



SPORTS FEDERATION & OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, CHINA

(98) in SFOC/ADM/2023/GC/NSA

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Mr. WONG Kam Po SBS

4 April 2023

Mr. KAN Yeung Kit
Chairman
Hong Kong Ice Hockey Association Limited
Room 1023, Olympic House
1 Stadium Path, So Kon Po
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Dear Mr. KAN,

Issues Relating to Corporate Governance of Hong Kong Ice Hockey Association Limited (HKIHA)

It has been the principle of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (the Federation) to respect the autonomy of our member associations in their daily management and operation. On the other hand, as a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), we are duty-bound to ensure the observance of IOC's Olympic Charter and IOC's Code of Ethics to assure that good corporate governance practices are applied.

In respect of the incident concerning the playing of a wrong music as the national anthem at the 2023 International Ice Hockey Federation Ice Hockey World Championship Division III event on 28 February 2023, with reference to HKIHA's reports dated 10 March and 20 March 2023, and a subsequent meeting held between HKIHA and the Federation on 23 March 2023, the Federation is of the opinion that HKIHA failed to comply with the Guidelines on "Handling the Playing of the National Anthem and Raising of the Regional Flag for Hong Kong Athletes and Teams Engaging in International Sports Events" (the Guidelines) to handle and present the national anthem in a dignified manner.

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GBM, SBS, PDSM, PMSM
The Chief Executive
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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It is also regrettable that despite repeated attempts made by the Federation to meet up with HKIHA's leadership to discuss the incident at the earliest opportunity, your association neither responded positively to the request, nor provided the necessary details requested by the Federation. It was not until more than three weeks after the incident that HKIHA attended a meeting with us. Such unwillingness and evasiveness reflect the failings of your association to communicate and cooperate with the Federation, as well as placing insufficient importance to the misplay of the national anthem and to uphold the dignity of the country.

Judging from the manner in which HKIHA handled the incident and the consolidated findings from the said meeting between HKIHA and the Federation, the Federation concluded that the corporate governance of your association is in dire need of improvement. The Executive Committee of HKIHA obviously lacks internal communication and clear division of roles and responsibilities among committee members, thereby leading to the Committee's failure to act with the appropriate due diligence and integrity expected.

The Federation therefore considers that apart from the non-compliance with the Guidelines mentioned in the second paragraph above, your association has also infringed the Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, as stipulated in IOC's Code of Ethics.

According to Article 7(4)(d) of the Articles of Association of the Federation:

"If, in the opinion of the Federation, any Member has infringed the Olympic Charter, the IOC's Code of Ethics, the rules of the IF to which it is affiliated, the objects and/ or regulations of the Federation, the Federation shall have power by a Special Resolution to cancel or suspend its membership, after having given one month's notice to the Member concerned who shall be requested to furnish an explanation, and subject to prior consultation and coordination with the relevant IF concerned. Such decision shall be final and conclusive subject to Article 59(4)."



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As per Article 7(4)(d) above, we hereby give one month's notice and request your association to provide the Federation with a detailed written explanation in relation to your governance and an explanation of the above issues, together with a proposed plan of improvement on corporate governance of your association by 4 May 2023. If your association fails to provide a full explanation and a plan of improvement to the satisfaction of the Federation within the prescribed time, the Federation will by a Special Resolution exercise the power to suspend your membership.

Should you have any queries, please contact our Chief Executive, Mr. Abraham CHENG at 2504 8118.

Yours sincerely,

Edgar YANG, PDSM
Hon. Secretary General

c.c. Mr. YEUNG Yun Hung, Kevin, GBS, JP, Secretary for Culture, Sports and
Tourism
All Officers of Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong,
China