the Soccer Section social calendar in recent years - having been taken to a whole new level under the stewardship of **Tony Hamilton-**

Bram. This year it's down to **Michael Campion** and by the looks and sound of it, will be yet another resounding success.... No pressure!! If for some reason you have not yet booked your ticket, please get in touch with your team rep, **Campo** or myself. The theme this year is **Bad Taste**, so no doubt many can just come in their normal weekend clothes.....

This year the charity the Soccer Section will be supporting is the Youth Football Home (Phuket) Foundation set up by the late **Henrik Lorenz**.

Henrik had a passion to help the underprivileged throughout the region and following the devastating tsunami in 2004 he started the YFH with the aim of establishing a loving home for orphaned and destitute boys. The boys receive comprehensive education at good local schools. They also enjoy daily coaching and training from fully qualified coaches in the game of football. I'm sure you will agree that this is a very worthwhile cause.

We also have a new Soccer Section website "www.hkfcsocket.hk" that should be up and running by the time you read this. I urge every Section member to register on the site in order for you to be kept up to date with all things Soccer Section related; fixtures, results, match reports, photos and upcoming events.

Whether you are staying in the "852" or travelling back to your home countries, I wish you all safe journeys and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For those of you that are in town, be sure to get down to Sports Road for the annual Scotland versus England clash. Last year England were sent homeward tae think again following a drubbing by the masterful Scots. Here's hoping for more of the same! (Note to self; ensure the Sportsman's Bar has enough humble pie in stock)

And remember "The scoreboard doesn't lie, but it rarely tells the whole truth". ■

Cheers, **Scott**

MY PERFECT XI

by Stewart Montgomery



I have seen and played with a lot of quality players since my debut for Jimmy Mair's HKFC side back in 1979. I'd have the late, great, Jimmy himself as Manager of this mob..... John Charleston would be Jimmy's right hand man in a dream "Good Cop / Bad Cop" partnership. I'd fancy this team to win and keep a place in the top flight....with maybe even a famous Viceroy Cup run and triumph to boot.



GK

RUDI HOLLAENDER

Easily worth 10 points a season. Anyone who has seen him play outfield will testify to him being the best goalkeeper the Club has ever had.



RB

ALLAN FRASER

Alan is a cool customer with a fantastic temperament. A great influence on his team-mates and it's clear his short spell at Celtic didn't adversely affect his career at all.



CB

DAVIE ANDERSON

Affectionately known as "Lobbie" to his pals we sadly lost this diamond of a man to cancer way too early in his life. He strolled through games like the old pro he was and rarely needed to break a sweat as he swept up everything behind the back four. A legend.



CB

RICHARD LANT

The big Georgie is another ex pro who we are fortunate to have had play in the blue and white. He thinks he's Chris Waddle but he's a poor man's Davie Weir. A brilliant mentor to the young Colts.



LB

HUGH MCCRORY

"Junior" is a legend from HK professional football in the late 70's and early 80's. A Butcher on and off the field. You were 1-0 up just having "Junior" start as most local sides were scared to death of him.



RM

MARK GRAINGER

The HKFC have been lucky to have this ex Hong Kong International for many a year. One of the games nice guys with an abundance of skill, pace and an eye for goal. The young Colts won't recognise that description but trust me in his heyday Mark was one of the best this City has ever seen. Just ask Steve McManaman.



CM

ANDY HUNTER

He was playing in the 1st team when I arrived as a wee boy and was still doing so after I had retired. He has not aged in the slightest as a result of looking after himself so well for so long. The best central midfielder the Club has ever had. Always there to take the ball from a defender or a forward and keep possession like no other. An eye for goal made him the complete package.



CM

ALAN LIDDIARD

He could tackle like a train.....and strike the ball better than almost anyone. He was the life and soul of the bar with an infectious laugh and indeed I often tell people that had it not been for "Lidds" taking me under his wing and into Wan Chai so frequently during my teenage years I'd have played for Barcelona!



LM

PAUL WILKIN

Wilko was a goal scoring midfield phenomenon. He had a great engine and his timing for arriving in the box to slot another important goal away was the stuff of legend. He was a great character to have in the dressing room and was always laughing at something he'd done or was about to. A class act.



CF

ANTO GRABO

For me this maestro is the best player we have ever had at the Club. An absolute genius. Everyone has an "Anto" story. Football has been and still is his life and he has lost none of the passion which resulted in him having a long and successful career. I think I learnt more from just chatting to him now and again in passing than I ever did from any Coach I had.



CF

TONY SEALY

Now the 1st team Coach. TS had an uncanny ability to slow down in the box at the exact time the ball appeared at his feet giving the illusion that he had loads of time to bang another one away. In reality all this happened in seconds but it was that skill that enabled him to carve out a decent pro career before starring for the HKFC.

SUBSTITUTES

1 RICHIE BEACHER
1985. Old HKFC Stadium. Against Sea Bee. What a volley.

2 MICHAEL CAMPION
Currently playing in the HK pro league for Citizen.

3 MARLON VAN DER SANDER
A machine capable of playing anywhere.

4 YIU HUNG LO
Basically a poor man's Leslie Santos.

5 SAMMY LI
A handy boy to have around too just in case any plastic triads fancied a square go.

1st Team — The season so far...

After last season's adventure among the pros, the 1st Team is back in the 2nd Division. With a squad full of new faces, the target for this season is to pick up silverware. However, the league proves to be very competitive and Club has gone off to a start best described as inconsistent. An overview of the season so far.....

The season started in spectacular fashion against stubborn Wing Yee. Club went a goal down on 3 occasions but managed a scrappy 4-3 win in the end. However, it turned out that Club fielded an ineligible player for the last 2 minutes of the contest. As a result, the FA changed the final score to 0-3 meaning that Club was bottom of the table after match day 1. For its first away game, Club travelled to Po Kon Village to play Tai Chung. After a shaky start, Club controlled the game and managed a well-deserved 1-0 victory.

Up next was Mettip, a team widely seen as one of the main title contenders. However, Club was the better side and fully deserved the 2-1 win. With confidence sky high after the back-to-back wins, Club took on Happy Valley next. This turned out to be a very scrappy and ugly game that seemed destined for a goalless draw. Unfortunately, Club went to sleep on one occasion and Valley took all 3 points with a goal scored shortly before full-time.

Next opponent was Double Flower and Club was looking to get back to winning ways. Double Flower took an early lead but Club fought back and found itself a goal up shortly after the interval. A miscommunication in defence however gifted Double Flower with a late equalizer, final score 2-2. This meant that the away game against Southern was a 'must win' for Club in order to stay near the top of the table. Club put in a very solid performance on a poor pitch resulting in a comfortable 2-0 win.

With bottom of the league side Kwun Tong being the next opponent, Club was confident that another win was on the cards. But the visitors took a shock lead after a personal mistake in Club's back four. Looking to hold on to the lead, Kwun Tong adopted an 8-1-1 formation making it very

hard for Club to create a breakthrough. It wasn't until the 90th minute that Club managed to equalize and there wasn't enough time to get the winner. Next up was another home encounter, against Yuen Long. This turned out to be Club's best performance of the season so far. The ball was moved quickly throughout the whole game resulting in an array of scoring opportunities. Club took 5 of these chances and with Yuen Long unable to even manage a single shot in the whole game.

After 8 games Club is in 2nd place, 1 point behind leaders Happy Valley. ■ *By Freck Schipper*



Soccer Section Fixtures for December:

HKFA Junior Shield:

Sunday 11th December 2011:

- 1:30pm – Lucky Mile vs TBC (Happy Valley #5)
- 3:15pm – HKFC vs Wanchai (Kwong Fuk Park)

YYL Division 1:

Sunday 4th December 2011:

- 3:00pm – Club Wanderers vs 816 (HKFC)
- 4:30pm – Club Albion vs USRC (HKFC)
- 6:00pm – Club Colts vs Mobsters (HKFC)

YYL Cup – 3rd Round. (At time of writing the draw has still to be made.)

Sunday 11th December 2011:

Sunday 18th December 2011:

- 3:00pm – Club Wanderers vs KCC Dragons (HKFC)
- 4:30pm – German All Stars vs Club Albion (HKFC)
- 6:00pm – HKDC Squadron vs Club Colts (HKFC)

Junior Soccer News



The Man in the Chair – a Profile of HKFC Junior Soccer Chairman, Chris Plowman



Full Name: Christopher John Plowman

Nickname: Have had a number throughout my life: Diddy (when I was young I was very short!). Desmond (because people said I looked like Des O'Connor!), Lunchbox and finally Pluffer (obvious reasons)

Family: One big lad 'Jack' now aged 20 with whom I started in 'the other' mini sport (oval ball) at HKFC back when he was 5 years-old. Toby, 12-years old and currently in the Y8 squad and finally Jasper, aged 10 and in the P6 group. (Couldn't do girls!!) And Gill, of course, my lovely and very understanding wife.

