

# Newsletter

October 2018



HKCBA LTD

<http://www.hkcba.org>

Member of World Bridge Federation

Member of Pacific Asia Bridge Federation

Member of Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

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## 6th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 10, 2018 (Tuesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: 20/F, Kelly Commercial Centre, 570-572 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)  
Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)  
Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)  
Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Charlie Lee (XL)  
Crystal Tang (CT)  
John Tsang (JT)  
KF Mak (KF)  
Louis Tam (LT)  
Ronald Hui (RH)  
Tony Lau (TL)  
WK Lai (WK)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Follow up matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): i) Captain's report for 51 <sup>st</sup> APBF Championships: Still waiting for David CC Ng to submit the Senior Team report. PC will follow up. ii) Training Course: summer course on 2 over 1 system will be organized, and will be cooperating with Regal Kowloon Hotel to organize some bridge learning classes for patronized children during July to August. Since the instructors will be receiving pay for the teaching, LC, CL and PC will discuss and arrange tax reporting for them effective from Sept 1, 2018.		PC  LC, CL, PC

3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <p>i) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.54mil</p>		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <p>i) Extension of “Ella Graca Cup” event name: The donor proposed to extend “Ella Graca Cup” until 2047. Council approved. Council will also list out the duration for each sponsored cup event so everyone knows how many years the name will be used.</p> <p>ii) Mr. Raymond Chow will write articles about the histories of the great players that we had used their names for the past cup events.</p> <p>iii) HKCBA Polo shirts: LC will order 500 pieces based on the approved new design.</p>		LC
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <p>i) Congratulate Hong Kong for winning the Interport competition this year. The players in the winning team are: Wilson Leung, Terence Chan, Kongo Kong, Yiu Wai Sing</p>		
6	<p>AOB:</p> <p>i) Store Room: Council approved the rental cost of HKD1800 per month for the storage room. The contract will last for half year.</p> <p>ii) Asian Games 2018: LC and DZ will be the main point of contacts for public relations during the Game period.</p>		
<p>The next meeting will be held on September 5, 2018 (Wednesday)</p>			

## 7th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: September 5, 2018 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: 20/F, Kelly Commercial Centre, 570-572 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)  
Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)  
Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)  
Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Charlie Lee (XL)  
Crystal Tang (CT)  
John Tsang (JT)  
KF Mak (KF)  
Ronald Hui (RH)  
Tony Lau (TL)  
WK Lai (WK)

Apology: Council member:

Louis Tam (LT)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Follow up matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): iii) Captain's report for 51 <sup>st</sup> APBF Championships: Still waiting for David CC Ng to submit the Senior Team report. PC will follow up. iv) Tax Reporting: LC, CL and PC will discuss tax reporting arrangement for bridge instructors and directors effective from Sept 1, 2018.		PC  LC, CL, PC
3	Financial Affairs:		

4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1mil after deducting the repayment of the left over money from the Asian Games funding to the government.</li> <li>iv) Application for Elite Sport Scholarship: HKCBA qualify to apply for the grade B scholarship. Government will subsidize the eligible sportsmen to help maintain their skills level by providing training sponsorship base on the individual's performance. LC and WK to follow up on next steps regarding application.</li> <li>v) Preparation for next Asian Game (selection and training): Although the next Asian Game is to be held in 2022, HKCBA would like to inform members earlier in terms of the criteria and method for selection base on SF&amp;OC requirements etc. Therefore HKCBA will form a committee headed by JT to work on it.</li> <li>vi) Hiring a permanent staff for Clubhouse: LC will work with PC on the job description for the post.</li> <li>vii) Host for 2020 APBF: LC to check with LCSD in terms of funding. HKCBA will propose to be the host during next year's APBF delegate's meeting.</li> <li>viii) Cash Prize policy: LC has seek advices from lawyer, basically HKCBA should not publicize or announce to public regarding cash prize for our events, otherwise it may be regarded as unlawful gambling. We also need to check whether it is legal for giving coupon prize to winners.</li> <li>ix) Typhoon policy: Tournament Operations will review the existing policy and provide an update to council.</li> </ul>		<p>LC, WK</p> <p>JT</p> <p>LC, PC</p> <p>LC</p> <p>RH, XL</p>
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii) Celebration event for Asian Game medalists: Council decided to organize a celebration event at HKCBA clubhouse on Sep 23 afternoon and will invite members to join and participate in a 3-bids pairs game.</li> <li>iii) Promotion of bridge after Asian Game: all interviews did previously have been put on the Asian Game website.</li> <li>iv) Connection with 聖醒橋牌學校: LC visited their school last time in Shanghai to understand their methodology for</li> </ul>		

6	<p>teaching bridge. LC proposed we can leverage their resources to develop our youth members in Hong Kong. KF and probably RH can go to Shanghai next time and find out more details.</p> <p>AOB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii) Policy relating to cash incentive for winners: Council agreed that from 2018 Asian Game onwards all Hong Kong representatives who win and receive cash incentive from organizer/government/sponsors should pay 10% of the total incentive to HKCBA development fund.</li> <li>iv) Open League Section C will be cancelled as there are only 3 teams.</li> <li>v) Match Point Pairs 3: It was cancelled due to typhoon and will be rescheduled to Jan 29, 2019.</li> <li>vi) RH shared the 2018 intercity report with Council.</li> <li>vii) Grand Slam Individual: will not invite Asian Game medalists to join as the purpose of this event is to select the best of the best from HKCBA internal events.</li> <li>viii) Asian Game captain's reports: Council endorsed the captain's report submitted by LC.</li> <li>ix) World Junior captain's report: Council endorsed the captain's report submitted by Abby Chiu.</li> </ul> <p>The next meeting will be held on October 10, 2018 (Wednesday)</p>		
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## 8th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: October 10, 2018 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: 20/F, Kelly Commercial Centre, 570-572 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Crystal Tang (CT)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Apologies:

