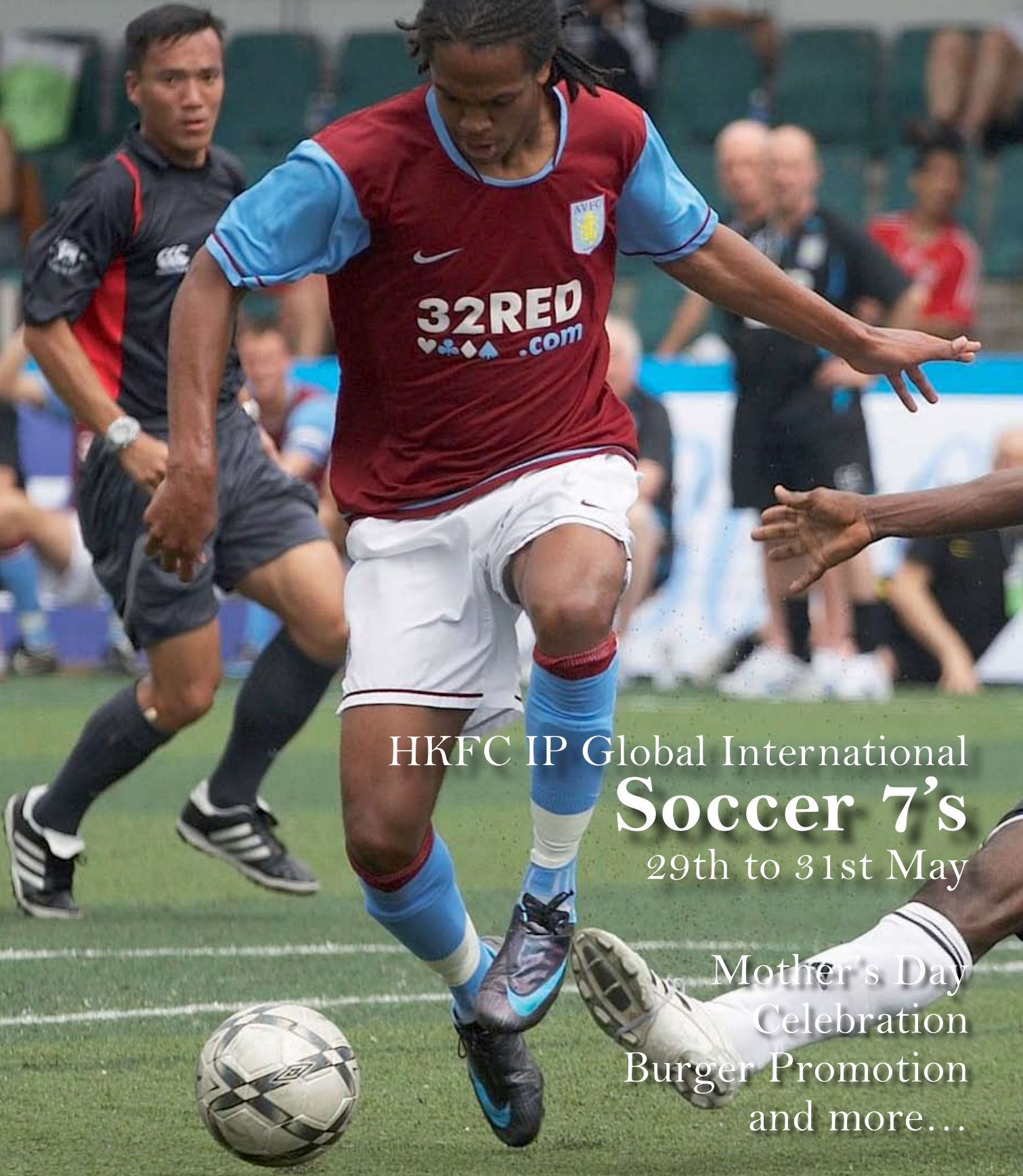


CLUB

HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB 香港足球會 MAY 2009



HKFC IP Global International
Soccer 7's
29th to 31st May

Mother's Day
Celebration
Burger Promotion
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HONG KONG FOOTBALL CLUB

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: To be recognised as the leading Sports Club in the Territory.

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	: Mike Lamont
Vice President	: Bobby Lawson
Vice President	: Iain Valentine
Chairman	: Fook Aun Chew
Hon. Secretary	: Colin Cohen
Hon. Treasurer	: David Howell
Sports & Recreation	: Lynn Edwards
Development	: Martin King
Discipline	: Desmond Ko
Constitutional Affairs	: Maurice O'Brien
Membership	: John Shanahan
Hockey Officer	: Fergus McCoig
Lawn Bowls Officer	: Mike Worth
Rugby Officer	: John Molloy
Soccer Officer	: Martyn Russell
Squash Officer	: David Reeves

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General Manager	: Mark Pawley
Operations & Co-ordination Manager	: Tony Sealy
Financial Controller	: S.K. Li
F & B Manager	: Dominique Artigolle
Executive Chef	: Ki Liu
Facilities Manager	: Evan Tao
Chief Engineer	: Hackman Lee
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 and designed by Karen Chan-Mulvena. 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.

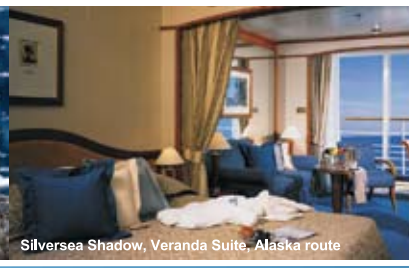
Hong Kong Football Club • 3 Sports Road, Happy Valley,
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The Thoughts of the Chairman

As mentioned in my last article, we are now heading towards the close of the season for nearly all of our main sporting teams. However, before we move into the quieter summer seasons, we will soon be hosting what is effectively our last international tournament for the 2008-2009 season which is the **HKFC IP Global International Soccer Sevens** held from **Friday 29th May 2009 through to Sunday 31st May 2009**. Teams already signed up include previous winners **Aston Villa** along with **West Ham United** and **Glasgow rivals Rangers** and **Celtic**. English Premiership hopefuls, **Birmingham City** will also be gracing the Club for the first time in the history of the tournament which started in 1999. This event is always very well attended and promises to be a great weekend of top quality soccer for Members and their Guests as well as those that come to watch in the Public Stand.

On the rugby front, whilst the league season is over, the International 15-a-side season begins with the Club being host to two **Asian 5 Nations** matches, the first of these being **Hong Kong v Japan, followed by Hong Kong v Singapore on Saturday 16th May**. We have a number of Club Members in the 15-a-side squad so do try and come down to support these players as well as to cheer on the Hong Kong team.

Though the **Annual General Meeting** is still nearly half a year away, it is a timely reminder for all Members to consider if they have any issues to raise with the General Committee. If you do, then please do not hesitate to contact the Honorary Secretary in writing or use the Suggestion Forms which are available at Reception. If Members are interested in serving on any of the Sub-committees or Sub-groups, please look to contact the respective Section/DSA/Society Chairpersons, the Standing Sub-Committee Chairmen, the Club Vice-Presidents or any General Committee members to see if there is a position that you are able to fill.

Lastly, please continue to enjoy the Club and its facilities.

See you at the Club.

FOOK AUN CHEW
Chairman



From the Desk of Mark Pawley

As regards the Chairman's comments about the **HKFC IP Global International Soccer Sevens**, it is worth noting that we will be hosting the **Sportsman's Dinner** that traditionally precedes the start of the Soccer Sevens on **Thursday 28th May**. The Guest Speaker this year is **Lawrie McMenemy**, or **Big Mac** as he is affectionately known along with Star ESPN Sports Presenter/Commentator **John Dykes** as MC and English Premier League referee, **Mike Riley** in attendance. Tickets are \$700 per person (or \$7,000 for a table of 12) which includes a Buffet Dinner along with the Guest Speaker(s) and all the Sevens teams, including the pro teams, being present. There will also be a Charity auction of unique and much sought after memorabilia. Application forms are available from Reception.

I am also advised that the Ladies Infield Changing Room will be utilised by some of the Sevens teams playing the tournament. As such, any lady requiring access to her locker in the **Infield Changing Room on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st May** should, in the first instance, go to Reception in order that they can arrange for an attendant to either escort you to your locker or to access the locker on your behalf.

Once again the Food and Beverage Department have put together a number of promotions for the month of May which can be seen on page 4 to 9. Notably, we celebrate **Mother's Day on Sunday 10th May** in both the Restaurant and Coffee Shop. Please do book early for this event to avoid disappointment. Also, a first in the Restaurant this month, I believe, when we put on a **Middle Eastern Night with Pasha** (the Belly Dancer) on **Friday 8th May**. Along with Pasha (and four other dancers and 3 shows during the evening) there will be a 3-course dinner provided along with two selected wines "served generously" with your meal – all great value at \$450 per person.

In the Chairman's Bar this month we have a **Port and Food Pairing** evening on **Thursday 14th May** and the Restaurant food promotion (which lasts for the entire month except on Sundays) is all about **Green and White Asparagus**. And, in the Coffee Shop we have a **Burger promotion** throughout the month along with **A Taste of the Mediterranean promotion** held, buffet style, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Club.

MARK PAWLEY
General Manager

Mother's Day Celebrations

Spoil your Mother on **Sunday 10th May** by bringing her for a celebration at the Club. We will be offering an extensive Brunch and Dinner Buffet at the Restaurant, and a Sunday Lunch and Dinner Buffet at the Coffee Shop.

IN THE RESTAURANT

Mother's Day Brunch

from 11.00am to 3.00pm

\$288 per Adult

\$148 per Child (age 12 and under)

International Dinner Buffet

from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

\$308 per Adult

\$168 per Child (age 12 and under)

* includes 1/2 Lobster Thermidor per person

** No A la Carte available on the day for either lunch or dinner

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

IN THE COFFEE SHOP

Mother's Day Lunch Buffet

from 12 noon to 2.30pm

\$208 per Adult

\$128 per Child (age 12 and under)

Loving Mum Dinner Buffet

from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

\$258 per Adult

\$148 per Child (age 12 and under)

* includes a Grilled King Prawn with herb butter per person

** No A la Carte available on the day for either lunch or dinner

Booking is required. Please contact the Coffee Shop at 2830 9569 or email: coffeeshop@hkfc.com

Photo for reference only



ITALIAN SUNDAY DINNER BUFFET

in the Restaurant
throughout the month of May
from 6.30pm to 9.30pm
(Except on Sunday 10th May)

Italian food isn't just about pasta; it's also about antipasti, pizza, rice, meats, cheeses and fabulous zuppas! To enjoy a slice of Italy, join us for the Italian Dinner Buffet on Sunday nights.

