



**THE HONG KONG HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
WOMEN'S SECTION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
28 JUNE 2023  
CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT**

This year marks the first year since 2018/19 where a full season of hockey has successfully been completed. We have managed to complete two full rounds of hockey across all divisions, hold the Premier Division 5-aside hockey tournament, the knockout tournaments, as well as bring back the international quadrangular back to Hong Kong. A big thank you to all players, coaches, umpires and officials, LCSD and HKFC who have made this happen.

Building on the initiatives from the previous years, the committee continues to support and develop youth players in Hong Kong. The cancellation of inter-school sports over the last few years has led to a sharp decline in school aged players. The Hong Kong School Sports Federation Girls Hockey League sees only 13 teams participating (7 in Senior and 6 in Junior), as opposed to 22 teams (12 in Senior and 10 in Junior) in 2018-19 before the league was cancelled for 3 consecutive years. This has led to the implementation and further continuation of three separate initiatives to try and introduce more young players to our sport, as well as build a pathway for these young players to play in elite levels. Namely, Bauhinia team, HKUHC and the U21 experimental rules.

This year Bauhinia played in the Premier Division. It has been a challenging journey, however the team has seen great improvements. It should be mentioned that most players who have participated in Bauhinia last year have moved to play for a higher ranked team or higher divisions in their club team. Chor Ming continues to lead the HKUHC initiative to allow more HKU students who just started playing the sport to play at a higher level. Thanks must be given to Arif Ali, Coby Lau and Chor Ming, who all work tirelessly to develop the future of the sport.

On the international front, since winning the Asian Games Qualifier last year, the Hong Kong China Senior Team has been training hard to prepare for the upcoming Asian Games. The team has completed training camps to Malaysia over Christmas, Thailand over Chinese New Year and Korea in May. Their success at the Asian Games Qualified has led them to be shortlisted as a finalist for the Cathay Pacific 2022 Hong Kong Sports Stars Award Team Only Sport.

We were delighted to host once again the international quadrangular tournament. The 6<sup>th</sup> Women's Hockey Invitational Tournament was held in March 2023, with Thailand, Chinese Taipei, Yunfu China and Hong Kong China participating. Thailand won the tournament with Hong Kong coming a close second. Hong Kong China's Carmen Hong won best goalkeeper of the tournament.

I would like to thank our national players, Arif Ali as head coach, Chris Marshall as strength and conditioning coach, Candy Cheung as assistant coach and Eunice Tong as team manager for all their hard work in the past year. Thanks must also be given to the teams that have helped prepare our national squad, in particular the Barbarians team lead by Kate Mahon. The HKHAWs remains grateful to the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) Team Sports Funding and

Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) for all their generous support over the last year that has allowed our athletes to continue their training program both on and off the pitch.

The Hong Kong China Junior Team participated in the Women's AHF Junior Cup in Taldykorgan, Kazakhstan in October, 2022 and successfully qualified for the Junior Asia Cup. During this tournament, Soufia Cordero won “Player of the Match” for the match against Tajikistan. It was a very challenging tournament in the midst of Covid and the team was awarded an AHF Best Effort Award during the AHF Congress in Mungyeong for all their efforts during the tournament.

The Junior Team then progressed to the Junior Asia Cup held at Kakamigahara, Japan in June. Chloe Sik was awarded “Player of the Match” against Indonesia and Kwong On Shin was awarded “Special Player of the Match” against China. Big congratulations to the team as they achieved 8<sup>th</sup> place, the best ever results. A huge thanks must be given to head coach Arif, assistant coach Coby and manager Jowie Wong for all their efforts and also working through all the difficult circumstances in Kazakhstan.

As noted in previous years, hockey continues to face increasing competition for the use of pitches from other sports and it is imperative that clubs avoid giving walkovers or no-shows. The HKHAWs would again like to thank Hong Kong Football Club for their ongoing support allowing us to use their pitch and affording flexibility to us.

Lastly, it is with great sadness we remember Ahmed Khan who passed away this year. Ahmed oversaw the development of the Shaheen Academy, the establishment of the Shaheen ladies hockey and the development of the men’s, mini & youth hockey sections and in turn, made our hockey community more diverse and strong.

To conclude, I would like to thank the outgoing committee, all our staff in the office in, all the clubs, and all the council members during this year.

Chairwoman  
Eva Thometz