Football background: Not that impressive I'm afraid! Played footy for school then a Sunday League team in London called 'Red Star Pandemonium' (Pandas for short) and then 'Team Fuji Latex' (TFL) in the HKFA Leagues. (Yes, I seemed

to have specialised in teams with interesting names)

Favourite Footy team: Along with Club senior statesman Bobby Lawson, I'm a follower down the 'Bridge of Sighs'... Celery, celery... (and closet Millwall fan)

Best sporting moment - Played and watched

Played: (I'm struggling!) Probably (and I know this is sad) being awarded the local U18 cup final when I was a 16-year old referee and having a 'great game' - if refs can have a great game! Yes, it's a low bar... (Oh and I did nick the ball off Michael Denmark recently and scored twice during a Monday night's coaches' session – does that count?)

Watched: It's cheesy I know but simply watching my youngest lad win a penalty shoot out competition during a Saturday morning training session on my birthday. (And, sorry it's 'the other code', but Jonny Wilko dropping the goal to win the secondary World Cup is up there too)

Claim to fame - as if we need to guess. Just check out the photo – two great players... and Tony Sealy wasn't bad either.

Favourite element of Junior Soccer: Honestly, just seeing so many kids (and their parents) enjoying themselves playing football down at the Club on a Saturday morning and knowing I play a part in making it happen.

Most memorable sporting social event (if you can share /

remember): Celebrating perhaps too wildly in a Japanese bar after the England victory over Argentina in the 2002 World Cup, offending a Japanese bar tender and finding myself with a knife to my throat in the kitchen. (As always I managed to talk my way out of it)

Biggest challenge for Junior Soccer: For me just finding the time amongst the day job and family commitments to do the job as well as I want to. For Junior Soccer itself continuing to grow and develop the programme with the limitations that we have to work with (pitch time, volunteer coaching, etc.)

Vision for Junior Soccer: To maintain and develop further our community-based programme offering the chance for as many children as we can (Members and non-Members) to learn, play and enjoy the beautiful game, whilst at the same time enhancing and improving our Youth Pathway Programme to develop talented players to be capable and ready to play in the Club's senior teams and even perhaps beyond.

Words of wisdom (?): It's a game of two halves.

Life outside of Junior Soccer: Is there one?! I love to listen to my two young boys playing the piano – to me it's the best music ever. My favourite place in the world (apart from the HKFC) is the day bed on the terrace of my house in Port Douglas (with a beer and my wife).



Above L to R: Oliver Berry evades yet another challenge when he is not tackling his team mate's ball (dedication); Fong Yi Hin is always the player to beat (determination); Pablo (Messi) receives the ball from deep in his own half; beats six players and one referee and scores! (acceleration)

P3 Friendly vs Tai Tam Tigers

We had forty P3 players aged 7 to 8 years old signed up for a friendly match against Tai Tam Tigers on Sunday 23rd October 2011.

This was P3's first ever 'competitive' match for many of the players and they were really excited and proud of representing the Club for the very first time. We lost the first two games because all players were nervous and forgot their positioning, but, after settling down and with encouragement from **Mark Grainger**, we won the rest of the games, with **Pablo Le Touze**, **Fergus Tong**, **Oliver Berry**, **William Broomhead**, **Druv Kappor**, **Caellum Cummings** each banging in a few goals. The players improved so much as soon as they were relaxed and got over their first game jitters, especially when the determination and confidence started to flow. Here are some great moments captured by our photographer **Thomas Tarala**.



Above L to R (clockwise): Nicolas MacDougall evaluating the situation and options of attack (concentration); William Broomhead scoring and greeted by his team mates and Mark Grainger (congratulations); All children enjoyed every minute of their first 'competitive' friendly (devotion); Christian Liew and Julius Yang celebrating yet another goal (emotion)

Squash News



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Above:
The legendary
Stray Katz band
performing
at the Start
of Season
Party on 17th
September

Start of Season Party

As a relative newbie to HKFC, I didn't quite know what to expect from the opening event of the squash calendar...

That said, having witnessed Bobby Taylor and his band rock their socks off at a previous social, I had a hunch that the Squash Committee might pull the stops out on entertainment. I'm pleased to say I wasn't disappointed. After a tasty main course, singers appeared on the scene in what could accurately be described as 'Men in Black' attire. With their shades down and identities concealed, an almost inconceivably large brass

orchestra followed in – the legendary Stray Katz band. The Katz belted out a number of old classics, throwing in some impressive solos on the saxophone and trumpet among others, making for a very jolly evening.

All in all, I had a great night meeting lots of new faces as well as a number of more familiar ones in a lively and fun setting. Well done to the committee for putting on a sprightly start to the season. I look forward to see what they have in store for us next.

By Rory Gammell

13th Wing Ding Fancy Dress Charity Squash Tournament 2011

Still Courting Holiday Donations, Wing Dingers Urge Hong Kongers to Give Generously This Christmas

The wonderful, wild Wing Ding Squash Tournament, hosted at the Hong Kong Football Club, may have come and gone this year – but coordinators are still asking one and all to give to Hong Kong's most needy this holiday season.

Said Wing Ding organizer Tim Everest: "Our event raises money each year for Operation Santa Claus (OSC), the annual fundraising

campaign overseen by the South China Morning Post and Radio Television Hong Kong. The OSC appeal runs until the end of the month and welcomes any contribution, big or small, so local and regional charities can fund much-needed projects throughout the year.

"We ask that anyone who hasn't given this year to learn more about OSC by visiting their website (<http://osc.scmp.com>) and consider

giving to this worthwhile cause." If you would like to make a donation, please contact **Tim Everest** on 9104 6383 or **Rovana Lai** on 9182 8299. Thank you very much.

As of press time, the amount of money Wing Ding raised this year had not been tallied – but it looks as if the annual colourful squash competition – played by 140 racquet-eers – will hopefully match, if not surpass, last year's contributions of HK\$1 million.





Photo from last year's Wing Ding Tournament

Since 2003, Wing Ding has raised more than HK\$2.7 million for the OSC campaign – with all proceeds going to charity. Funds are raised through Wing Ding entry fees, individual and corporate donations, auction bids and raffle sales.

“A big thanks to all the people who helped prepare the Wing Ding and also to those who have relented to constant pestering and bought raffle tickets or supported the fund raising effort overall,” said **Everest**. “Also, Wing Ding’s gratitude goes out to the HKFC for their use of their fabulous squash facilities and Cathay Pacific, Delon Photo & Hi-Fi Centre Ltd, Odin Properties, Simon Everest, Esprit, Bumbu Bali and many others for donating raffle and auction prizes.”

In a growing trend, there are now Wing Ding-affiliated activities to raise funds for OSC.

The Hong Kong Cricket Club raised funds at their Squash Ball in September and also donated participation fees from a quiz night at Delaney’s in Wanchai on 12th November.

That same day, the Kowloon Cricket Club also held a modified Wing with participation fees also going to Wing Ding for OSC. There, eight teams were expected to take part, including a team from the United Services Recreation Club (USRC).

“Wing Ding can only get stronger from here. We’re already partnering with the Hong Kong Squash Association (HKSA), which endorsed the Wing Ding for the first time this year, as well as adding satellite events. Additionally, one day, we hope to see the Wing Ding concept run out across all sporting disciplines in the city,” said Everest.

“Wing Dingers are passionate about helping

the less fortunate members of society. We hope people feel the same way and would like to be involved with future Wing Ding events or make a donation to OSC.”

To contact **Tim Everest**, kindly e-mail him tim@hk.polargrp.com or call +852 9104 6383 or +852 9182 8299. Additionally, more information is available on the Wing Ding website: www.wingding.hk

With warmest regards,

Tim Everest, Wing Ding Organiser

“Wing Ding can only get stronger from here. We’re already partnering with the Hong Kong Squash Association (HKSA), which endorsed the Wing Ding for the first time this year, as well as adding satellite events.”

www.wingding.hk

“Going Balls to the Walls for Hong Kong’s Most Needy”

Battle for Asia

Hong Kong Football Club vs Singapore Cricket Club
Saturday 29th October 2011

Not quite your typical Halloween weekend, the Squash Section hosted a timely Singapore Cricket Club team as part of their annual tour that circled Hong Kong this year.

Fresh off the heels of a victory the night before over the LRC (and much of the intoxicating celebrations that followed), our friends from Singapore were eager to

continues next page...



