



Repulse Bay, Hong Kong Oct 12th, 2014

Bulletin No. 1

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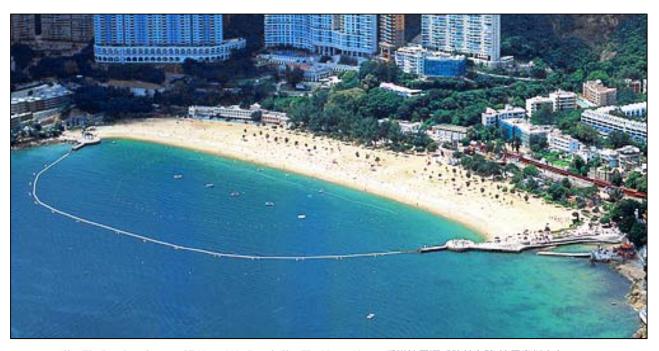


I. Beach Rowing Sprint Gala

1. Invitation

We are pleased to inform you that the Beach Rowing Sprint Gala will be held on 12th October 2014 (Sun) as part of the Hong Kong Beach Festival 2014. This is the first Beach Rowing Sprint event held in Hong Kong and the new format will follow the concept introduced by the International Rowing Federation (FISA) for "Beach Sprints". It is believed that it will be an exciting event and we will welcome the participation of local and overseas teams in this exciting new event. Eligibility and details of events are set out as below for your reference: -

Organizer	Hong Kong, China Rowing Association (HKCRA)	
Subvented by	Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)	
Supported by	Leisure & Culture Services Department (LCSD) /	
	Hong Kong Beach Festival Organizing Committee (HKBFOC)	
Competition Date and Time	12 th October 2014 (Sunday): Preliminaries, Semi Finals and Finals	
	08:00 – 17:00 (TBC)	
Venue	Repulse Bay Beach, Hong Kong Island	
Deadline of		
Entry By Number	31st August 2014 (Friday) 12:00 noon (Hong Kong Time)	
Deadline of		
Final Entry by Name	14 th September 2014 (Friday) 12:00 noon (Hong Kong Time)	







1. Venue Location



The Beach Rowing will be held at Repulse Bay Beach which is a popular sightseeing destination in Hong Kong that attracts many tourists and local residents.

2. Race Format and Race Distance







The format of the Beach Sprint is to race two boats at a time over a short sprint course which starts from a fixed position, navigates around several buoys and has a short, hard sprint finish to the Beach, followed by a run up the beach to the finish line. The winner is the first rower to reach the finish line on the beach. Each race is expected to last less than 4 minutes (distance around 450 metres) and will be high-energy, high excitement. Races will be started at between 5 and 7-minute intervals. The whole race is close to the beach and is in full view of spectators. All crews will have a minimum of two races, with the first round being a "group stage" format.

3. Events

Men's		Women's	
Double Sculls	(M2x)	Double Sculls	(W2x)

4. Rules of Racing

The rules of racing for this event will be released in the Bulletin No. 2.

5. Provisional Schedule

11 th October (Saturday)	Team Arrival, Site Visit, Opening Ceremony of HKBF and	
	Team Managers' Meeting, practice	
12 th October (Sunday)	Preliminary Rounds, Semi Finals, Finals	
13 th October (Monday)	Team Departure	

6. Entry Procedure

Preliminary Entry (by Number - Annex I) must be received <u>by 12:00 noon, 31st August, 2014 (Hong Kong Time)</u>. The entry must include the events to be entered, the total number of athletes in the team, and the number of officials accompanying the team. Final Entry (by Names) should be submitted <u>by 12:00 noon,</u>

14th September, 2014 (Hong Kong Time).

The Association has the right to decide the final number of entry if it exceeds the maximum.





7. Eligibility

Entries will be welcome from Hong Kong and Overseas Teams representing either Federations or Clubs.

8. Entry Fee

HKD 600 per Crew. (Entry Fee must be settled when submit the Final Entry by Name by 12:00 noon 14th September, 2014 (Hong Kong Time))

9. Boats & Oars

The Association will provide boats and sculls for each event. There will be no hiring charge and boats will be shared.

10. Uniform

Members of the same crew shall compete with the same uniform clothing and in the official uniform of their Federation or Club.

III. Accommodation & Meals

Free of charge accommodation and breakfast for the nights of 11th and 12th October will be provided to overseas teams by the Organising Committee. This offer is limited to competing athletes plus one official for each crew. If you need clarification on eligibility for this free accommodation, please contact us.