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



Photo for reference only

Photo for reference only



GREEN AND WHITE ASPARAGUS

in the Restaurant
throughout the month of May
available for Lunch and Dinner
(Except Sundays)

Since ancient times, asparagus has been used as medicine to treat urinary tract infections and kidney/bladder stones. Join us at the Restaurant during the Asparagus season for this mouth-watering delicacy, or take it as a side dish to complement your meal. It is a culinary fascination not to be missed!



Photo for reference only

MIDDLE EASTERN NIGHT WITH PASHA

in the Restaurant

Friday 8th May, starts at 7pm

Prepare yourself for an evening of Authentic Middle Eastern Cuisine and Belly Dancing.

- 5 Dancers
- 3 Shows (15 minutes per performance)
- Cocktail Reception
- Delightful Middle Eastern four course Set Dinner
- Two Selected wines served generously with your dinner
- \$450 per person

7pm
Cocktail Reception

7.30pm
Dinner and Belly Dancing
Performances

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



Photo for reference only

BURGER PROMOTION

in the Coffee Shop
throughout the month of May
Monday to Thursday
(Available for Lunch and Dinner)

Our Executive Chef has drawn up a “non-traditional” burger menu that will be featured throughout the month of May. Using native ingredients from around the world, there will be a wide variety of burgers for you all to try.



Photo for reference only

A TASTE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

in the Coffee Shop
throughout the month of May
Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Evenings from 6.30pm to 9.30pm

There will be a Mediterranean Corner at the Family Dinner Buffet, offering a selection of dishes from the sun-baked shores of Greece, Spain and the south of France. Come and join us!



Photo for reference only

THE ENCHANTING OYSTER SENSATION in the Chairman's Bar available from 6.30pm to 10.30pm

It's a delicious indulgence! Feel the sensations brought on by the freshness of the oyster throughout the month of May.

Only \$10 each – a minimum order of 6 pieces or enjoy two jet-fresh oysters and a glass of bubbly for just \$50.

BRING YOUR OWN WINE in the Restaurant throughout the month of May available in the evenings

(Except on Sunday 10th May)

5 reasons to **Bring Your Own Wine...**

1. Your wine is taking up too much space in your flat.
2. You want to enjoy the wine you have purchased in the past with friends.
3. You want to come and enjoy a good meal with a good bottle of wine.
4. You want to experience a touch of quality in your everyday busy lives.
5. You are not allowed to buy new wine from our wine kiosk unless you empty your current stock!

So, get a bottle or two of wine that will compliment the food and book your table now. No matter the type of wine you bring, we have the glass to accompany it.

No corkage will be charged (up to a maximum of four bottles per booking) as long as a minimum of two courses per person is selected from the A la Carte menu and that there is a minimum booking for two made beforehand.

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

PORT AND FOOD PAIRING in the Chairman's Bar Thursday 14th May from 7.30pm to 9pm

The distinctive character of Port does not only come from its production method. Like that of every great classic wine, it is also born of an association to climate, soil and grape varieties unique in the world. Port, when fortified, is capable of ageing in wood for much longer than most other wines, from two years to many decades, depending on its character and potential. It may mature in a cask, vat or bottle - or a combination of these.

These differing periods and methods of ageing give rise to a diversity of different styles, each with its own distinctive character and purpose.

Often served with dessert or cheese, Port is known for its rich, sweet flavour and dense mouth feel.

Our friendly wine expert Thibaut Mathieu, will lead you to a discovery of Port and Food Pairing.

Join us at the Chairman's Bar and enjoy an evening of fun and revelation.

\$100 per person (inclusive of Port and food)



Photo for reference only

MAY IN THE SPORTSMAN'S BAR

The month of May is all about **End of Season Cup Finals**.

Soccer has some big end of season games, including the **Champions League Final**, live from Rome, at 1.45am on the **Thursday morning 28th May**. For those who are not able to stay up so late, no worries, we will be replaying the game the next day.

The **FA Cup final** between **Chelsea** and **Everton** will be played at Wembley on the evening of **Saturday 30th May**. Mark your calendars! Please check the notices for final timings.

May sees the conclusion of both hemispheres' top rugby tournaments, starting with the **Heineken Cup final**, which will be played on **Saturday 23rd May**, followed by the **Super 14's final** on the afternoon of **Saturday 30th May**.

Also this month, are two of the top F1 races of the year, with the **Spanish Grand Prix** at Barcelona on **Sunday 10th May**, and the **Monaco Grand Prix** on **Sunday 24th May**. Both races will be shown on the screens at around 9pm HK time.

For tennis fans, the **French Open** at Roland Garros in Paris, will start on **Sunday 24th May**, and the Finals will be played on **Sunday 7th June**.

Our very own **HKFC IP Global International Soccer 7's** tournament is back with a bang, the weekend of **Friday 29th to Sunday 31st May**. This annual event is getting bigger and bigger



Photo for reference only



every year, attracting the very best teams from around the world. Building on our past experiences, we have put together some great food and beverage delights that will be available "Pitch-side" throughout the weekend.

On the Food and Beverage front, we welcome the warm weather by lightening up the lunch or dinner menu with a **special selection of salad dishes**. These salad dishes are filling enough to serve as main courses, but you can also enjoy them as appetizers.

BBQ Nights are back every **Friday and Saturday, from 6pm until 10.30pm**. A mouthwatering fare of meat, seafood and vegetarian selections grilled to perfection.

BEER OF THE MONTH

Stella Artois \$29 per pint or \$16 per ½ pint

QUIZ NIGHT

This will most likely be the Final Quiz before the summer break. Come down to the Sportsman's Bar on Wednesday evening **13th May** with your brains working "full power" with an 8.30pm sharp start.

Please contact Karen at the Sportsman's Bar for reservations on 2830 9531.

OPENING HOURS

As the Mini Soccer and Mini Rugby training seasons are coming to an end, starting from June, the Sportsman's Bar will open at 11.am on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays until further notice.



Photo for reference only

GUEST CHEF FROM AUSTRALIA



from Wild Oak
Restaurant Returns *Wild Oak*



PREVIEW IN JUNE

The Friendly Owner and Chef **Ben Higgs** makes a second visit to the Club from June 15th until June 28th

Wild Oak is set in the stunning Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges region, South East of Melbourne in Victoria, Australia

Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th June:

Ben Higgs Discovery Set Menu at the Restaurant for Dinner

Wednesday 17th June:

Cooking class at the Sportsman's Bar followed by Lunch with Ben Higgs

Thursday 18th June:

4 Wineries appreciations Dinner

Friday 19th June:

Family Pool Party with Australian BBQ and Wine tasting

Saturday 20th June:

Club Cooking Competition, "The Best Australian Pie"

Saturday 20th June:

Ben's Signature Dishes paired with wines.

FAMILY POOL SIDE BARBECUE AND SPLASH-IN EVENING

Friday 22nd May

Family and Friends Spit Roast Lamb BBQ Dinner Buffet and Wine Tasting Under the Stars

From 6.30pm to 10pm (Food serving from 6.45pm to 9.15pm)

The pool will only be open to Members who have booked for the evening and will be closed to non-participants from 5.30pm onwards.

- Book soon as seats are limited
- Booking form is available at the Reception or email: foodandbeverage@hkfc.com

\$198 per Adult (includes Free Wine Tasting)

\$148 per Child (age 3-12)



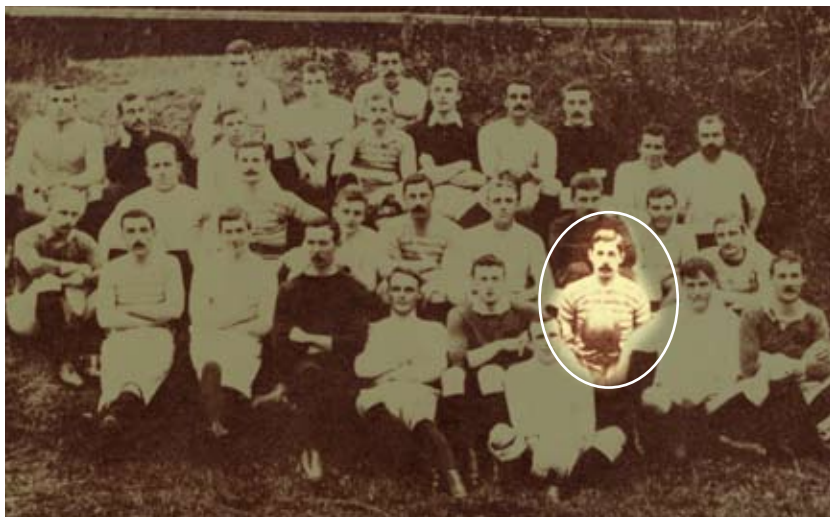
Fortune Hunter of the China Coast

In the world of **George Hutton Potts** the only game bigger than rugby was risk. If there was one to be taken, he never blinked.

Not a dangerous enough place

When he landed in Hong Kong in 1885 he was a 21-year-old toughened on the pitch at **Harrow** playing that school's unique football code. He put on his boots for the last rugby match staged three days before the Hong Kong Football Club was formed in February 1886, then again for the first Club match a few days later. An HKFC founding member, G.H. Potts was elected Club's first Rugby Captain, for four seasons starting in 1894-95. But the ruggier field was not a dangerous enough place for a man like him.

Potts was not one to be led. He did the leading, from out in front. He was not one for committees – they were for others, those who could sit still for more than a few minutes. He was born into a successful shipping family in a manor on a hill in Middlesex near Harrow School, the school of choice for the many brothers and cousins he grew up with. The Hutton Potts clan spread themselves around the world. His siblings went to Yokohama and Shanghai while George opted for Hong Kong, where he fidgeted behind a desk at **Russell & Co.**, the original American opium traders who rivalled **Jardines** until they went bust in 1892. By then George had quit the desk, was into the stock-broking business and on his way to becoming a multi-millionaire.