SQUASH

(continue)

notch yet another conquest here at the Football Club, but obviously our boys from the Squash Section had different ideas.

Tim Fan kicked off the evening by giving the recent Singapore Men's Champion, Vivian Rhamanan, a legitimate run for his money at the #1 spot, and despite the eventual defeat, put up a match that lacked neither spectacular rallies nor spirited grit.

Interestingly enough, 4 players in the top half of the HKFC ladder featured former SCC players. **Nick "Shultz" Shultz** was gallant in effort at #6 but alas couldn't quite overcome his foe James McCarthy, while **Ed Lee** subdued the former Shanghai Open runner-up Chris Pong with a score of 3-1 at the #4 position. At #3, Preshin Manmindar narrowly edged **Terence Teo** by the thinnest of margins and escaped with a 3-2. Finally **James Zhang**, the latest addition to the Club, was haunted by shin splints and eventually dropped a 1-3 decision to Bill Hatch that featured, among other theatrics, a 9 "deuce" comeback in the third game (20-18), tons of deep-heat, and rife "collegiate-

style" trash-talking between handouts.

In the meantime, both teams continued to seemingly alternate between wins and losses to keep the overall score-line fairly even throughout. While SCC registered wins with Kingsley N. over **Henry Ng** at #7 and Mark R. over **Ton.K.** at #12, the FC's **Stuart F.**, **James H.**, **Simon Ng** and **Martien** closed out victories over their opponents at #8, #9, #10 & #11 respectively, sending both teams down to the wire.

At 6-5 in favour of SCC, the stage was set for a "Battle of the Dads" grand-finale at the #5 spot, featuring **William Fan** (dad of #1 **Tim Fan**) and Manmindar Singh (dad of #3 Preshin Manmindar). In the end, William's ever-deft drops and ball control were too much for Manmindar, who nevertheless didn't go down without a fight. **William's** 3-0 avengement for his son also saved the day for the HKFC Squash team, tying the overall score at 6-6.

Long after the sun had set, both teams were busy loading up their stomachs at the Coffee Shop, with much cheer typical of the off-court camaraderie among

squash players, and SCC presented a commemorative plaque to much appreciation by the Club. Soon to follow was the real finale of the evening -- the boat race -- and this time the HKFC team capped the night on a high-note with a resounding victory as was expected.

Keeping up with tradition and in the proper spirit of the Squash Section, the night ended at the Sporties, or at least for us it did, with a few pints, a number of some good squash stories, in particular from **Mr. Rogers**, some of which might actually be true, and a few fancy drinks perhaps invented especially for the evening.

A superb evening it was, and the SCC extended their invitation to come to Singapore for a well deserved rematch and for them to return in kind.

Hats off to **Nick Schultz** and **Mike Belbin** who led the logistics on a highly successful and much enjoyed event. Hopefully, a "Sequel" in Singapore next year might soon be in the works. ■

By James Zhang



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Lawn Bowls News



End of Season Party

At a time when the other Sections are just getting going with their leagues the Lawn Bowls Premier League comes to an end and so traditionally we celebrate the end of the season and mark the occasion by toasting our winners.

Over seventy Section bowlers attended the dinner. Champagne flowed to toast the Ladies A team (winners of the First division), the Men's B team (runners up in the second division) and the Men's E team (runners up in the sixth division).

The winners of the Club competitions were awarded their prizes and the keenly awaited "most improved bowler of the year" was announced. The winner of the Men's most improved bowler was **Warren Cheung** and the Ladies winner was **Calinna Chan**.

It was great to see so many bowlers present and a good time was had by all.

Many thanks to **Rita**, our Social Secretary, for organizing the event.

Above from L to R:
Champagne celebration;
Bernard with Men's Most Improved Player Warren Cheung;
Daisy with Ladies Most Improved Player Calinna Chan;
Mark, Arthur and Peter

Winter Mixed Fours League Competition

To celebrate its Golden Jubilee the HKLBA have broken with the tradition of the Winter Triples League and in its place put a Mixed Fours League.

The Club has entered seven teams in to this League and everyone is eagerly awaiting the start which is on Saturday 26th November.

Two of the Club teams will be using the Outdoor Green as their home green. At the time of writing the Outdoor Green is to be officially re-opened on Saturday 19th November and this occasion will be marked by a pig-cutting ceremony.

Our sincere thanks to the GC for re-furbishing the Outdoor Green.

Good luck to all players in the Mixed Fours League.

USRC Centenary Tournament

The last two years has seen several Hong Kong clubs mark significant landmarks in their history with our own Club celebrating its 125th anniversary. The USRC has been marking its own 100th anniversary in various ways and as part of this it held a lawn bowls tournament.

It was a fun day culminating in a celebratory dinner. Everyone who participated enjoyed the event.

The Section sent along a mixed team of four players: **Daisy, Rita, Raymond** and **Johnny**.

Many thanks to the USRC for inviting us to the event.



The Second Japan International Open, Kobe, Japan 28th to 30th October

Hong Kong sent a Mixed Triples team to this event comprising of:

Tony Cheung, Milo Lai
and our own **Tammy Tham** with **Heron Lau** as manager.

Apart from teams representing the various clubs and regions of Japan, there were also international teams from Thailand, Singapore, Macau, China, and Hong Kong.



The hosts were incredibly friendly and the competition was good despite two days of rain and very heavy greens.

In the end the Hong Kong team finished up as third.

Wrap-up of Premier League

The tension on the last Saturday of the Premier League was palpable. Two of our eight teams were in a position where they could end up as runners up in their league and gain promotion to the next division. For the Men's B team at least it wasn't all down to their own efforts either as the Men's C team had to do their bit against an opposition that could have stolen the runners up spot from the B team.

The afternoon passed slowly with phone calls going from venue to venue to check on progress. First things looked good then not so good. In many ways it came down to the last few shots of the day. Everyone was delighted when it all went our way and so it was back to the Club to celebrate both the Men's B team and Men's E team gaining their promotion. Put this along side the fact that our Ladies A team had already won the First division and there were smiling faces all around.

The end results of the season were:

- Ladies A team winners of the first division.
- Ladies B team third in the first division
- Ladies C team ninth in the second division
- Men's A team fourth in the first division
- Men's B team second in the second division
- Men's C team fifth in the second division
- Men's D team ninth in the third division
- Men's E team second in the sixth division

Hockey News



Charlie Poulton,
Hockey Section
Chairman

Chairman's Report

I am delighted to welcome **Nicky Russo** back to our Hockey Section Committee in her official capacity as our new Section General Committee (GC) Representative, effective as at the Club's AGM on 10th November. Good luck in your meetings ahead Nicky and thank you for volunteering for this critical position for the Club and the Section. It can only be a good thing for all involved with running this fantastic Club that a representative from its most successful team, is now on the Club's GC.

My heartfelt thanks also go to **Fergus McCoig** for six years of sterling service guiding our committee on behalf of the GC. Fergus has forged a crucial bridge with a variety of people in the Club in an effort to grease the wheels of action and solve the issues of the day: you will be missed and our thanks go out to you!

Back to the pitch; we were all set to go to Bangkok with at least three teams of men and women, a superb effort from all concerned and definitely an appropriate way to celebrate the art of touring in our 50th season. So, how annoying is it that nature, with the help of some dreadful urban planning, has intervened forcing the tournament to be postponed to February - I hope people are not discouraged. This actually has a precedent as, a few years back, when the red shirts and the yellow shirts decided to close the airport, the tournament was postponed to mid February and as it happened the Section embarked upon a very successful 'Valentines' tour of Bangkok (it was played over February the 14th). Perhaps it will fall into the season of love once more, stay tuned and hopefully we'll see you all signed up for the re-organised event.

Moving to a different area of the pitch, or at least to the touchlines more or less, umpiring has for the men this year, presented a challenge. As we all know, the standard of umpiring is too often, frankly, abysmal. We moan about it a great deal, often with reason and occasionally



holman fenwick willan hfw

without. Reading Hockey Section reports from AGM's past, it has certainly been a constant lament down the decades. We really must do something about it and in fact, we can. This is the season in which we will finally go some way to changing the culture of umpiring throughout the HKHA league system, starting with the men's league (ladies keep reading as this may come to you next season!). We are the most ideally placed club in the league to make this cultural change; with over 350 active players we have a large pool of people from which to find those willing to put something back into the sport, just three or four times a season.

In other hockey nations, umpiring is something everyone does for their team without question. So, as the old saying goes, if you want something done, you must do it yourself. I am therefore delighted to say that a good number of both men and women have sat the umpiring courses that have been offered (I know we need more courses), have sat the refresher courses (and yes more of these too please!), and have even attended focused workshops by our own experienced umpires in the Section. Some of you have managed to get your umpiring assessed on the pitch so that you can become fully qualified to umpire your team's commitments; kudos to you if you are one of those people.

