



Message from the President of the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association



It is a great honour for me to be President of the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association in this our Golden Jubilee year.

Over the past five decades the HKLBA has exerted a great deal of effort to promote the sport in Hong Kong.

Lawn Bowls in the early days was mostly played at a few private Clubs with limited membership and with little exposure to the general public. Then, in 1981 training courses were introduced at the Victoria Park bowling greens. These courses attracted hundreds of beginners resulting, over the subsequent years, not only a boost in just the number of bowling clubs and bowling club members but also a massive increase in the bowling population in general. This was particularly the case around 1997.

1981 was an important year for the HKLBA. Apart from the promotion of the sport locally, we opened ourselves to the world by hosting the first Hong Kong International Bowls Classic with the concept of improving the standard of lawn bowls in Hong Kong. To-date we have hosted 29 such events and have attracted top level players from all over the world. So much so that the Hong Kong Classic is now recognised as one of the top three outdoor bowling events in the world.

Due to popular demand, we have witnessed more and more public venues built and opened to accommodate our sport. Siu Lek Yuen in Sha Tin, Ap Lei Chau in Aberdeen, the Tai Po waterfront park, Sai Wan Ho in Island East and Wu Shan park in Tuen Mun. Hopefully another new complex in Tseung Kwan O can be completed soon to celebrate our Golden Jubilee.

On reaching the second millennium we started a move towards junior participants. It all began with an inter-school competition in 2000 and by repeating this annually we have, so far, attracted 630 young men and 270 young women to the game. In recent years these young people have achieved a great deal of success both locally and at international level. For this we owe, in no small part, our sincere gratitude to all those involved in our Youth Development Programme these past years.

Praise and thanks must also be attributed to the Association's various Past Presidents and their officers. They managed to create the clear guidelines for the Association to follow leading to the successful development and growth of the sport which we see today. We should all remember their devotion and dedication to lawn bowls.

Vincent Cheung



WORLD BOWLS

Message from the President of the World Bowls

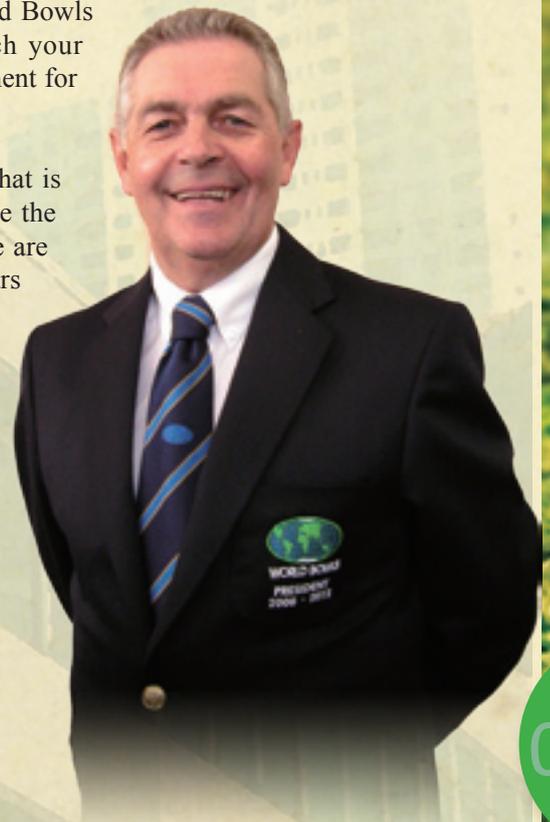
May I take this opportunity to pass on my and the Board of World Bowls congratulations, to you and all at the HKLBA as you approach your Golden Jubilee year in 2011, this is indeed a milestone in achievement for all concerned in our sport in Hong Kong.

It is pleasing to note that some thirty three clubs participate in what is an extremely busy national authority, and it is also pleasing to note the support given to World Bowls by all in the HKLBA, for which we are grateful. HKLBA has grown in stature and numbers over the years and I hope that this will continue in the years to come.

A Golden Jubilee is a special landmark and one which is sure to be a busy time with many activities culminating in the World Champion of Champions and the Golden Jubilee mixed pairs in November, I am sure that this special landmark will be well supported by all within Hong Kong and Internationally.

Once again please allow me to congratulate the HKLBA on achieving this milestone and wish you every success in 2011 and beyond.

I remain yours in Bowls.