George Hutton Potts – First Club Rugby Captain (the man, of course, holding the ball); part of a group photo taken before the HKFC and Royal Navy XV's squared off on the Club pitch inside the racecourse on 18 March 1895.



The Club insignia in 1898-99 – Potts' last season as a player. (This is the earliest HKFC logo so far discovered.)

What turned George on

His first broking partner was fellow HKFC founding member **C.S. Barff**. George soon graduated into the big league, linking up with celebrated money men like **Solomon Sassoon Benjamin** and, later, the **Kadoorie** brothers who in those days used the pseudonym 'Kelly.' His autograph, along with that of **C.P. Chater**, was one of twenty-one signatures on the document that in February 1891 brought to life Hong Kong's first formal stock exchange, shares of listed companies until then being traded on the verandahs of the **Hong Kong Hotel**.

But what turned George on was physical action. When Hong Kong was 'anticipating an unfriendly visit from the Russian fleet' in the 1880s he was one of the first to join the Naval Volunteers. After the outbreak of a bubonic plague epidemic in the heat of 1894, he stepped up as a Plague Volunteer, going into infected areas, doing what he could to help and being awarded the Plague Medal, specially crafted to honour the **Shropshire Light Infantry** who lost men in the government's fight against the disease.

Bravado dictated

Just after he hung up his rugby boots in April 1899, Potts set out on a private adventure. The British colonial administration, ready to occupy the New Territories ceded from China the year before, had been warned it would not be welcome. Warlike elements from rural villages collected into a force 2,000-strong to resist the takeover. Warnings never fazed George Potts, they inspired him. As **J.H.S. Lockhart** – Club founder and Colonial Secretary – hurried off to raise the British flag at Tai Po and the Garrison mobilised to spend six days in the

hills of the New Territories dealing with the local resistance, Potts gathered his mates on his launch. They sailed into the danger zone for a picnic and a spot of bird-shooting to celebrate the addition of the 'Kowloon Extension' to the British Empire. Confronted by armed militants who had the temerity to chase him off and ruin his party, bravado dictated that George was back the next day with reinforcements.

A few months later news arrived that war had broken out in the Transvaal. Potts volunteered for that fight, too. The British Army turned him down. Then along came a conflict he *could* get into – the Boxer Rebellion. He sailed north with the Volunteers as a transport officer, entered Peking (Beijing) with the British troops commanded by **General Alfred Gaselee**, and came home with more campaign medals for his war chest plus 'a captain's commission in the Regular Army.'

Club Jubilee Year President

Potts then concentrated on Shanghai and settled down, relatively speaking. His broking business thrived. He accumulated the necessary status to earn admission into the elite horse-racing scene and created his own stable, called **The King's Stable**. His ponies regularly took out the blue-riband trophy events in Shanghai and in Hong Kong where he had a house called 'Clovelly' on May Road and became Chairman of the Stock Exchange. In May 1933 he laid the foundation stone of the new exchange building in Ice House Street.

HKFC's plans for its Jubilee Year in 1935-36 included the fitting choice of George Hutton Potts as Club President. But his one-



Potts, aged 71 at left, Club President in 1935-36, watching Governor Sir Andrew Caldecott presenting the Blarney Stone Shield (the Rugby Sevens trophy) to Club Captain L.G. Robertson, an accountant with HSBC.

year term was to be his swansong. On 4 January 1937, he died in circumstances that were very much in character – he contracted pleurisy on a shooting trip in Swatow (Shantou) in the middle of winter at the age of 72. In his honour the Stock Exchange closed on the day he was laid to rest in the Protestant Cemetery in Happy Valley, above the Jockey Club where he had been a member of prominence – and above the Football Club he helped to get started when he was a young buck of twenty-one, about to set out on the hunt for his fortune in a life loaded to the full with risk.

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Stewart Montgomery
Soccer Section Captain

The Captain's Corner

We'll Support You Evermore

Support from people in any walk of life is important...in football it's the heart and soul. Without support, the game itself would be nothing and it's because of the fanatical following throughout the game that football finds itself as such an important part of billions of people's daily lives. We rarely match our Rugby Section brothers in attendances here at Sports Road, but every now and then, as with the first of three Play Off games for Lucky Mile, we do get a decent following and it makes all the difference.

The match report which follows will be the first of three and the whole of the HKFC are hoping the boys can recapture their rightful place in the HKFA 2nd Division. This article will reach you on the 1st of May in the said month's edition. The deadline for its submission was April 15th 2009. I find it slightly unreal to think it's been 20 years since Hillsborough where tragic events led to the loss of 96 Liverpool supporters lives. Mums and Dads watched their kids go off to a football match never to return. Sons and daughters were left without a mum or dad. We should never forget and rather than just remember during a minute's silence once a year, perhaps all football fans should spare a thought for the families of the lost who still to this day fight for justice and "The Truth" of what happened on the 15th of April 1989 in Sheffield.

Monty



"The famous Glasgow Rangers and Loyal HKRSC Members celebrate as 2008 Master's Champions"

HKFC IP Global International Soccer 7's

Historically the month of May is the most attractive for football fans in Hong Kong. This year should prove no exception and the Club is delighted to welcome some fabulous names from yesteryear to the Masters Competition won in such glorious fashion last year by the famous Glasgow Rangers.

This year the IP Global All Stars will field names such as Dave Beasant, John Beresford, Chris Powell as well as the world famous Gordon Durie, Alex Rae, John Collins and Mark Walters. Nayim and David Howells will be here starring for Southampton and locally we hope to see Leslie Santos turn out for Golden Rainbow.

In the Main Tournament the Old Firm return as do the Kings of 7's Aston Villa. West Ham Utd are back and will be joined by Birmingham City with Chengdu Blades and the Aussie National U18 side giving the tournament a real International and IP Global feel.

You can catch all the action from **May 29th through to May 31st**, and don't forget the **Sportsman's Dinner on Thursday 28th** where this year's guest speaker will be Lawrie McMenemy.

I'm usually as reliable as evidence from Lewis Hamilton when it comes to predictions, but take it from me, the IP Global All Stars will walk away with the Master's trophy and Aston Villa will once again prove to be the 7's Kings in the Main competition.

What I wouldn't give to see the semi finals of the Main line up like this: Aston Villa v Birmingham City, Rangers v Celtic...

Monty

Lucky Mile's Match Report

A four team play-off group with the top 2 teams gaining promotion is what lays ahead for 'The Mile' after topping their division.

Preparations for their first game of the group were definitely a big tell in how much bouncing back to Division 2 meant for **Graeme Lane** and the Lucky Mile players. Going from the usual 1 session a week to 3 meant in the days leading up to match day 1 the group were able to squeeze in a friendly against the HKFC 1st team and a Thursday night team meeting (which will forever be remembered for the gaffers use of a snooker cue to not-so-skillfully shift cones representing players around a table!!)

To say that Lucky Mile started sluggish against Sai Kung would be quite an understatement. The first 20 minutes of the game was all one-way traffic as the opposition midfield took control early on and found space to play. The frustration of the side was demonstrated when only 8 minutes in, **Jack Beacher** was shown a yellow card for kicking the ball away in anger after a dubious decision. Through a combination of poor

BIG MAC

at the Soccer 7s Sportsman's Dinner



Lawrie McMenemy - rated in the Guinness Book of Records as one of the twenty most successful managers in post-war English football - is best known for his long and successful management of Southampton Football Club, which saw his team of underdogs defeat mighty Manchester United to win the FA Cup Final in 1976 and climb up two divisions to finish runner up in the top flight in 1983. Along the way, he won Division Manager of the year four times and had spells managing Sunderland, Northern Ireland and England in the early '90s as Graham Taylor's assistant.

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Lucky Mile's team photo

finishing and some great defending led by centre backs **Peter Harrod** and Captain **Jamie Milne** the score stayed at 0-0.

Mile were finding it hard to get out of their own half, let alone create an opening and struggled desperately to settle. And then came a moment of magic. Keeper **Bob Sawhney** launched a seemingly harmless ball up field with Lucky Mile strikers **Amro Abbas** and **Blake Harding** chasing. Under pressure, the defender's effort to clear only resulted in sending the ball skywards and not very far forwards from the edge of the box. With his back to goal, Abbas instinctively struck a bicycle kick. It proved a stretch too far for the keeper and found the bottom corner!!! The young forward clearly enjoyed the strike and led the mad celebrations in front of the teams watching supporters. Half an hour in and LM found themselves one nil up against the run of play. A few minutes later, and they were to double their lead!

Good play by the centre midfield pairing of **James Mann** and **Jack Beacher** opened up space for **Thomas Wu** on the halfway line wide

left. After a clever cut inside, Wu sent a terrific ball down the channel for front man Abbas to latch onto. He advanced on goal and with the keeper stranded, unselfishly laid the ball across the box for **Blake Harding** to tap home. That strike made it 11 goals each for Lucky Miles front pairing this season, and ensured a two goal lead going into the break.

Although the half-time score was slightly harsh on Sai Kung, Mile were confident in seeing the 2nd half through to make it a perfect start to the group. Within 5 minutes of the restart, that mood was to change. After a challenge to win the ball ended with Jack Beacher and his opposite number tussling on the floor, Beacher was shown a second yellow card and his marching orders for an apparent elbow to the face. As a result, goal scorer Blake Harding was sacrificed for the lively **Tim Phillips** to fill the gap in centre mid. At the same time, full back **David Watts** who did not put a foot wrong all game, had to come off due to injury and was replaced by **Rod Staunton**.

Now with 10 men and 40 minutes still to play, Lucky Mile knew they were in for a battle. They were immediately pegged back into their own half as the opposition sensed an opportunity. More disaster struck for Lucky Mile however with not even 60 minutes on the clock. As Sai Kung bombarded the penalty box, there was a sickening collision of heads between substitute Staunton and a Sai Kung striker. Play stopped for near 10 minutes as an ambulance was called to quickly whisk the opposition player to hospital. Lucky Mile were now down to 9 men having used their 3rd and final substitute to bring on **Paul Bibby** for Tom Wu only moments earlier.