I know it has been slow and occasionally painful as we are working with very inefficient HKHA Umpire Section processes, however I do believe we are making inroads. I simply ask that you all continue to pull together to help people pass the course, pass the practical and get umpiring. Please volunteer to do your

team's commitments or help other teams that might find themselves short. Please help your captain meet your team's commitment and please help **Stuart Webb** to co-ordinate umpire issues. Simply put, if you see an email requesting an umpire, please put yourself forward: don't assume others will do it. Teams that do not provide umpires will have points deducted by the HKHA. For those who have not yet managed to sit the course and pass the exam, please watch out for new courses in the New Year.

I am writing this before the Christmas Party; however this will be published just a few days after it. I would therefore like to thank **Cristina Wilkinson** and **Russell Abel** for what I am sure will have been a fantastic 1960s themed party and a great way to see in the festive season.

Thank you too, to all the captains and the coaches for their hard work in the first half of the season. Without the hard work of the captains, your teams wouldn't run, so please be sure to buy them a little Christmas present to show them how much you appreciate their voluntary effort and time!

Some teams are playing in higher leagues this year and, despite the challenge this represents, I hope that with inspired leadership, focused coaching, team socials and the collective and individual desire to push yourselves to play your sport at the highest standard possible, you will force results that will shock your opposition and bring great pleasure to you and your team!

Happy Christmas! ■

Charlie Poulton

Men's Captain's Report



Rob Wilkinson (Men's Captain)
with Ian Rush

Ho Ho Ho!

No sooner has the season started and we're already in December! The best time of year in HK in my view – mulled wine, Christmas parties and special "festive" sandwiches! Here is a quick fire update on how our teams have been getting on this season.

Our A's are currently sitting second in the Premier League. Our new youth recruitment drive introduced by **Guv Dillon**, has proved very successful with two new, excellent recruits in **Gabriel Tsai** and **Silus Wong**. They have helped the team to some good early wins. Unfortunately, missing a couple of key players has resulted in two recent defeats, but as no team is unbeaten, this year's Prem looks to be the closest in years. We are still very much title contenders especially with the return of **Carl Cousins** on the horizon.

The B's look like they're beginning to come together since their move to the top tier. The 2009 Champions Shaheen were put to the sword in an action packed game at King's Park that involved three penalties – one missed, one scored and one saved. In the same game, new boy Danny Bernal opened his account for the Club by scoring a brace!

continues next page...

Both of our teams in the First Division have seen mixed fortunes. The C's are very much the Liverpool FC of Hong Kong hockey at the moment; partly because of their flair and silky play in the midfield, but mostly because they are drawing games they should be winning! They are firmly middle of the table. The D's however, a few rungs down the ladder, are improving every week. Results have gone against them of late, but they have shown they are not out of their depth in this division by beating last season's runners up, Dutch A 3-2.

In a new division our E's have had a series of close losses, which hasn't helped their league standing. A couple of dodgy decisions going against them has meant they narrowly missed out on scooping the points. Currently six points separate the E's in 11th place from the 4th placed club and with 16 games still to play, they have plenty of time to climb the table and consolidate their position in the division.

The F's struggled to score goals early on this season, but having conceded only eight so far (four in one game) they are praised with having the most solid defence in the Section. With an excellent run in November, beating both HKCC and DBS, and with a couple of good short corner routines, their fortunes should turn around in the New Year.

The G's, struggling with injuries have been short of fire power at times. However, the return of the two **Simons, Bach and Chapman**, in January will no doubt help them climb the ladder.

Lou Man's H team is once again flying high. Unbeaten and sitting in second place in the Fourth Division, just one point behind league leaders Khalsa C, a second promotion in three years looks to be on the cards for the H's. A testament to the unity of their team, who each season; continue to go from strength to strength.

In summary; the first half of the season has been tough for most of our teams but there is still everything to play for as we move into the New Year.

Cheers guys, I hope you all have a good Christmas break! Eat, drink and be merry!

Rob



Joanna Fargus,
Ladies' Captain

Ladies Captain's Report

Hello-ho-ho!

I can't quite believe it, but another year is almost over and Christmas is just around the corner.

It seems like only yesterday we were basking in glorious 30 degree sunshine, sipping on sea breezes and rocking to the gentle waves of the South China Sea... oh wait, we were! Thanks to Hong Kong's unseasonably warm November, it took a while to feel like the festive season was upon us – nothing a steaming hot gingerbread latte couldn't fix!

Well what a fantastic first half of the season! We have had some memorable hockey matches - some great, others not so great, and some downright ugly - but all really enjoyable to be a part of.

The A's are sitting at the top of their league, an oh-so-familiar spot for the league champions four years in a row. With 28 goals under their belt, they appear to be steam training their way to another victory, however, KCC is hot on their heels, so no reason to get complacent yet. The B's are also hanging tough in the premiership division, fighting for their place week in week out.

The 1st division is experiencing an unusual turn of events with the D's sitting close to the top and the C's struggling a bit in the first half of the season. However, with so much hockey to play, it's anyone's game and I'm sure the C's will be edging their way back up to the top in the coming months.

The Dinos (E's) are sitting mid table

in Division 2, which is a solid position given that half their team is injured! With an influx of potential new players, no doubt they will be refreshed and ready to go after the holidays.

The F's are in a solid 2nd place in Division 3, behind the whipper-snappers that are HKU. Goal scoring is not necessarily their forte; however they are winning the close games which counts significantly in the long run.

Last but not least, the G's are sitting mid table in Division 4, a solid performance overall, however they are getting more and more into their groove each week, which I'm sure will pay dividends in the 2nd half of the season.

Well it has been an interesting start to my first season as Ladies Captain, and I'm sure it will only get better as the year goes on. The level of commitment from both old and new players alike is inspiring and I'm proud of how our section has pulled together, supporting each other whether on the sidelines, on the pitch, or at the bar.

I'm looking forward to seeing some exceptional hockey in 2012, but until then, wherever in the world you spend the festive season, have a safe, merry and relaxing holiday and I look forward to seeing your rejuvenated and refreshed faces in January.

Cheers, **Jo**

Grudge Match Report

HKFC As v KCC As

12th November 2011

Result: 1-1

They say absence makes the heart grow fonder...

You might be forgiven, therefore, for thinking that the first HKFC A v KCC A game would be a good-tempered affair after the teams waited over two months of the season to play one another. However, the match turned out to be a hard-fought, frenetic and at times feisty fixture, resulting in a frustrating draw for the unbeaten HKFC side.

The silence throughout the warm-up at King's Park spoke volumes about the nerves the travelling team was experiencing, and the opening five minutes of the game did little to settle the racing hearts as KCC piled on the pressure, forcing a number of crucial interceptions and some quick reactions from **Claire** in the HKFC goal.

Nevertheless, as the first half progressed, the quick pace of the game seemed to suit the fit HKFC side, with the midfield and forwards chasing down every ball, and the defence stepping in front of players to win fifty fifties against some dangerous KCC strikers. Indeed, the leg work combined with some clever decision making saw HKFC score first, with excellent passing play down the right hand side of the pitch culminating in a perfect pass from **Jojo** to **Netty** who finished in characteristically cool style.

HKFC continued to dominate the first half, winning a number of penalty corners whilst KCC were unable to pick apart the resolute visiting defence.

However, moments after the whistle started the second half, a KCC player demonstrated some blistering pace with a quick move down the middle and an excellent finish, bringing the score to 1-1.

The remainder of the game saw nerves begin to get the better of both teams again as both squads fought hard but failed to deliver the final blow by scoring a winner. HKFC were offered one last opportunity through a well-won penalty corner in the last minute, but again this was not converted. KCC appeared happy with the draw as the final whistle blew; whilst HKFC could not help but be disappointed by a game which we all felt we could and should have won. Nevertheless, the squad will be feeling confident about the return home fixture where we will hope to have a crowd as big as the one KCC A managed to attract!

Helen Philp

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Hockey Sixes



A bigger and better Hockey 6's will be gracing the Hong Kong Football Club this coming Easter (2012). Having welcomed a bevy of International teams in the past; from China, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia, Australia, the UK and Switzerland, we are looking to expand on previous years making 2012 the biggest yet!

With a unique and exciting 6's format which appeals to all player levels we combine tournament parties with the HK nightlife, to make this event a fantastic touring experience.

2011's event saw us dazzled by the skills of International stars such as Hayden Shaw and this year will be no exception. To support the 6's tournament we will be welcoming to our shores another international series, featuring Olympians from Europe, Asia and Oceania – watch this space for more details.