Other meals and additional room nights will be at the cost of participants. The official hotel for the Hong Kong Beach Festival will be the Regal Riverside Hotel, a 1,138-room hotel located in Sha Tin. Greater Sha Tin features many places of interest, including the 10,000 Buddha Temple, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the famous Sha Tin Racecourse. The district also features a cluster of shopping malls with an immense variety of brand boutiques as well as myriad individually operated shops and dining and entertainment options.





IV. Local Transportation

Transportation for overseas teams between the airport to the official hotel and between the official hotel and the training and competition venue will be provided free of charge by the Organizing Committee. Details of arrival and departure dates and flight numbers should be given in advance to the Organizing Committee for the arrangement of airport arrival and departure, local transportation and other preparation.

V. Arrival and Departure Schedule





The cost and arrangement of air tickets will be responsible by each of the participating teams. The preliminary Arrival and Departure Schedule of your team should be submitted <u>by 12:00 noon</u>, <u>31st August, 2014 (Hong Kong Time)</u> in returning the attached form at **Annex I**.

VI. Introduction of Hong Kong

1. Weather Conditions

Hong Kong, located in the South China Sea, enjoys sub-tropical weather. The records from the past ten years' show average temperatures in October of between 24° and 26° Celsius and 7 hours of sunshine per day. Although the long summer season does occasionally experience typhoon conditions, and average temperature drops from the summer months, these are rare in October.





In 2013, the monthly mean relative humidity of 66 percent was the third lowest for October since 1961. The monthly total duration of bright sunshine was 247.3 hours, about 28 percent above the normal figure of 193.9 hours. Also, the monthly total rainfall was 2.9 millimetres, only about 3 percent of the normal figure of 100.9 millimetres.

2. Demographic Structure

The population of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is 7.19 million. Being an international city, many people are proficient in both written Chinese and English, and conversant in Cantonese, Putonghua, and English.

3. Geographical Environment

Hong Kong represents a city region of 1,104 sq. km, covering four main areas of Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, the New Territories and the Outlying Islands. Victoria Harbour, one of the world's most renowned deep-water harbours, lies at the centre of the city itself, and along its shore are situated the main business districts of Central, Wanchai and Tsim Sha Tsui with a multitude of tall buildings set against the mountain backdrop of Hong Kong Island. A short distance from the city centre is the beautiful beaches of Repulse Bay, the street markets of Stanley, and the seafood restaurants along the waterfront of Sai Kung. The picturesque islands of Lantau, Lamma and Cheung Chau are less than one hour away from the Central District by ferry.

4. Vaccination

There is no vaccination requirement for Hong Kong.

5. Currency

The currency in Hong Kong is Hong Kong Dollar (\$) and banknotes and coins are easily identifiable.

There are \$0.1, \$0.2, \$0.5, \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10 coins; and \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000 banknotes. You can buy Hong Kong Dollars at foreign exchange banks and other authorized money exchangers. At the international airport, currency exchange counters are usually open in 24 hours. The official exchange rate is HKD7.8 = USD1.





6. Visa Requirements

Hong Kong has traditionally adopted a liberal and open immigration policy. Nationals of about 170 countries and territories are allowed visa-free visits to Hong Kong for periods ranging from seven to 180 days. For details of those nationals requiring visas for entry and the visa application process, please visit the website of Immigration Department as follows (http://www.immd.gov.hk/en/forms/hk-visas.html)

7. Customs

In general, all imports into Hong Kong are tax-free except motor vehicles for use on the road, and certain types of goods, notably liquor, tobacco, hydrocarbon oil and methyl alcohol. Import of live animals is subject to control by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. The Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department operates a one-stop advisory centre for handling all cargo clearance and import or export declaration matters.

8. Water Quality

Hong Kong enjoys one of the safest water supplies in the world. Water samples taken regularly throughout the supply and distribution system are checked against the World Health Organization's Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality. With this international standard of reference, travellers can rest assured the water supplied in all parts of Hong Kong is safe for consumption.





VII. Enquiries and Correspondence

All correspondence to: -

Mr. Tanker TANG (Sports Executive - Marketing, Coaching & Club Development) or Ms. TSE Wing Ting (Assistant Sports Officer - Marketing, Coaching & Club Development)

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Look forward to receiving your support to the Hong Kong Beach Festival - Beach Rowing!

Organizing Committee
Hong Kong, China Rowing Association
4 August 2014