It was all hands on deck for the Milers now with the formation at 4-4-0 and numerous players playing out of position. Amazingly they created some half chances with the pace of winger **Ka Ming Poon (Max)** and the energy levels of Tim Phillips ever so effective as Sai Kung threw caution to the wind.

To everyone's astonishment, Rod Staunton voluntarily re-entered the field of play and was barely recognisable with his blood stained kit and Terry Butcher-esque head piece. If you thought walking back on the pitch after his incident was amazing, his contribution and effort that followed was inspiring.

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Mile defended wave after wave of attack with no respite, and were helped along by the support of the crowd who were completely immersed in the action. Sai Kung went for broke and had countless number of opportunities to peg one back. Within a space of a couple minutes, a string of corners tested Lucky Mile to the full and any paint that had been on the outside of the posts and crossbar of Bobs goal had been well and truly scraped off. Some great saves from **Big Bad Bob** followed, and stalwart defending from **Michael Sadler** meant Mile were somehow still keeping hold of a clean sheet.

Everyone had to find another gear and did so, as the work rate of the whole side was nothing short of phenomenal. A mixed cry of joy and relief shot through Happy Valley as the referee sounded the final whistle. It certainly wasn't a pretty performance, but Lucky Mile are now one step closer to promotion!

The importance of the game was clearly not lost on those not directly involved with the side, as this match saw Miles biggest attendance of the season and what probably was the largest group of supporters Division 3 has ever seen on a match day. A big thank you must be said to all those who did cheer on the side, as your presence was definitely felt on the pitch! *AA.*

Junior Soccer News



Fourteen U15 squad players who were victorious in the final friendly of the season, a 7-2 win over Southern District

The 2008/09 Season for the Club U15's was the very first administered and coached under the direction of the Mini / Junior Soccer Programme. It is a step up from Year 9 football in that the U15 players are selected in order to represent HKFC with the best team possible in the Hong Kong Football Association Nike League.

The core of the U15's squad this season was taken from the best 20 players of the previous (Year 9) season, bolstered by new players who attended trials in the early part of the season. The final squad numbered 30 players.

The U15's trained three times a week, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday where drills were designed to achieve specific objectives such as endurance, speed and stamina and then progressed to defensive play, building through support and finishing, to general team play and tactics. The majority of players have shown real commitment to training, improving their own game and to their teammates throughout the season.

Friendly matches were played against some of Hong Kong's district sides, local and international schools "B" grade teams and the youth teams of some of the Hong Kong professional sides. All squad players played in the friendly games, winning

13, drawing one with Eastern, and narrowly losing two to Kitchee, both sides being the youth development sides of two of Hong Kong's professional first division teams.

The Hong Kong Football Association U15 Nike League consisted of the best 28 U15 youth teams in Hong Kong, split into 4 groups of 7 teams. Teams in each group played each other with the top two from each group progressing to a knockout phase in order to determine the best U15 team in Hong Kong.

The HKFC U15 team fielded in the Nike League was the best available on the day and from our squad of 30 players 22 made a league appearance. Only losing one game in the group stage to Sham Shui Po 2-1, HKFC placed second in their group and progressed to the playoff stage to play Eastern, losing narrowly 2-1 to the eventual finalists.

Our statistics for the Nike League were 7 games played, won 5, lost 2, 23 goals scored and only 7 goals conceded. The two defeats were very close, both going to the wire, and each could really have gone either way. Though we did not get past the first round of the playoffs, with a little more luck on our side, who knows?

The season has seen success in results, but the real success story of our season is that the players are now a cohesive group of footballers who play as a team for each other and strive to achieve the their best possible standard. They are a credit to themselves and to the Club.

Colin Butterfield (Under 15 Team Manager)

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Squash News

Squash Centre Upgrade

Please keep an eye out for the improvements to the Squash Centre facilities. Throughout the summer, there will be some upgrading and modernisation of our courts, which will give us two state-of-the-art show courts.

Due to the renovation of the courts, there will be a reduced format summer league organised by **David Murray**.

HSBC International Club Championships

This month, we see the start of the Club Championships which begins on the 9th May, culminating in the big day of the Grand Finals on the 30th May. The following tournaments will be held:

Men's Open Championship

Ladies Open Championship

Mens Master Championship

Ladies Master Championship

Junior Under 8s Championship

Junior Under 10s Championship


Junior Under 12s Championship

Junior Under 16s Championship

Stand Up And Be Counted

Following the Finals of the Club Championships is the Squash Section's Annual General Meeting. This is an opportunity for YOU to stand for a position on the Section committee. For people interested in getting involved with the running of the Section, please contact Mike Wood, Section Chairman, at MikeWood@citickawahbank.com

End of Season Party!!!



PROHIBITION


An evening of social and (secret) drinking pleasure.

Saturday 30th May 2009

The End of Season Squash Section Party will be stepping back in time to the roaring 1920s and the Prohibition era. Don your finest 1920's regalia and immerse yourself in an evening of Illegal Drinking, Charleston Dancers and showgirls.

Rendezvous point
HKFC Restaurant
7.30pm - 1am
(Earlier if the Police come)

RSVP adam_wilson@lycos.com



Following the AGM, we will have our **End of Season Party!**

Please book your tickets by emailing Adam Wilson at Adam_Wilson@lycos.com

Tours and Matches

As tradition, the match against the **American Club** is always a very sociable one. Last year the Club hosted the game, and this year the American Club will host a similar one on **Saturday 9th May**. We will be fielding a team of 8-12 of the Club's most refined squash players.

We will also be taking a large squad to play **HKCC** up the hill, with a mixed bunch of players including Masters, Women's, Men's and Juniors.

Anyone interested in joining these fun-packed fixtures please contact **Mike Belbin** - belbin5@yahoo.com

Also this month, we will be welcoming the Singapore Juniors who will be bringing a strong squad of players. Any juniors wishing to be a part of this event, please contact Phil Head - philhead@netvigator.com

Congratulations

Congratulations to League Champions Men's Division 6,8,9 and 11. Four pieces of silverware with the plays yet to finish, and hopefully more silverware is on its way.

Division 8 Champions

Division 8 wraps up the league title with 2 games to spare. Great effort by the team in beating the Police 5-0 to secure the Div 8 title after a great season with only one defeat.

Division 8 squad: **David Punn, Emma Pike, Jeremy Norris, James Harley (convenor), Martin Huxley, Dave Cross, Julian Harniess, Steve Pike.**



Charity Tennis Tournament

Bigger racquet and a bigger ball, no problem for the Squash Section!!!!

Congratulations to all the Section's participants in the Tennis Society's Charity Tennis Tournament. We picked up the 2nd Runner Up prize (**Jo Ward, Mal Zancanaro, Gordon** and **Denise Bell**) and the Runner Up prize overall with our men's team **Matt Robinson, Keith Frith, Dave Cross** and **Neal Soo** (see adjacent photo) topping the all men's doubles against the Tennis Society's men.

Cheers, *Dave Cross (Men's Team Captain)*



Girls U16 Cup and U14 Bowl Champions

A try in sudden death by **Rebecca Thompson** enabled the Hong Kong Football Club's Under-16 girls team to clinch the silverware in the 7s Grand Championship, and put the icing on a wonderful season for the U-16s as well as the U-14s.

Rebecca's try capped off a remarkable comeback against arch-rivals DeA who had led 12-5 at the break before Hong Kong Football Club's never-say-die attitude rose to the surface as they scored a brace of tries to level the score at 19-19 and take the game into sudden death.

In probably the best girls rugby game of the whole season, both teams displayed great skills and determination in their effort to win.

The Grand Championship title more than made up for the disappointment of coming second to DeA in the 7s league.

"The league was decided in the very last game of the season. Unfortunately with a few players unavailable on the day, we came up short against a strong DeA side," said Antje Keim who was coaching the girls together with John Leeds.

But the overall honours belonged to Hong Kong Football Club's U-16s who also were crowned winners of the 10-a-side league.

The HKFC U16 team is aiming for a clean sweep next season, especially with most girls still being eligible to play U16 for another year. Sadly Rebecca has to move up to U19 next year and she will be dearly missed.

There were many reasons to smile for the U-14s also. Although they couldn't quite match winning the same number of trophies as their seniors, they put in a credible performance throughout the season with their best being a Bowl triumph in the 7s Grand Championship.

"It was a great effort throughout the season by everyone," said Antje. "Everybody improved a lot and



U14's and U16's teams

next season we hope to be able to build on the success of our last tournament."

The challenge for next season will be to find enough players to start an U19 team again.

With so much talent in the U16s and U14s, it would be a shame not to compete in older age group as well.

The Club also sent out a big thanks to Tony Ryan and the DB Pirates, with whom they were joined for the first part of the season, while playing tens, as well to Fiaz, who helped coach the U14's, and to Garreth Jones our photographer and all the parents and friends who supported the girls throughout the whole season.

U14 team : Aneesa Fiaz, Lou Jacques, Megan Jacques, Caitlin Jones, Tomoko Fukuda, Tiffany Lam, Rhinanan Perrier, Teresa Fuentes, Clare Coverdale, Ayaanah Sallay

U16 team : Aysha Fiaz, Nadia Cuvelier, Rebecca Thompson, Joanne Fu, Shonagh Ryan, Lilly Manzoni, Karen Chau, Malory Matson, Tiffany Suen, Belinda Chan, Valia, Sam Tarrant, Priscilla Wong



Aneesa Fiaz

By *Antje Keim*



Alan Lo our Green Clipper

Green Clippings

Aitkenhead Shield

This is a yearly event, held after the triples league has ended and before the premier league starts. Each club is represented by one ladies and one men's team and this year, to make the competition more fair, the players were restricted by HKLBA to clubs entering only one player from each of their A, B, C, and D sides. This year, Club's ladies team was represented by **Camilla Leung, Wong Yee Ming, Wendy Hui and Clarissa Wong**.

In the first day of qualifying rounds, the Club ladies came first in their group and entered the second day event to play round-robin games between 6 teams. The target was to be in the top two teams of each section to qualify for the knock-out stage. In the first match, the Club team lost to Fire Services Lawn Bowls Club but the ladies showed their determination and won their three subsequent matches. The last match of the round-robin was the toughest game. Their opponent, Filipino Club, had won all their previous qualifying matches on the second day. Before the last end, Club were 2 shots up on the board. The ladies managed to lose only one shot in the last end and qualified for the knock-out rounds.