As we look for an influx of overseas teams to join the party, please get in touch with your old clubs and hockey mates from around the world to share the details with and invite them along to this great tournament. There are many ways to get in touch; email info@hkhockeysixes.com, visit the website www.hkhockeysixes.com or check out the **HK Hockey Sixes Facebook page** for more info and updates.

Netball News

Message from the Chairman



Karin Loomam,
Netball DSA
Chairperson

Merry Christmas everyone!

Yes it's that time of the year again, and as always I can't believe how quickly it's come around. This time of the year signals for us the half way point in our season and the teams are currently placed as follows in their respective divisions:

HKFC CLUB	1st
HKFC TYPHOONS	5th
HKFC WHIRLIES	4th
HKFC MONSOONS	7th
HKFC TORNADES	4th
HKFC HURRICANES	7th

HKFC Netball recently hosted the Singapore Cricket Club for a small tournament, also involving Valley RFC and HKCC. The teams gathered for a casual competition with well deserved drinks enjoyed after by the pool. It was a fun afternoon of netball playing teams that we usually only come across on a competition night, but made most enjoyable by the hard work of **Stacey McLocklan**, who organized the tourney and ran events on the day.

A big thanks also to **Kirsty Hulme** who was our resident photographer on the day. Great work you guys and thanks.

It's with great sadness that we say goodbye to **Irene Petau**, from HKFC Club. Irene was a committed and forceful player who could turn any game around in our favour and I think that that was no more evident than in the semi and finals last year, when HKFC Club went on to take the Championships for the 2010/11 season.

Irene was a valued member of our committee for the last 3 years and has been a rep player in many teams in HK including Gaelic and rugby. She will be sorely missed especially off the court where she was always up for supporting other team mates who were considering venturing out alone to Wanchai, you could be sure that Irene would be there to motivate them to go the distance. *Haere ra Irene, Ka kite ano!*

All players need to take note as to when they are required back for their first game in January. HKFC Whirlies, Monsoons, Tornados and Hurricanes will return for their first game on January 9th and HKFC Club and Typhoons will return on February 6th for their first game. Check out the website and also check your emails and of course, let your captain and coach know of any absences you may know of early on.

Also, as always big thanks to **Wilma** of **Wilma Donnelly's Secret Oasis** Spa, here at the Football Club. As always, Wilma is there to help us look good and feel good, so go and see her. She has lots of great Xmas pressie ideas if you are stuck.

Lastly, big thanks for the month to **Evey Siu**, from **Posture Plus** for her great physio support on Wednesday nights.

Match Reports

Monday 7th November

Tornados 34 vs Runaway 14

Well what a great improvement to our game!! Brilliant interceptions from **Kayleigh Leonard** and **Michelle Robinson** throughout the match and great support around the goal from **Katheryn Duthie** and **Dawn Cheng**. The flow improved as the match got into full swing as did team work. We were just in the lead at the end of the first quarter by 5 goals to 3. We pulled away quickly and played a brilliant second quarter ending in 17-7. In the third quarter, communication improved and we pulled further ahead to end 26-11. With constant pressure throughout the court, we finished the match a whopping 34-14. Eventually a fantastic win that we've all been looking for. Well done ladies, let's keep it up and keep the winning streak going!

Angela Webb

Whirlies (22) v Valley Pumas (32)

Whirlies took to the court feeling like the underdogs against the team billed as Valley's top team in the division. But from the first whistle we proved to ourselves and the Pumas that we were there to win and that we intended to fight hard for every goal. Passing well from the first centre, **Rachel** and **Kathryn** delivered the ball into the circle for some focused shooting from **Frances** and **Charlotte**. They moved well throughout the whole game against very tall Puma defence; in particular in the first quarter which set us up well with a 7 - 5 lead. Once again the great defence from **Sue** and **Heather** delivered a huge number of intercepts and rebounds and placed huge pressure on the Puma shooters. A tight finish at half time (19-20) meant we needed to remain focused to stay in the game. Lyric's fresh legs at WD delivered some amazing

intercepts and great defence down the court. Unfortunately the last quarter saw in form Puma shooters and despite great shooting by **Frances** and **Charlotte**, the game slipped away with a 32-22 final score. Although disappointed with the final result, the effort and focus of the team from the very beginning of the game showed what we can achieve and left us all feeling pretty proud of the effort. Special thanks to the injured supporters on the sidelines, **Eva** and **Tracy** for great support.

Lynette Ryan

Monday 31st October **Club 39 vs Devils 5**

HKFC Club takes the tricks and gets the treats on Halloween over the HKCC Devils. Club's second game of the season fell on Halloween

against the appropriately named Devils from the Cricket Club. The Devils were looking to gets some runs on the board after being kept to zero in their previous match against Cricket Club Black Magic.

Club started strongly, quickly converting our centre passes into goals and thanks to a fantastic defensive effort from **Stacey McLocklan**, **Karin Looram**, **Irene Petau** and **Jessica McCauley** we also turned over a few of their centre passes to add to our score. The Devils got off the mark soon after. Not long into the first quarter **Jess** pulled up lame and had to retire from the game. Down to a bare seven we reshuffled the line up and got back to it, finishing off the first quarter with a strong lead.

The second quarter continued in the

same way. The Devils floating GD gave us a bit of trouble bringing the ball down the court and managed to pick off a few of our passes but when we did get it down to our shooting circle our shooters, **Natacha Cuvelier** and **Kate Babington (Babs)** worked the ball in beautifully and converted most of our opportunities giving us a good lead going into half time.

Our third quarter was the least impressive of the game as our concentration wandered a bit and we threw away too much ball. We all needed to take a deep breath and remember to choose the safe passing option.

Our focus returned in the last quarter, with great energy in the attacking end driven especially by **Kristy Hutt (Dee)**. The defences

continues next page...

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continued to provide us with lots of turn overs, and brought the ball down the court strongly to our attacking end.

It's very difficult to pick a 'man of the match' as many played very well. **Karin** and **Irene** spoiled so many passes for the opposition shooters that they can share the crown this week.

Elise Daly

HKU Matador 32 vs Hurricanes 14

We only had 7 players this week and so we knew we were in for a tough ride as a couple of girls

were playing out of position, and we were pitched against a super fast HKU side. However, pushing aside the usual pre-match nerves we took to the court with confidence and despite a low-scoring first quarter we held them to 4-2 in the first quarter. With some solid defence by **Yvonne Phelps** and **Lucy Wilkinson** we held them to 12-6 by half-time. **Cheryl Leung** played a great WD, supporting the centre passes and picking up some great deflections. The HKU team started to pick up their pace (aided by some substitutions to give them fresh legs which we did not have the

luxury of!) and it was hard to stop them when they got a roll on. Our shooters didn't get much chance to perform as we were struggling to get the ball down the court to them, but both **Liz Worley** and **Wilma Donnelly** played WA for the first time and managed to create some good space mid-court, when they are usually used to the constraints of the shooting circle!

Overall a good effort and there's plenty for us to build on for the coming matches when we are back to a full side!

Katy Gearing

Meet the Captains

Stacey McLocklan

Team: HKFC Club

Number of years playing netball:

A few.....

Number of years playing for the Club: 3

Netball Sporting

hero: Sandra Edge

Favourite sporting quote/philosophy: It's a game of two halves...

A few words about the team:

After winning the Championship last year the HKFC Club team has remained mainly intact as we look to retain the Cup for the 2011/12 season. Our attacking end remains strong with returning shooters **Kate Babington** and **Kristy (Dee) Hutt** and the addition of new players **Natacha Cuvelier** and **Stephanie Lorenzo**. At the other end of the court we see our defensive



players **Irene Petau**, **Alex Weston** and **Karin Loomam** returning with the addition of **Jessica McCauley**. Our midcourt is boosted by newcomer **Elise Daly** with **Diana Pizzari** and myself returning. Unfortunately we lost **Millie Polglase** and **Catherine Broome** who are both out with pregnancy, but we look forward to seeing them next season!! To top of the team we have a new coach **Ms Pam Ryan**. Pam has recently relocated to HK and has an extensive background in coaching netball. We welcome our new players and coach to HKFC Club and look forward to an exciting season ahead.

Good luck to all the HKFC teams!