John McArdle



Message from the President of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China



Lawn bowling as an organised sports in Hong Kong dates back to more than a century and its local association is now celebrating its golden jubilee. The whole year 2011 is thus dedicated to feting and promoting a game that is now integral to the sports scene of the territory with a long list of events, including top tournaments.

The whole community of Hong Kong, now focused anew to develop the sporting facettes of local life, must avail itself of this jubilee to invigorate not just this ancient game but all such activities which together forge so much the identity of a place that has a vital need to come together and strengthen the mind and the physique. Lawn bowling is an exquisite sport of athletics and of strategy best suited for a most hectic city which has to find ways to compete outside the confines of work, to fraternize so as to create the camaraderie born of team sports and vent the everyday pressure that wears down just about everyone.

Any golden jubilee is an occasion for nostalgia, of course, but that belies how it could be a call to strive forward and to build on the successes of the past for a brighter future. The legacy of lawn bowling since its inception in Hong Kong remains to be reguiled which is the aim of 2011 and beyond. As the community gears up to vie for the Asian Games, it needs to use every chance to galvanize itself and to show its mastery of every type of sport if only to involve the people in sports before they can be the ultimate host for the whole continent.

Back in 1961 Hong Kong was just about to enter the height of its industrial age and, five decades on, it has transformed itself into a dazzling cosmopolitan financial centre. Through the time lawn bowling has never ceased to evolve together with the city as it turns from the leisure of a very select few, the elite, into that which is today open to whoever with the knack and passion for the game. For everyone then, this half century of lawn bowling rimes also with an amelioration of the society, more dynamic, more open, more optimistic — and to that bravo. In a happy half-century, the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association has come 'like the rest of city' a very long way...



Timothy T.T. Fok, GBS, JP



Message from the Director of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

On behalf of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association on celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

With the Association's untiring efforts and dedication over the years, lawn bowling has become an increasingly popular sport in Hong Kong. It is particularly encouraging to know that more young people, inspired by the programmes organised by the Association, have taken up lawn bowling in the last decade. We are also glad to see that the Association's efforts in nurturing budding young bowlers have borne fruit – our young players are taking part in major lawn bowling events, competing with players at the international level and attaining outstanding results.

On the happy occasion of its 50th Anniversary, I wish the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association continued success and a very memorable golden jubilee year.



Mrs Betty Fung

Messages from Past Officers



Having been associated with the Association for the greater part of its existence, it is with considerable pride and pleasure that I am able to congratulate the Association on reaching the significant milestone of its Golden Jubilee. I wish all member clubs and individual bowlers every success, and trust the Association will continue to manage and promote our game with similar efficiency well into the future.

Mr. K. G. Wallis
President
(1983-1985 & 1993-1998)

Congratulation to Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association on reaching its Golden Jubilee, it is quite an achievement for a sport in the hectic environment of Hong Kong.



Mr. Brian Poynton
Vice President
(1992-2001)



I would like to thank the President for giving me the opportunity to wish Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association every success during their Golden Jubilee Anniversary celebrations. Ken Wallis was President when I was convenor of Hong Kong Cricket Club and when Ken left for Australia Vincent was elected President with me as his Honorary Secretary. During my tenure I was privileged to work alongside Vincent & Claudius and since leaving Hong Kong in 2003 have closely followed the very impressive progress & development of the sport via the website. As a Life Member of LBA I hope all Hong Kong bowlers enjoy taking part in the anniversary celebrations, my thoughts will be with you and perhaps might be able attend one or two of the events during the year.

All the very best.

Mr. Jim Neilson
Hon. Secretary
(1999-2003)

I relish my tenure as Honorary Treasurer with the Association. Met and worked with a team that is dedicated to their individual task and responsibility. My heartiest congratulations to all that have contributed to the success of the Golden Jubilee Anniversary celebrations.



Mr. Richard Chui
Hon. Treasurer
(2005-2009)





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*Mr. Jacky Wong
Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Training Centre*



“On the occasion of their Golden Jubilee year, the President, General Committee & Members of Kowloon Bowling Green Club offer their sincere congratulations to the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association. 50 years may seem like a long time, but when one considers the fantastic achievements of the LBA during this period, it is hard to believe how so much has been done. To Vincent Cheung, his Committee, staff and team of dedicated volunteers, we thank you all for your professionalism and support to the sport of Lawn Bowls both in Hong Kong and Internationally.”

with compliments of

Kowloon Bowling Green Club



The Kowloon Cricket Club



Congratulates the HKLBA on the occasion of their

Golden Jubilee Celebration

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50th Anniversary

五十週年紀念

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