In the semi-final, Club played against City Lawn Bowls Club, which held the top position in the other section. Our ladies' performance was excellent and they beat them easily. In the Final, their opponent was Sea Bird Sports Club, which had home green advantage as Tuen Mun is their "home" green. Club's team fought hard and led by 5 shots to play the last end. It was no surprise that our ladies defended their lead in the last end and won the tournament.

After the game, Skip Camilla expressed her thanks for the support from the team. They had performed well throughout the whole tournament, especially as this team combination is new to everyone. Well done! Girls!



Camilla, Wendy, Clarissa and Ming

The Club's Men's Team was represented by **Philip Sze, Mark Mahoney, Denis Hamelin and Nick Grimshaw** (skip) with **Cyril Leung** as the reserve. None of the players had played on the green at Tuen Mun before but the team managed to secure a place in the second round games after 5 tight battles on the first day, most within a margin of only 2 shots.

Cyril replaced Mark on the second day and after clearly beating ILBC and STSA, Club qualified for the quarter-finals. However, Sea Bird Sports Club, their opponents, proved to be just a bit tougher. In this competitive game, the winner of each end was decided by only 1 shot, and Club finally lost by 2 - 4 after 6 ends.

Well done lads! Better luck next year.

Club Men and Ladies Novice Singles



Sarah with her trophy and Evelyn



CK with his trophy, Happy Chairman, Grandy the organiser and the Runner-up Denis

The Lawn Bowls Section organised a Novice Singles competition for the beginners and some of the not-so-beginners in March. The idea of this game was to let them gain experience in following the discipline of National Competitions. Also they could get the hands-on knowledge of the duties of being a "Marker". The games turned out to be very challenging for them, as the game format was round-robin in which all entrants must play against each other throughout the tournament. Seven Ladies and seven Men spent 3 consecutive weeks to play the 6 games; each game

winner was determined by the first player reaching a total of 15 shots. We were rather astonished that all the players were so concentrated in the game; instead of a quick finish, they all ended up playing more than 2 hours per game.

None of us could tell which player would be able to take the crown, as several of them had the same points before entering the last round of games. Thus it made the games rather interesting for all the spectators to watch and there were all kinds of speculations on the side-benches. Eventually, on the Men's side, **CK Wong** won the championship. The runner up was Denis Hamelin, who beat **Leo Yau** by a hair raising point. On the Ladies side, the winner also had to be determined by the very last decisive game. **Sarah McGrath** was finally crowned the Queen of Novice Singles and **Evelyn Chan** took the runner-up place.

Club Ladies Pairs Competition

Saturday 11th April saw the end of the 2009 competition to find the champions of the Club's Ladies Pairs. After a gruelling 4 hours and 10 minutes on the Indoor Green with many spectators over the closing ends, the winners, **Josephine Lam** and **Rita Tsui** eventually claimed the title over **Wong Yee Ming** and **Dora Lam**. It was a good Easter egg for Josephine and Rita and commiserations to Ming and Dora after putting up such a good fight. As Josephine said later, it may be that ladies take a long time to play their game of bowls, but they enjoy every minute of it!



Runners-up Dora and Ming with Winners Rita and Josephine

Bernard's Coaching Courses

The 7th Beginners' Course was completed on 20th March 2009. There were 11 participants. They enjoyed the course very much and were delighted to learn something new which might become their life long sport in the future. The graduation tournament was held on 20 March and the winners were two sisters, **Charlene Liu** and **Regina Liu**. Coach Bernard was very grateful to the Assistant Coaches, **Cecilia Young**, **KH Wong** and **Philip Sze**, for their great support in this event.



Group Photo of the 7th Beginners' Course participants



Coach Bernard with Winners Charlene Liu and Regina Liu, and assistant coach Cecilia Young



Coach Bernard with Runner-up Christine Lau, Nicole Muk and assistant coach, Cecilia Young

7th Beginners' Extension Course

(8-day Course)

Following Bernard's tradition of giving further coaching for the keenest bowlers in his Beginners Course, the Lawn Bowls Section will offer Members a Beginners' Extension Course in Lawn Bowls over eight evenings commencing on **Wednesday 13th May** followed by every Monday evening from the **18th May to 29 June 2009, from 7.00pm to 9.00pm** on the Indoor and Outdoor Greens. Total number of participants is 12. The course fee is \$100.

All Members who have attended previous Beginners' courses or equivalent are welcome to join. Through the course, bowlers will improve their skills, learn more knowledge in lawn bowls, general rules, basic tactics and an introduction to umpiring.

To enroll: Application Form can be obtained from the Club Reception Desk from 18th April 2009 onwards.

For enquiries: Please contact Bernard Young, Coach, on 9411 7218 or E-mail to : beyoufei@yahoo.com

Badminton Update

Annual Badminton Competition and General Meeting

At the Annual General meeting of the Badminton Society, on 14th March 2009, the Chairman presented his report summarizing the activities, membership levels and finances of the Society during the preceding 12 months. Thereafter the new Society Committee for the 2009 session was elected.

2009 COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Philip Woolf
Vice Chairman:	Benjamin Chan
Secretary	Paul Tso
Treasurer	B K Mak
Sports and Recreation Officer	Wah Sai Lin
Competition Officer	Steven Ng
General Officers	Galia Shum, T K Lam, K M Luk, Ryan Wong, Kenneth Ying, Derick Li, Patrick Cheng, Colman Lam, Tommy Liu

Preceding the AGM, the Society held its Annual Badminton competition. The event was well attended and after some hard fought battles, the results were as follows:

MEN'S DOUBLES

Champions	David Chow and Jason Wong
1st Runners-up	Benjamin Chan and Colman Lam

MIXED DOUBLES

Champions	Joyce and Wah Sai Lim
1st Runners-up	Alison and Jason Wong

LADIES DOUBLES

Champions	Joyce Lim and Pui Yee Fan
1st Runners-up	Yoke Ming Ong and Alison Wong

JUNIORS DOUBLES

Champions	Jason Wong and Max Woolf
-----------	--------------------------



Badminton Society Committee



Men's Doubles Champions



Mixed Doubles Champions



Ladies Doubles Champions



Junior Doubles Champions

The evening was rounded off with a gathering in the Coffee Shop, followed by an enjoyable few hours in the Sportsman's Bar where the die-hards watched Liverpool humiliate Manchester United- ouch.

Philip Woolf

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Our aim has been to create extraordinary architecture within controlled budgets and timescales. Our workload across Scotland is eclectic, ranging from contemporary new build homes to major historic renovation projects.

Our portfolio is almost exclusively with private clients, but with some emphasis on historic buildings where we have represented the National Trust in restoring the Royal Palace at Falkland, as well as acting for several of Scotland's leading independent schools.

Please review our website with its Hong Kong link and the many kind testimonies posted.



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I am delighted to visit Hong Kong, to renew friendships and to be afforded the opportunity to discuss the Scottish property market and what can be achieved.

My focus will be some case studies ranging from a modest extension, examples of Edinburgh historic townhouse and villa renovations, a bespoke new build eco home, to major "Category A" listed country house refurbishment projects across Scotland.

In addition I would like to share views on the Edinburgh property market and the opportunities in today's investment climate, nurtured through well established associations with all major estate agents and solicitors, and my long standing property company, Playfair Properties, that turns LMA visions into reality.

Elsbeth Rae from Bruce Rae Property Management (www.bruceae.co.uk) will be on hand to offer advice on the rental market and availability of prime residential properties.

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*We cordially invite you to join us in
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Drinks & Canapés

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Charles Poulton
Hockey Chairman



Chairman's Comments

Dear Section,

Since last month our Ladies As and our Men's Bs have both won their respective leagues with games to spare. **Katy Mountain** captained the team that retained their crown by winning every single match they played and my congratulations go to Katy and the entire squad for their tremendous dedication over the season. It is always hugely impressive that the Ladies As never take their hockey talents for granted, they train hard and they are constantly looking for ways to improve the quality and style of hockey they play. In the men's first division the B-team have also run away with that division's title under **Rik Van Donk's** leadership and my congratulations go to Rik and his squad for their dominant displays week after week. Winning this league shows our strength in depth and it gives the men's B-team the right to ask to play in the premier league if they so desire; will they take up the challenge?

The **Easter 9s** was the big event for the Section and I would like to thank **Simon Chapman** for organising and running a very successful tournament this year and I am not just saying this as I have seen some very appreciative emails from various captains thanking us for an enjoyable and well run event. 20 teams took part over 2 days with approximately 300 people playing and watching over that time. The winners were a touring side from Malaysia called Sunday 20.30 and our congratulations go to them on what I hope they feel was money well spent coming to Hong Kong to take part and win it! The tournament BBQ was enjoyed by 186 people hosted by the side of the swimming pool and my thanks go to the Club's Food & Beverage team for putting on a very tasty and well run event! Thank you too to all the Staff at HKFC who helped us set up the 2 day event in particular **Aaron Stockdale** and **Daniel Fan**, and to **Karen Mulvenna** for putting together the excellent brochure. It is now time to start planning for next year's event and anyone who would like to be on the Easter 9s committee should contact me as soon as possible.

The **End of Season Ball on Friday June 5th** should now be at the forefront of your minds and if you have not already told your captain that you are attending please do so right now! Your commitment to this event is by all players in every team is what makes it such a successful event and it is the one chance in the year that we have for us all to get together and celebrate our many achievements in what I hope will have been a hugely enjoyable season for you all.

Please keep watching the website for information on the summer events such as **Indoor Hockey** and the **Mixed Social Summer Hockey**. If anyone is interested in captaining a social team over the summer please contact Chappie as soon as possible to register your interest. Volunteers will also be needed for committee positions as some members of the committee are stepping down. The bulletin boards and website will carry details of the vacancies and if you think you can help please don't be shy about asking the current incumbent of myself about how you can contribute to running the Section. I encourage Members both within and well past their four year commitment period to think seriously about volunteering as a way to 'give something back' to the Section.

And finally, **DON'T FORGET TO COME TOURING to Kuala Lumpur in July** we need more women and more men, see the website for contact details.

Happy Hockey to all,

Charlie.