Lydia Wratten

Team: Typhoons

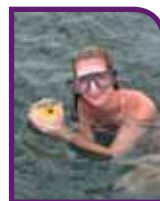
Number of years playing netball: 20

Number of years playing for the Club: 1

Netball career highlight(s):

Becoming Captain of Typhoons narrowly superceding my Captancy of the U11 team

Sporting hero: Usain Bolt (because anyone who can shatter a sprinting



world record, running sideways, after a meal of chicken nuggets, with a shoe untied is pretty special)

Favourite sporting quote/

philosophy: "The more I practice, the luckier I get" - Gary Player



Typhoons

A few words about the team:

Great to see returning Typhoons players from last season, and some shiny new additions. We have made a great start to the 2011/12 season, and are seeing a stronger team emerging with each passing week. Court appearances strike a good balance between a hell bent determination to win... and remaining lady like (no mean feat)!

Looking forward to the season ahead!



Club

Kathryn Curley

Team: Whirlwinds
Division 2

Number of years playing netball: Too many to disclose here!

Number of years playing for the Club: 7 years

Netball career highlight(s): Winning the 2009 2nd division Grand Play off finals for Whirlies

Sporting hero: Simon Garneronly those from Blackburn in the North West of England will have heard of him!

Favourite sporting quote/philosophy: No famous quote or philosophy from me ... however - I do believe that if you are fit enough and keen enough then carry on playing sport as long as you can. Netball is a game that you can carry on playing competitively until well into your 40's and beyond. I was tempted to retire last year but am so glad that I didn't as playing a high standard team sport is very rewarding.....my 8 and 11 year olds seem suitably impressed anyway!



played. We are around mid table but would hope to be pushing further up the table by Christmas. It looks to be a very tight league this season with 5 or 6 teams all pushing for play off places.

Captaining the Whirlies so far this season and last year too has been a pleasure. We seem to have an outlook of taking the game seriously without it feeling too intense. There is very little to do motivationally as everyone is focussed, committed and ready to play in any position depending on where we need cover during any particular match. Training sessions are always well represented and enjoyable.

Whirlies are coached by the very capable and committed Karin Looram who pushes us to achieve more during our training sessions.

The aim of the season is to hopefully finish in the top 4 and thereby make it into the Grand Play Offs and to enjoy ourselves along the way.

A few words about the team:

This is the debut season for the Footy Club social team, Monsoons. We have a strictly no training policy and if anyone looks too fit I drop them! No, on a serious note, the team is made up of ladies who have fulfilled their netty commitment to the Club and perhaps don't have the time (or energy !) to give up two evenings. We are playing in the 2nd division which is proving to be a great competitive league with most teams of a very similar standard. We've enjoyed mixed results and are sitting mid table at present but I hope everyone's enjoying playing, I certainly am pleased to be back on court. We are a little light on players and could use a bigger squad so do please let us know of any willing players, especially shooters! In fact, they don't even need to be willing, just players. Our hopes for the season, aside from the obvious, to win the league are to enjoy each game, have a good run around and a few wines after!

Kate Jackson

Team: Monsoons
Number of years playing netball: Too many to count !
Number of years playing for the Club: See above!

Netball career highlight(s): Wouldn't call it so much of a 'career' ! Enjoyed all the netty tours over the years pre husbands and kids !

Sporting hero: Kate Babington- Club Legend

Favourite Sporting Quote/Philosophy: Win or lose, let's get on the booze!



Dawn Cheng

Team: Tornadoes
Number of years playing netball: 9 years

Number of years playing for the Club: 5 years with

Valley Rugby Football Club and 4 years with HKFC

Netball career highlight(s): Netball Convenor, Tour Organiser and played in Division 1 with VRF. Captain for HKFC Tornadoes

Sporting hero: Roger Federer

Favourite sporting quote/philosophy: For example..."The difference between the possible and impossible is the determination to succeed" (Google's good for ideas if you don't have one!) : Even when you've played the game of your life, it's the feeling of teamwork that you'll remember. You'll forget the plays, the shots, and the scores, but you'll never forget your teammates. - by Deborah Miller Palmore-Basketball Olympian



Whirlies

A few words about the team:

A squad of 12 Whirlies were named at the start of the season and despite the disappointment of losing players upwards to Typhoons we welcomed 4 brand new Whirlies and also welcomed back 2 players from maternity rest. The Whirlies this year consist of:

Kathryn Curley; Charlotte Thompson; Frances Hurley; Lyric Clarke; Rachel Corthorn; Eva Chui; Manu Santi; Tracy Hackston; Heather McKay; Lynette Ryan; Caroline Freeman; Suesan Yip Yim Yee.

As at 8th December we have played 5 matches so farwinning 3 and losing 2. The 2 we lost could have gone either way and to finish both matches feeling disappointed shows how well we have



Monsoons



Tornadoes

A few words about the team:

I would like to welcome 4 ladies from Hurricanes that came up to our team this season, they are **Angela Webb**, **Debbie Thompson**, **Jodie Price** and **Kathryn Duthie**. I would also like to mention that we have 3 new girls (return players) that are in our team this year. They are **Cheryl White**, **Sam Tarrant** and **Rachel Mason** – welcome to Tornadoes. A big welcome back this season to **Hayleigh Davies**, **Kayleigh Leonard**, **Marie Farry**, **Michelle Robinson** and myself.

With these 12 great and experienced players in Tornadoes, I'm sure we will do pretty well in the league with the biggest help of all from our new coach/ player **Jess McCauley**. Jess is a very experienced player from Australia and she is a player in our Club team (Div 1).

At the start of the season, our girls were very determined to win. Although it has taken us 4 weeks into the league before we really jelled as a team, I think Tornadoes have some pretty strong players.

During our training sessions, **Jess** has showed us some great drills to really pump up our heart rate before our games. In court play, we focus on calling and coming forward for the ball. We've learnt that 'communication' throughout the game really does help our play. Alerting your team mates that a ball is coming their way, or indicating that their opponent is coming across to either their left or right really does help too. That's what I call, 'teamwork'!

We've also focused on 'channeling' the ball smoothly down to the shooters. That means, staying in your own area of the court.

Everything we've learnt so far has worked out in our games. I think if we keep this up, we should be in the Finals if not at least the Semi Finals, but personally, the FINALS I think.

Keep this up Tornadoes and I must say I'm very proud to be Tornadoes' Captain this year with these amazing girls as my team-mates.

Ariana Bahrami

Team: Hurricanes

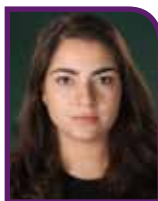
Number of years playing netball: 10

Number of years playing for the club: 4

Netball career highlight(s): reaching the finals with Tornadoes in 2008.

Sporting hero: Eric Cantona

Favourite sporting quote/ philosophy: Fail to prepare, prepare to fail -Roy Keane



Hurricanes

A few words about the team:

We have a great team this year with lots of new but experienced players. What we lack right now in points we make up for in enthusiasm and lots of chat, and if we don't quite manage a win at least it makes for a laugh in the Sportsman's after the match. We have a lot of fun, that's the most important thing.

Areas that you are working to improve/main focus in training.

Our lovely new coach Elise Daly has been working on stopping us talking long enough to learn about set play, holds and court positioning.

How you seem to be performing so far.

We've won 1 game so far so there's certainly room for improvement!

Your hopes for the season.

To avoid injury, pregnancy and defeat - mid table would be a fairly respectable place to finish.

Golf News

19th Hole with the Chairman



Andy Ho,
Golf Society
Chairman

We had a successful Golf Society AGM last month and congratulations to all re-elected to the committee.

As outlined in the GS Bye-Laws, the Golf Debentures for Macau Golf and Country Club and Lotus Hill are created for the benefit of all GS members to enjoy. If you are in doubt about the use of these debentures, please refer to the Club Bye-Laws or check with any GS Committee member to avoid any misuse, otherwise disciplinary action may be taken if abuse is reported.

During the recent email migration from the old website to the new website, a misleading message regarding members' GS status was generated and I wish to apologise to those who have received the message. The problem has since been resolved. Please free feel to give us comments about the website on webmaster@hkfcgolf.com.

It is almost time to renew both your GS and HKGA membership. Please let **Maggie Ng** know by mid-December 2011 if you wish to withdraw your membership, otherwise charges will be made to your HKFC account.

In December, we have an event at Discover Bay on 9th December, followed by another event to Lotus Hill. Stay tuned for the full year's fixture list on the Notice Board and the GS website.