Semi final shoot out

EASTER 9s MIXED HOCKEY TOURNAMENT



The Randoms - Cup Runner's Up



Silver - Bowl Winners



Sunday 2030 HC - Champions 2009

The 2009 Easter 9's once again lived up to Easter tournament expectations. There was the right blend of serious hockey for the enthusiasts, and off field socializing for the 'players' at heart. Whilst not in the trophy hunt, **Team Hong Penge Kong** was the team to beat when it came to mixing the two together. Led by Tim, the ever loud and enthusiastic voice of the team, they were seldom without beverage in hand, or short of a chant, or challenge. No one was safe from a drive by licking or drinking challenge, and yet, even the fancy dress Hawaiian outfits were not enough to stop the masses being entrapped by their constant entertainment.

On the more serious front, the tournament saw 20 teams compete for trophy honours in Cup, Plate and Bowl competitions. With only 19 teams registered and less than 12 hours until the first match, tournament organizer, **Chappie** put together a team of HKFC based players, named them **The Randoms**, and figured they would happily make up the numbers. Little did anyone know, that they would see themselves in a Golden Goal battle in the Cup Final. A mix of H to A team men and women took on the might of Sunday 2030 HC on Malaysia, and only after regular time, Golden Goal and the 1 v 1 shuttle did they falter, eventually losing out 2-1. Congratulations to **Sunday 2030** for their Cup victory.

In the Plate competition, the result was decided in regulation time with our **Valley** friends finally ousting the **Dutch** to become champions. The Bowl was played between **Silver** and **Fiddlesticks**, or essentially Shaheen vs HKFC. Both teams went at it, scoring a goal a piece in regulation time. Just as it looked as though the match would go to the 1 v 1 shuttles, Silver slotted the winner with seconds remaining. This result saw an exciting win for the team that had the only serious injury of the tournament, a fractured nose to their captain during pool play.

continues next page...



Valley - Plate Winners



Team Hong Penge Kong by day



Team Hong Penge Kong by night



Goal Keepers Race



Goal Keepers ...a unique breed



Usual Suspects

But the tournament wasn't just about the trophy winners. **Samurai** emerged as serious contenders in the Cup in their 4th season, taking down **Tropic Thunder** (the Chelsea of the tournament) in the playoff for 3rd in the Cup. Both teams were a mix of HKFC based players. Fitting then that 3 of the top 4 teams were all HKFC formed teams. Also very fitting was the Plate playoff for 3rd, played out by the two most social teams of the tournament, **Usual Suspects** and Team Hong Penge Kong. Perhaps also, a 0-0 result with shared honours also the best outcome, celebrated by both teams with yet another round of beers for all. Each team contributed a vast amount to the F&B take at the Carlsburg tent! Well done to both teams! The Bowl 3rd place playoff was also a 0-0 result with **HKUST** and **Pau Ma Dei** sharing the honours.



The Dutch are everywhere

The Friday night saw everyone partake in the BBQ at the Pool Complex, and thankfully the weather was very favourable, as it had been all weekend in fact. The lamb spit roast was delicious... trust a kiwi to throw a lamb spit roast on the barbie. Where were the shrimp? ...in the salad apparently. Yet again Team Hong Penge Kong came to entertain, as did a number of other teams, participating in numerous drinking games and fine sessions... the shoe fine proving very popular. Pool D unofficially took out the 'boat race' although there was some speculation as to whether or not they cheated, as is expected by anyone who gets a D, right?

The highlight before the finals was of course the GK race, in which a mix of sprinting in full kit, sculling a beer with gloved hands and head spinning were all requirements to find our winner. Rob Wilkinson from Tropic Thunder took out the main prize, a mini fridge from Pocari, with a narrow win over fellow HKFC junior keeper **Alun Southwood** and veteran keeper **John Alabaster**, also of HKFC. Clearly the Club had all the bases covered... except the winner's trophies it appears.

A big thanks goes to all teams, in particular Yohohama Country and Athletic Club who once again journeyed over from Japan to compete. It'd be fair to say they

were never going to have uniform clashes in that fluorescent yellow or those Disney themed shirts. The local university teams were out in force again and for once we did not see a KCC team in the final. Well, not entirely anyway, as the KCC girls were part of the winning Sunday 2030 squad. Funjabi once again brought the Indian flavour, and Owls, as always represented successfully, making it through to the top 8, culminating in a 2-0 win over the KCC Dream Team in their final game.



We look forward to seeing all teams again in 2010 and plan to see the newly energized Easter 9's take on a fresh look with a bigger international contingent. Thanks finally to all HKFC Staff, particularly Daniel Fan for his support throughout both days, and to all the behind the scenes Staff who helped put it all together. Also, a big thank you to all the Hockey Section volunteers, and to our tournament sponsors. We could not have put on the tournament with the same success without these contributions.

Easter 9s Tournament Committee

Aquila B 5 – 3 HKFC H's: Plate Match on Sunday 5th April

I never thought losing to a technically superior side sitting in the top half of the division above us would hurt so much. But, for the first time, this defeat hurts, because we snatched defeat from such a good winning position. As the saying goes, this was a game of two halves.

We had a very different line-up from the settled side of the past couple of months, so I was not expecting anything as good as the first half performance. None of the recent "Man of the Match" vote-getters were present, so, in the pre-match team talk, I challenged everyone to step up, grab the game by the balls and be a match winner.

In accordance with instructions, the back 7 of **Cyrus Law, Martin Lane, Nev Watkins, Alan Powrie, Robbie Collins, Joel Chu** and **Patrick Lam** packed the area in and around the edge of the D. We dived in, lunged and slashed away at the fast and tricky opponents. Some of the challenges were akin to hacking out of the rough. Aside from some brilliant saves from Cyrus, it was more luck than anything else that we kept a first half shutout. But it was no more than our defenders deserved for the effort, resilience and courage that they showed. They fought hard and got in the mix.

At the other end of the pitch, it was a complete contrast to the organised mayhem at the back. For the limited amount of time we had the ball in their half, the front four of **Nigel Mukherjee, Brett Goebel, Mark Kan** and **Quentin "Q" Burrows** counter attacked with pace and artistry. The speed and guile with which we had their defence stretched was impressive and incisive. We managed 3 short corners in the first half – the same as them. The first of ours was the best so far in 2009 – Joel drags it out, Q stops it and Brett cover drives it into the corner of the net. All done in the blink of an eye. One-nil to us.

Then, right on the stroke of half-time, we saw a bit of magic that sent the HKFC dugout into wild delirium. Brett takes the ball on the edge of their D with his back towards goal and only one thing on his mind. He first drags the ball to his backhand side for the sweep. He sells his marker a beauty by dummieing the shot and then dragging the ball back to his forehand side. And as soon as the ball touched the white line of the D, CLUNK! Cover drive, same corner, flat and hard as you like – TWO-NIL. Again, their goalie had no chance. And we did more fist-pumps than Tiger Woods in the US Open.

The euphoric feel of going two up, then gave way to heat exhaustion during half time. Then the feel good factor went right out of the window, when the team talk got a bit technical. Then, worst of all, I make an almighty tactical error, (sorry!), by resting Joel at the start of the second half. Hindsight would be such a wonderful ability to have. Asking Joel to take a 10 minute breather was a bit like removing the nuts and bolts that keep the car intact. The wheels completely fell off. The worst 10 minutes of the season at the start of the second half saw us sleepwalk from a winning position to being 3-2 down. Heads dropped and I thought the floodgates were going to open.... But I was wrong again.

After a period of consolidation, we started playing proper hockey again. We manage to get a short corner which bobbed out to **Julian Gooding** backing up. He plays a quick ball to Robbie out right, who, in turn, fires a bullet of a hit into the D. Joel lunges full length to deflect the ball into the net, wrong-footing the goalie, for his maiden goal and the equaliser! The indomitable H's are back in the game with 15 minutes left!

It was only in the last 5 minutes that lack of match fitness and practice get the better of us and they scored a well-crafted fourth goal. They made us look like traffic cones. Then Chappie threw the dice and replaced Cyrus with an extra forward. That led to them pushing the ball into an empty net for their 5th goal with a minute to go. By that time, we were well and truly spent on our feet gasping for air and water.

Overall, this was a very encouraging performance. I learnt a lot about our squad after this performance, including how much strength in depth we would have, if everyone were match fit and had match practice. We are better than we think we are.

Lewis Man

Ladies A's

Unfortunately it's no longer surprising that the Ladies' As come out as victors in their league matches. While their own performance can waver from being top quality to a scrappy match, there is usually very little suspense as to whether they will come out on top. There is, perhaps, more anticipation in trivial things like what Mini's baking will be this weekend or what colour skivvy Babs'll be wearing under her club top... so here are a few interesting things you might not have known about the Ladies' A team.

70% of the team have represented Hong Kong in hockey. Over 30% of the team are teachers, 25% are students. Jo coaches the WIS hockey team who fiercely compete against Mini's GSIS hockey team. Dawn has coached her WIS basketball team to reach the semis, as well as completing the Green Power Race in under 8 hours. Speaking of races, Emily is always competing in some kind of race / triathlon etc, and recently won the Action Asia Sprint Race – hurrah!

As for social fun – Russo led the charge at the Bangkok tour; Babs recently celebrated her birthday with a Neon coloured protest; Netty had a hen night that involved bling and pole-dancing; and Sanj has discovered the fun of the tai-tai lifestyle and public transport!

Keeping tabs on our girls down under, Olivia Chiu was recently selected for the Australian Indoor team and Nat Chapman is now dodging sheep instead of traffic cones at hockey training in New Zealand. Babs turned down playing for the Pearls in Australia, in exchange for a semi-professional contract in Germany and departs at the start of April! Needless to say Babs, we will all miss you during our Knock-out Cup campaign, but the Golden Stick is no longer in your grasp!

Netball News



Tame Usback,
Division Chairperson

Comments from the Chair

The year as Netball Chairwoman has gone surprisingly fast. It has been a busy one with the addition of a 6th team and a new coach **Amanda McPherson**. With all 6 teams in the semi finals I hope it will mean we will bring home some silverware and can plaster premier team winning photos along the corridors of the Club. Next month we will see a full report and pictures about these matches.

Thank you to all members of the current committee for their support over the past year. In particular, to some longstanding committee members who will step down after serving for 3 to 5 years: **Sarah Clarkin Yates, Alex Kent, Fiona Hill Samuel and Kirsty Hulme**.

Good luck to the new committee members who have graciously agreed to take on a position for this year. In particular, the ever amazing **Karin Looram**, who along with continuing to coach two of our teams, has agreed to take on the role of Chairwoman. Karin has a wealth of netball experience both on court and off, and this knowledge plus her fair and level headed nature will certainly ensure the Netball DSA continues to shine.

Country of Origin Tournament



Weekly Match Report

Monday 23rd March: Cyclones (17) vs Hurricanes (8)

If ever there was a game of the season more anticipated than the semis and finals, then this was it. The Hurricanes, having beaten the Cyclones at the beginning of the season and who were subsequently the only team the Cyclones had as yet lost to, marked them as the team to beat.

With much pre-match anticipation and a fair number of injuries, the Cyclones started out the game the way they finished, focused, strong and consistent. Their game flow worked well and their unflustered approach saw them to a very well deserved and convincing win over the Hurricanes, with a final score of 17 to 8.

Each player's determination shone through with **Ellie** (GS) scoring despite an injured finger and **Kat** (GA) feeding the ball into position in the circle time and again. Whilst down court, **Kas** (C) and **Heather** (GD) made a formidable team throughout the game intercepting and defending with precision and consistency. All other players supported the team with their own strong and reliable performances.

This was a tough match for a number of reasons with strict umpiring, playing a home team in the same division and having few supplementary players due to injuries, but despite this the Cyclones played a game to be proud of. Well done team!

Jules Crowder (WA)

Monday 16th March: Hurricanes 30 vs A.P. Rosellas 26

We are nearing the end of the season and without defeat but Hurricanes are still being put through their paces. This weeks' match was another nail biter with a goal for goal score line throughout the first 3 quarters - 14-15 at half time, 21-21 at the end of the third - so going into the fourth quarter we really had to tighten up our performance. No one was ready or willing to lose this one and boy did it become apparent as passes became stronger and more accurate, space was well executed, defence tightened and Hurricanes maintained possession when previously it was being lost. Under the pressure of the closing minutes, **Darien** and **Lesley** kept their composure and scored some fabulous goals - but full credit to the whole team for pulling together and showing their commitment to win right up until the final whistle with a score of 30 to 26!

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19th Hole with the Chairman

Andy Ho,
Golf Society Chairman

What a fantastic finish to the Masters!

Congratulations to Angel Cabrera. Spectators who were fortunate enough to be at Augusta National for the final round of the 2009 US Masters will never forget the experience as the birdie roars returned to the undulating par-72 layout with a vengeance.

Although two Americans ultimately fell short of a three way playoff, won by Cabrera at the second extra hole, they attracted arguably the biggest crowds ever seen at Augusta with the fans massing 30 deep around some of the greens.

Mickelson exploded out of the gate with 6 birdies in seven holes to reach the turn in a record equalling six-under-par 30. Woods, although not at his best, rammed in a 25-footer to eagle the par-five eighth before making birdie on 13, 15 and 16 to surge into contention for the title.

As I write this piece I'm looking forward, with 23 others, to an Easter long weekend in Juan Garden Golf and Country Club and WuYi Golf Club. And a Swiss Privilege - Callaway Equipment Day on the 25th April. Your Committee continues to be busy organizing events, please stay tuned!

The annual challenge match between teams representing the Chairman and President (of the Golf Society) took place on its customary Monday after the 7s. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend due to a trip to Japan. Thank you to both **Dallas Reid** (acting Chairman) and **Richard Neish** for making such a good start for the Chairman's Select. Congratulations to the President's team and **Lynn Edwards** for yet another victory. Lynn and I would like to thank all those that supported us in this event.

Due to several complaints during outings on the use of mobile phones, I want to use this opportunity to advise Members to avoid the use of mobile phones while playing their round of golf, especially while other parties are putting on greens in a competition! According to Rule 14-3/16, although the use of an electronic device such as a mobile phone, hand-held computer, calculator, television or radio is not itself a breach of Rule 14-3. Players should ensure that any electronic device taken onto the course does not distract other players.

Again a reminder to everyone to check their golf insurance status. I am in the progress of looking around for better deals among several providers. Stay tuned!

Golf News

Kau Sai Chau East — 11th March



Nearest pin winners

The rain patches and strong wind didn't happen (nor did the sunshine) so the East course was its normal interesting challenge for our party of 28, of whom about half were first timers. It definitely helps to know what's beyond the blind spots, and with almost no rain for months the fairways were smooth and the greens not 'biting'. It seems the course changes quite a lot depending on the time of year.

One of the first timers on the course, **Winfield Tam** played the round of his life with an exceptional 84 best gross and an enormous Stableford net score of 40 plus which will no doubt put his handicap under severe scrutiny by the Committee!

Trailing Winfield was runner-up **Tom Cameron** with 34 including a very rare three-putt par on a par 4! **Jim Suttie** and **Iain Brown** followed Tom on 33. In the ladies department (the tee locations for ladies make theirs a very different course) the winner was **Lily Chan** with 32 points.

The five par 3 holes led to near pin prizes for Winfield and **Dallas Reid**, **Helen Cheung**, **Mike Belbin** and **Soo Ying Poon**, while the day's long hitters were **Lui Tong** and **Andrew Eden**.

As ever the East course took its toll but there's no doubt why it remains the most popular at KSC. We'll be back!

David Connolly



President vs Chairman's Cup — 30th March

In the mists of time, someone thought that the perfect time for a match between select teams representing the President and the Chairman of the HKFC Golf Society would be early on the morning after the Rugby 7's. Even more inexplicably, this tradition continues which explains why 20 rather miserably-looking golfers assembled at Fanling's new course on the 30th March, ready to do battle for this prestigious trophy.

Of course the trophy was not sufficiently prestigious to persuade the Captain to bother to turn out. One assumes he was tucked up in bed thinking what a bunch of gullible so-and-sos were actually out there playing.

For some reason the President, Lynn Edwards, did feel obliged to lead his team from the front – must be desperate for something on the mantelpiece I suppose.

The usual prizes were available for long drives and nearest the pin, and I'm pretty sure the prize for most beers consumed at the half-way house went to the President's flight – 4 beers on the spot and 9 takeaways certainly raised an eyebrow from the ladies at the hut! Strangely (or perhaps not) this produced some huge drives down the next "longest drive" hole, although apparently **Nick Mawdsley's** effort was a long way past these. I wonder what he was on?

After much flailing of golf clubs and chugging of beer, the final results were:-

Nearest Pins Winners:

Phil Head, Will Glover, Delia Waldie and yours truly (**Dallas Reid**) twice.

Longest Men's Drive- **Nick Mawdsley**

Longest Ladies' Drive - **Adie Ma**

PRESIDENT SELECT 10	vs	CHAIRMAN'S SELECT 10	Won 3 to 2
Lynn Edwards and Phil Head	vs	Dallas Reid and Richard Neish	Lost 2 and 1
Nick Allen and Nick Mawdsley	vs	Mark Harris and Stuart Wong	Won 1 up
J.P. Cuvelier and Jason Cornell	vs	David Fargus and Elsa Lee	Lost 4 and 3
Jason Waldie and Delia Waldie	vs	Bob McKirdy / Ange Dickinson	Won 3 and 2
Nicholas Lo and Winfield Tam	vs	P.W. Pong and David Tso	Won 5 and 4

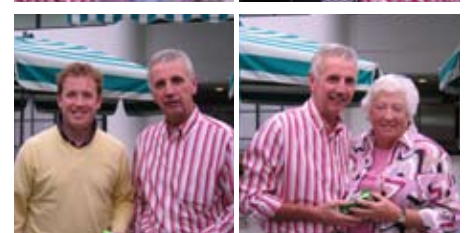
OVERALL RESULT PRESIDENT'S TEAM WON 3 MATCHES TO 2



The winning team

Special mention goes to **Jason Cornell** who was apparently so hung-over he barely connected with a ball until the last three holes. Well done for making it!

Dallas Reid



Tennis Captain's Corner



Our 'A' team starts with a bang...

On behalf of Captain **Philippe**, the HKFC's inaugural A team for Mens Doubles is happy to report a 6-3 win over the Indian Recreation Club. It was a hard fought contest, in a night that was not without drama. Amazingly for our first match, **Ringo** had somehow managed to forget his tennis kit, and thus had to warm up in his business shoes! Well done, Ringo!

We had a particularly nervous start, with all teams struggling to find their shots. Up against the first pair, **Philippe** and **Simon** exchanged 3 breaks of serve, but were eventually outgunned by 2 young hitters of the ball in an all out attacking fest to gain net position; the pace of their shots prevailed, and we narrowly lost 4-6. On the other court, **Neal** and **Adrian** playing their first time together, had 3 match points before succumbing to an extremely steady baseline pair 5-7. Ringo and **Austin** did not have much luck against 2 lefties who rushed the net and were downed 4-6. So the score after the first round was 0-3 and it looked bleak.

The second round saw Philippe and Simon playing their second pair. We started strong and led 4-1 with strong aggressive play and thought we had it wrapped, but this team comprising of old and young just did not miss their shots. Both by playing from the baseline and by using clever lobs, they wore us down to 4-5. We struggled to find our range and missed some crucial executions to find ourselves at 6-6 before muscling ourselves to win the tie break 10-8.

On the other courts, Neal and Adrian got rid of their 'growing pains' as a pair and found each other, using the up/down formation, they took out the third pair 6-2. Ringo and Austin with their clever baseline antics used the whole court to their advantage against an attacking, error-prone first pair, 7-5. So after round 2, it was 3-3 a piece; it looked like a long night ahead.

In the third round, Philippe and Simon took on the third pair lefties; we faded a little at first, trailing 2-4 after the long match beforehand. But, we managed to regain our focus to close out the match at 6-4. On the other court, Neal and Adrian exchanged fiery shots in an all young man's contest. Again, the up / down formation worked well to clinch it against the first pair 6-4. Ringo and Austin engaged in another marathon with the second steady pairings and were up 6-5 before the lights were switched off automatically at 10.30pm. Since the IRC had already lost, they decided to forfeit that game, but it became a later bone of contention over dinner.

All in all, it was an excellent start to the season.

Mixed Doubles ends on a high note...