Swing slow, play fast., **Andy Ho**

GS Committee for Year 2011/12

President	Richard Neish
Chairman	Andy Ho
Secretary	Ian Petersen
Treasurer	Ivan Yuen
Captain	Dallas Reid
Handicap	Desiree Wong
Development	David Connolly
General	Margaret Tsai
General	Dorothy Lam
General	Chris Meecham



The Reunification Cup 2011

After some unseasonably unpleasant weather during the HK Amateur Open week, the weather was glorious for the weekend of 5th and 6th November when we were scheduled to play the Reunification Cup. This is a 4-cornered affair between ourselves, the Country Club, the American Club, and the Chinese Recreation Club traditionally played at Lotus Hill where all these clubs have debentures. The format is total stroke play with the best and worst score from each day removed. Although the worst score is eliminated, this format still puts a lot of pressure on players for two reasons; firstly every shot counts over two days which is unusual for amateur players, and secondly you are playing without a team mate to support you against 3 “hostile” opponents in your flight. Accordingly I had selected our most hardened, gnarled, and match-toughened veterans for the event, and looking at the dubious bunch of criminals assembled at Starbucks early on Saturday morning at the China Ferry Terminal I thought we had just the team to triumph this time.

By the end of Day 1 it appeared that I was nearly correct with everyone (well nearly everyone) shooting very respectable scores. To my consternation though, it transpired that the CRC had managed even better and after dropping an outstanding net 65 from Michael Choi, they were 8 strokes ahead leaving us in second place. No matter, with another 600 or so shots expected to count on the Sunday, a deficit of 8 was almost irrelevant. To ensure victory on Sunday, I launched into a morale boosting

speech reminiscent of a combination of WWII Churchillian prose, mixed with a spot of Henry V on the eve of Agincourt, and the troops went to bed bright and early (2am tops) to be ready for Sunday’s battle.

Sure enough, waiting nervously for the groups to come in on the terrace, I was delighted to see score after score from our boys in the low 70s and most better than the CRC scores. All that remained was to leave it to the scorer to add up but it looked as if we had done enough.

Repeated re-additions suggested it was uncomfortably close, and eventually the scorer admitted the near-impossible; a dead tie of 1189 strokes each for HKFC and CRC! This had never happened before, so the rules were then consulted on the count-back procedures and the scorers went to work again, adding in scores which had been ignored in the first calculation. On their first effort it was announced that HKFC had prevailed. Then the rules were consulted again more closely and it was realized that they had misread the procedure. The two missing Sunday scores had been added to the Sunday total. Instead they should have been added to the two day total, and when this was done, incredibly it was still a dead heat! Back to the rule-book which stated that in this event the missing players from Day 1 should then be included. Sadly for HKFC, the outstanding round of 65 from CRC, combined with a rather dismal net 85 on our side meant that we had to concede victory by the closest of margins to the CRC.

A shame for us, but then we had won a previous event by a one shot margin

Team Performance

Player	Gross	Net
Des Hastie	170	138
Dallas Reid	153	143
JP Cuvelier	167	143
Bob McKirdy	157	143
Kevin Tse	176	146
Jason Waldie	158	150
Andrew Wood	172	152
Andy Ho	180	154
Nick Allen	180	156
Charlie Yeomans	186	166

so I suppose it was someone else’s turn to get lucky this year.

As usual, the Pig of Shame had been observing proceedings, and as everyone had been very good in making their tee times and generally behaving, he decided to attach himself to **Charlie Yeomans** who happened to score the highest net score for the team on both days.

The team returned to the Sportsman’s Bar from the ferry to discuss what might have been over numerous drinks, and of course to let Charlie and the Pig get better acquainted. I think they make a lovely couple.

Looking back over 2011, we produced a win against the American Club, left the Cricket club once more with the Bucket of Shame, tied with the HK Club (and hence retained the Trophy), came second on countback in the Reunification Cup, and best of all, united Charlie with the Pig. All in all a highly successful year for our golf team!

Dallas Reid, Captain

Badminton News

“Best Asian Airline” loses out to HKFC!

22nd October 2011 --- Departure 12.55 --- HKFC to HKG



HKFC and CX group photo

The Badminton Society team and supporters packed their kit bags and headed off to Cathay City for a match against Cathay Pacific Airways at lunchtime on Saturday 22nd October. With recent new signings and younger players coming up through the ranks, the HKFC team was in a confident mood when it arrived at Cathay Pacific's excellent venue. The match had been arranged to test our new team against a club that had unfortunately not been able to participate in the 125th Anniversary tournament in the summer, but we knew that Cathay had a strong team, including a “world-ranked” men's singles player, so it was not going to be easy.

The match consisted of a total of nine sets of best-of-three games,

combining Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Doubles as well as Men's and Ladies' Singles. It is probably fair to say that this was our first attempt to put together a team designed for the specific challenge of such an all-encompassing format, so the team still had elements of the experimental. Some of the Doubles pairs were playing together in

competition for the first time and we were missing one or two players that we would have liked to have available.

However, let's cut to the chase...

HKFC ran out 5-3 winners, with one set tied at 1-1 because of injury. The detailed results were as follows:

Event	HKFC Players	Results	
Senior Men's Doubles (100+)	Ryan Wong and Jaff Lo	Won	2:0
Men's Doubles (3rd pair)	Jimmy Cardmaster and Leo Ng	Won	2:0
Men's Doubles (2nd pair)	Jaff Lo and David McDonald	Lost	0:2
Men's Doubles (1st pair)	Matthew Wong and Khoo Boo Boon	Lost	1:2
Mixed Doubles (2nd pair)	David McDonald and Samantha Lam	Won	2:1
Mixed Doubles (1st pair)	Matthew Wong and Jennifer Yu	Lost	0:2
Ladies Singles (2nd)	Samantha Lam	Tie	1:1
Men's Singles	John Leung	Won	2:0
Ladies Singles (1st)	Michelle Cheung	Won	2:0

Although **Ryan** and **Jaff** were playing together for the first time, they ran out 2-0 winners in the Senior Men's Doubles and when **Leo** stepped in as a late replacement alongside **Jimmy**, the two of them clicked immediately and also won 2-0. **David** and **Samantha** had a notable 2-1 victory over stiff opposition and Samantha was also tied 1-1 in her Singles match before it was cut short. In the other Ladies' Singles, **Michelle** had a very comfortable victory in her debut outing, while Cathay's much-vaunted Men's Singles player was overcome in a tight match by 2 games to nil.

By the time this article makes the press, the Society will have hosted a six-way inter-club tournament on 11th November. Some very strong opposition has been invited, so the challenge will be a tough one. Let's hope next month's report makes equally happy reading.

■ *By Brian Lovell*



David and Jimmy relaxing



Michelle is calm before her victory



David and Samantha before their narrow victory



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The Canucks won the top prize

CUP OF NATIONS

Nine teams of four took part in the ever-popular Cup of Nations event under glorious blue-skies. The ATA team worked hard to ensure a level-playing field, including getting some of the A+ stars to use junior racquets and drink lots of beer in between points!

In the end, 'Canucks eh!' from Canada bagged the top prize with the unstoppable combination of Eric Tsea, Winston Leung, Gilles Bonnier and Henry Lai. The 'French Baguettes' were a close second followed by the multicultural 'South Afrikong' team.

Above and left:
photos from the
Cup of Nations



UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent Child Challenge - Saturday 10th December 2011

This is a great opportunity for the next generation of stars to prop up their parents in this popular annual social event. Don't forget, if you want to play but don't have a small person handy we'll be happy to find you a spare! Please see the website and poster for more details of this event.

HKFC vs University of Singapore - Saturday 17th December 2011

We expect this to be a very strong visiting team so we hope to field our strongest possible team to give the visitors a run for their money.

Christmas Junk Trip Sunday 11th December, 2011

For the first time, we are planning a Christmas get together on Lamma Island



LEAGUE UPDATE

The evening winter league is drawing to a close. The newly promoted Men's A+ squad has found the going tough at these dizzy heights and have yet to record a win with 2 matches remaining. The Men's B team has also struggled with one victory out of seven matches, but hopefully they've done enough to stay in B-division. **Duncan Spooner's** all-conquering D team is unbeaten this season with just one match remaining so they look certain to make the playoffs – best of luck in the finals lads!



The all-conquering D team – unbeaten this season

HKFC vs SCARBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB (PERTH)

Saturday 5th November 2011



Thanks to those who represented the Club in this match – Kevin McNamara, Eric Desgouttes, Vincent Chan, Philip Yueng, Alan Hse, Michael Wong, Eric Fan, Regina McNamara, Helen Ormerod, Yoke Ming Ong, Celina Leung, Helen Hancock, Agatha Hay and Flora Ni.

Early last month HKFC hosted the first of three visiting overseas teams in a very social and fun afternoon of tennis. **Kevin Eaton**, a member of the HKFC but now residing in Australia, and his veteran team from Scarborough Tennis Club in Perth, gave the local team a real run for their money as they demonstrated their silky tennis skills, although at a slightly reduced pace. The

format for the afternoon saw all players play a mixture of doubles and mixed doubles for twenty minutes at a time throughout the afternoon. This allowed time for a bit of banter on the sidelines in between matches. After slugging it out for nearly three hours, it was time to hit the Sportsman's Bar where we treated our visitors to a few drinks and snacks.

for some traditional Christmas seafood! The junk leaves Central at 10.00am and returns at around 6.00pm. Only 40 places are available so sign up quickly!