Captains **Vivian** and **Job**, in a last, masterful marshalling of forces brought home glory for the Football Club ending the season at the top of the league. It all depended on the last match against Kowloon Tong. We had to win... Our final pairings were **Emma** and **Winston**, **Eric** and **Chiyomi**, and **Natalie** and **Duncan**.

In feisty form, Winston and Eric charged through all of their matches, winning all three with consummate ease. Our other two pairings both won two of their three games, succumbing to nerves in the second round, but easily overcoming them in the third round to seal our victory 7:2.

A magnificent achievement – well done to all of our participants throughout the season!

Graham Ormerod



The victorious Mixed Doubles Team

Captain	Won	Lost	Tied	Bye	Total pts	Rank
Haj W	1	3	3	-	26 pts	7 of 11
Elaine B	3	3	1	-	32 pts	6 of 11
Yolanda S	4	2	2	-	37 pts	2 of 12
Philippe B	1	0	0	-	-	
Vincent C	0	1	0	-	-	
Greg B	0	1	0	-	-	
Vivian L.	8	2	-	-	-	1 of 6



Adam Doyle - Head Tennis Coach

From Your Tennis Coach

The French Open Tennis Tournament is coming up where you can watch some of the best tennis played on the red clay in Paris. This event normally brings the longest points and matches played throughout the tennis calendar. This in turn makes this event more exciting to watch. Let's see if Rafael Nadal can win again, or will Roger Federer finally break through, or will another exciting talent like British number one Andy Murray win?

It has been great to see some new faces playing tennis recently. Let's hope this continues as tennis is a great sport to play with friends and family for fun and exercise. As the summer heat starts, make sure to stock up on the sunscreen which can be purchased at the Club Shop. The sun can be harsh on your skin, and it doesn't take long for you to burn. A sunscreen of SPF 15 or above is recommended and preferably sweat resistant.

Tennis courses are available for juniors aged 4-17 in our Junior Development Programme. Two new courses have been added for a two month trial on Saturdays. Refer to the Activities Booklet for details. Private lessons are available for all Members. The Tennis Staff are very committed to helping you improve your game. Call or Chat today to organize a lesson.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the court. A tip for you on your serve which I believe will help. Keep your left hip and left arm up as long as you can after throwing the ball up. This will help achieve maximum height on your serve for contact.

Most Improved Adult: Debra Taylor

Most Improved Junior: Caitlyn McGuire



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Swimming Update

HKFC vs LRC Gala



Chapmans – the Iron Couple Compete!

Friday 3rd April saw a 16-strong Swimming Society team square up for the Duel in the Pool against the formidable Ladies Recreation Club. LRC are by no means all Ladies, and their squad are a race-hardened bunch who hold down swimming training sessions three times a week, whilst HKFC sleeps. This was the fifth meeting between the two clubs and it always promises to be a highly competitive and enjoyable night.

HKFC Ladies were in excellent form, and **Hayley Morris, Tori Pope, Claire Chapman, Jenny Hill, Shauna Simpson, Claire Dicey, Jo Horne, Licia Yee** were superb with Hayley winning five finals. The Men's team, **Robin Harris, James Chapman, Andy Debham, Patrick Ip, Kwong Wai Hong, Guy Horne, Steve Wilmott** and **Martin Lodge** were perhaps not quite as sprint fit as they would have liked. James has New Zealand Ironman under his belt as training for the 50m fly. Kwong had been laid up with flu, but showing the true grit of an ex-fireman, came through to win the underwater endurance lungbuster challenge by miles.

LRC hosted a terrific barbeque and prize giving and just pipped Club 216-206 and thereby retaking the prized "Alistair Horne Trophy" into their realm until the re-match gala in September at the Club. *by Guy Horne, Club Captain*

UK Cold Water Swimming Championships

There are a few things we should all do before we die, and to share a hot tub with four Grenadier Guards wearing nothing but their Speedos and bearskins is surely one of them. Where might you find them? Not at the Hong Kong Football Club, of course. For this pleasure, swimmers need to travel to London's Tooting Bec Lido.

The guards were just four of 300-odd shivering souls to compete in the UK Cold Water Swimming Championships.

The morning of the cold water championships brought brisk, scrape-the-ice-off-your-windscreen weather, yet the Guards weren't the only ones in an unlikely state of undress. There was a man in a top hat, stuck-on moustache, bow tie and slinky black swimming shorts; there was a team with crocodiles stuck to its heads and another bearing an entire family of ducks; there were the inevitable, slightly frightening, blokes in Borat-style mankinis.

There were serious races, too – individual freestyle, team relays and, for the truly sturdy, a 450-metre endurance challenge for which competitors needed to submit evidence of previous cold water experience. That was won in an impressive six minutes and 24 seconds.

As for the water, well, it was 4C to the statisticians, and damn cold to the rest of us. Your face hurt when you were in the water and your feet hurt when you got out. But the air-punching, rip-roaring, endorphin-infused elation that hit you when you plunged into the hot tub made up for those minor discomforts. That and the almost-naked Grenadier Guards.

The next World Winter Swimming Championships will be held in Bled, Slovenia, from 22-24 January 2010 (www.2010winterswimming.com). Organisers plan to break an ice channel for the swimmers lanes. Does the HKFC Swimming Society have the bottle to send a team?

by ex-Club Member Polly Evans



Polly pursuing a Grenadier Guard

Ten Pin Bowling News



Anto Grabo won the Easter Bowling Tournament (format was 9 pin No tap), held on **Thursday 2nd April**, scoring a high game 288 in the process. Runners up were **Emy Clarke** and **Leo Yau**.

The **Summer Bowling League** will commence in May and end in September. The format is Match Play, and about 8 games every month on Thursday evenings, with pre-bowl allowed. For further information and registration, kindly contact **John Koh** at johnkoh@netvigator.com and **Margaret Tsai** at margaret_nl_tsai@yahoo.com

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MOVIE OF THE MONTH

Twilight

When Bella Swan's mother starts travelling with her new husband, Bella returns to live with her father in Tiny Forks, Washington. She then meets a mysterious Edward Cullen, a boy unlike any she's ever met. To Edward, Bella is that thing he has waited 90 years for - a soul mate. Soon, Bella and Edward are swept up in a passionate affair. Like all vampires, he's immortal and he hasn't aged since 1918. But what will they do when Laurent and James, The Cullen's mortal vampire enemies, come to town, looking for Bella?



TOP 10 DVDS

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CHANGELING

THE ELECTRIC MIST

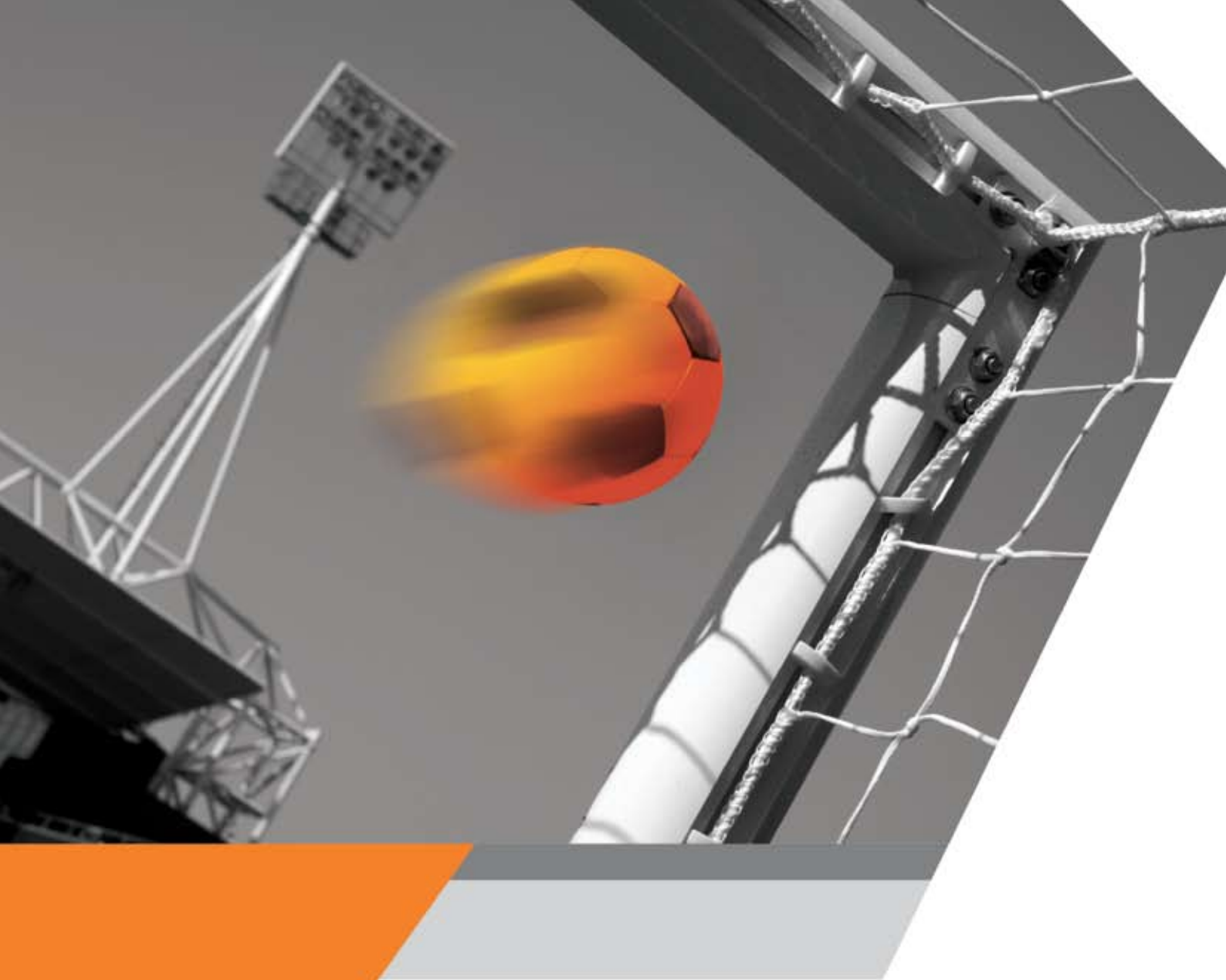
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