We really need your support for these events. We want to make the Tennis Society proactive, vibrant, fun and competitive so we're increasing both the number of social and competitive events. But this cannot happen without your support – Help our organizers by signing up early!

We are always on the lookout for talented players to help strengthen our league teams. Anyone interested please send your details to tennisociety@gmail.com

Sunday Social Tennis

A reminder that Sunday Social Tennis takes place every Sunday morning from 9am -12 noon. This social event is open to all Tennis Society members. Just come along with your racquet and you are set to go.

Singles Ladders

If you are interested in competing in the men's or ladies singles ladders, information is on the 3/F noticeboard and on the website. For those presently on the ladder, it's time to get in there and make some challenges!!

Be sure to check out the Tennis Society website which is updated regularly with lots more photos from all of the recent events. www.hkfctennis.com

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the Tennis Society, please email the following address: tennisociety@gmail.com



HKFC / ATA



JUNIOR CHRISTMAS TENNIS CAMPS



GREAT
FUN AT XMAS
SIGN UP YOUR
NOW!

Camp 1: Monday 19th - Thursday 22nd December

1a: 9am - 11:30am

1b: 2pm - 4:30pm

(optional Tournament Day Friday 23rd December 9 - 11am)

Camp 2: Wed 28th - Friday 30th December

2a: 10am - 12:30pm

2b: 2pm - 4.30pm



Morning & Afternoon Camps (4 days): Members \$1980

Morning & Afternoon Camps (3 days): Members \$1485

Non-Members \$2380 (4 day camp)/\$1785 (3 day camp) Optional Tournament Day: \$350 (1 day)

Action photos, certificates, prizes for all participants!

Snacks & drinks provided!

For further information or to sign up please contact:

hkfc@atatennisaces.com Toby (m) 96463760

HKFC - ATA TENNIS TOUR PACKAGES LET'S HIT THE COURTS



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- Monday - Friday - 2-7pm
- Saturday - 8 - 2pm

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- TINY TOT CLASSES
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Sign up for JANUARY 2012
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NEW SEASON OF COOL
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Swimming and Triathlon News

LRC vs HKFC Swimming Gala



18 HKFC Swimmers turned out in full force in spiffy new TYR kit for the annual Ladies Recreation Club (LRC) vs. HKFC Gala, this time hosted by LRC. LRC have an impressive swimming set-up: 2 x 25m competition pools with diving blocks, three full-time swimming coaches and 20 coached training sessions per week for adults or junior swim squads each around 2 hours duration. Their swimmers dominate the local Masters Swim records so we were up against serious competition for a bunch of HKFC open water swimmers and triathletes!

Our elite U40 men were on top form with **Arthur Li** winning 50m free and fly and the Eliminator, **Nicolas Sung** taking 50m breaststroke and 2nd in the Eliminator. **Andy Town** and **Andrew Wright** joining for 2nd in the IM relay.

Our girls were powered by **Joanna Fergus** taking three golds including the Eliminator with top performances from **Michelle Robinson**, **Cat Sen** and **Debbie Hanley**. Special mention to **Olivia Wong**, **Judy Stevenson** and **Caitrin Adorian** who competed in their first gala and made a big difference to their respective teams. **Olivia Wong** won HKFC's New Swimmer of the Gala!

In the O40's Men, **Patrick Ip** rolled back the years and swung 2nd in the 50m fly. **Guy Horne**, **Robert Stevenson** and **Lloyd McBean** with **Patrick** also won the Men's 4 x 25m f/s in tremendous style. Granted LRC shot themselves in the foot by their anchorman diving early and being disqualified. By that point we'd take any victory!

With LRC stacking the age categories to O50's and the HKFC Swimmers generally being slightly more youthful, we were fighting the system points-wise and alas our hosts pipped us at the finale.

A terrific annual event and a terrific rivalry and camaraderie; we all look forward to the return matches in 2012!

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19.45-20.45

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Sign up for year 2012!



Taiwan Ironman 70.3



Laura Walsh wins her age-group in Taiwan 70.3



Completing a triathlon race can often be as much a test of planning and logistics as it is a test of fitness. Over the course of a race weekend, a Hong Kong triathlete will take apart and rebuild their bike twice and drag their bike box on at least two flights, two taxi journeys (usually requiring the age old trick of flagging the cab and having the journey accepted before wheeling the box into the view of the exasperated cabbie) and often train rides and boat trips. Race kit has to be methodically arranged and divided into a “bike bag” and a “run bag” to be checked in to transition in advance of the race, and a bag of swim kit and other last minute essentials (the timing chip, the banana, the little dollop of chafe-preventing lube!) must be left by the door of the hotel room so that it’s not forgotten at 4.30 in the morning when your body’s awake but your brain is still snoozing. Then there are the pre-race meals, the content and timing of which require scientific precision, the crucial pre-race hydration, attendance at the race briefing and finally lights-off at an hour that has not been bedtime since you were four years old.

The recent Ironman 70.3 event held in beautiful Kenting, southern Taiwan, presented an additional complication. The transition area where bikes had to be dropped off on the eve of the race was over 10kms from the hotel where competitors were staying and where the race ended. Whilst not many competitors will have left it so late to go to bike check in that they would have found themselves, as I did, cycling in the dark with no lights on an unfamiliar road the night before the race, almost all of them would have had to have taken a bus to retrieve their bikes after they had finished. And it turns out that nothing deflates the bubble of euphoria at finishing a race quite like the realization that you have to go back and do a section of it all over again! In fact, compared to that miserable post-event cycle, the race itself was a joy. The sea swim was in wonderfully clear water, for which wetsuits were allowed. The bike course consisted of two loops of a picturesque course with a great mix of fast flat sections and a good, solid thigh-burner of a hill to separate out the developing packs. And the run, unusually for a triathlon event, involved a point-to-point course rather than a number of “out-and-back” loops.

The only real negative of the race (if you ignore the draining 35 degree heat!) was that the decision not to split the start into waves meant that 1,200 competitors ran furiously into the water at the same time. If you can picture the marauding hordes in the battle scene in Braveheart it was fairly similar to that, albeit perhaps just a little more violent. With numbers at the Swimming and Triathlon Society’s early morning sessions recently approaching 20, this is something that we can perhaps try and recreate in the coming months!

Congratulations go to society members **Richard Hall** (4:42) and **Laura Walsh** (4:55) for winning their age groups in style. **Steve Willmott** (5:16) and **James Chapman** (5:21) did not visit the podium, but deserved their post-race beers all the same. ■

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

NEW BOOKS

STARTED EARLY, TOOK MY DOG BY KATE ATKINSON

THE HIMMLER BROTHERS BY KATRIN HIMMLER

THE UNNAMED BY JOSHUA FERRIS

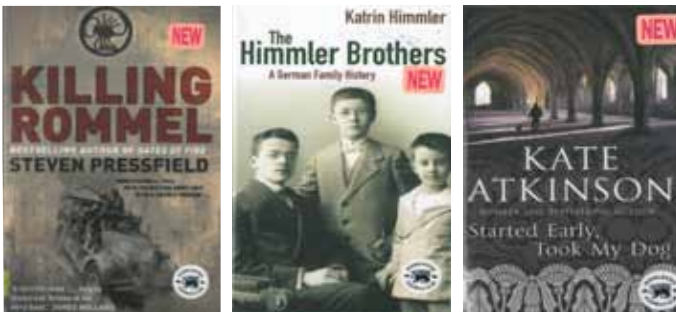
ON TARGET BY MARK GREANEY

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MOVIE OF THE MONTH:

SARAH'S KEY

A decades-old mystery unsolved. A courageous life unknown. A family's secrets untold--until now. Julia Jarmond (Kristin Scott Thomas) is an American journalist living in Paris with her French husband Bertrand (Frédéric Pierrot), assigned to cover the anniversary of France's notorious 1942 Vel' d'Hiv Roundup of Jews in World War II. She's stunned to discover that Bertrand's family apartment was the scene of an unspeakable incident committed during the war; his family has been concealing a disturbing secret; and a young French girl Sarah (Méluşine Mayance) holds the key to unlock the devastating truth.



TOP DVD RENTALS

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CRAZY STUPID LOVE

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HORRIBLE BOSSES

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TRANSFORMERS - DARK OF THE MOON # 3

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Members \$1,400 per person • Non-Members \$1,900 per person

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