Officers:

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Council member:

Charlie Lee (XL)

Ronald Hui (RH)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Follow up matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): v) Captain's report for 51 <sup>st</sup> APBF Championships: Still waiting for David CC Ng to submit the Senior Team report. PC will follow up. vi) Tax Reporting: LC, CL and PC will discuss tax reporting arrangement for bridge instructors and directors effective from January 1, 2019.		PC  LC, CL, PC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vii) Application for Elite Sport Scholarship: LC and WK will be meeting with Hong Kong Sports Institute next Monday to talk about the details and requirement.</li> <li>viii) Hiring a permanent staff for Clubhouse: LC will work with PC on the job description for the post.</li> <li>ix) Host for 2021 APBF: LC has checked with LCSD regarding government subsidies, will provide more update in the next meeting.</li> <li>x) Typhoon policy: Announcement will be made on HKCBA website at least 2 hours prior to the event whether or not the event will be cancelled or postponed.</li> </ul>		<p>LC,WK</p> <p>LC,PC</p> <p>LC</p>
3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.423mil (repayment of Asian Game subsidy not deducted yet)</li> </ul>		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Council endorsed the captain's report submitted by Rocky Tam for the World Junior Championships.</li> <li>ii) A tournament sub-committee will be formed to review the tournament format and discuss other tournament matters e.g. pre-registration system etc.</li> </ul>		
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Bridge Class in schools: There will be 3 secondary schools starting the bridge class in October and 1 in November. Still in discussion with a few more schools.</li> <li>ii) Beginner's class: to be organized by LC on every Wed's evening.</li> <li>iii) Connection with 聖醒橋牌學校: They showed interest to set up bridge classes in Hong Kong secondary schools. Will continue to discuss with them to see how this can be organized.</li> </ul>		
6	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on November 7, 2018 (Wednesday)</p>		

# 2018 Asian Games – Bridge – Men’s Team

## Captain’s Report

*By Leo Cheung*

*2018/8/28*

### **Background**

It is the first time Bridge be included in Asian Games. After almost 2 years preparation, HKCBA and Head coach, Patrick Huang, has selected 6 players from 12 winners of Asian Games Trial to represent Hong Kong to participate Men’s team of Asian Game 2018. They are Derek Zen, Samuel Wan, Dicky Lai, KF Mak, Tony Lau and Baron Ng. I am the NPC and Mr. Henry Lam is the team manager.

### **Result**

The Hong Kong Men Team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> (166.03 VP) after 13 round robin, and enter into semi final playing against China. We won China team in semi final (127:103.67imp) and enter into final playing against Singapore team. We lost to Singapore team (52:107imp) and finished with silver medal.

### **Performance**

In general, the finished ranking is good and beyond expectation. I think Patrick’s training raise Hong Kong players’ standard in general.

The team had successfully keep team spirit high. Not only there was no argument throughout the match, they could give each other support and understanding when bad score occurred.

I could see the players had tried the best in this event. They are concentrated throughout the match and had strong winning desire. I also appreciate that all players have good discipline throughout the tournament.

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Leo Cheung

NPC, Hong Kong Men’s Team

# 2018 Asian Games – Bridge – Super Mix Team

## Captain's Report

*By Leo Cheung*

*2018/8/28*

### **Background**

It is the first time Bridge be included in Asian Games. Since 3 years ago, HKCBA set up a Ladies committee and recruited 24 good ladies players under Angela Liu's coaching. After 3 years, HKCBA with Angela selected the final 6 ladies players. All of them participated in Women's pair, and 4 of them participate in Super mixed team. They are Charmian Koo, Flora Wong, Pearlie Chan and Helen Yeung, together with Gordon Ho and Mr. Bubble Ho who are selected by HKCBA and Man's team head coach, Patrick Huang. I am the NPC and Mr. Henry Lam is the team manager.

The Super Mix team is very new to us. One pair of men must playing against one pair of ladies. As a result, Golden Ho and Bubble Ho have to play all matches throughout the event.

### **Result**

The Hong Kong Super Mix Team finished in 4<sup>th</sup> (99.78 VP, which is only 0.2 VP ahead 5<sup>th</sup>) after 9 round robin, and enter into semi final playing against Chinese Taipei. We won Chinese Taipei team in semi final (104:92.33 imp) and enter into final playing against China team. We lost to China team (37.67:134imp) and finished with silver modal.

### **Performance**

In general, the finished ranking is good and beyond expectation. I think Angela and Patrick's training raise Hong Kong players' standard in general.

The team had successfully keep team spirit high. Not only there was no argument throughout the match, they could give each other support and understanding when bad score occurred.

I must mentioned that the team showed very strong winning desire. We ranked at second last after 5 rounds in round robin. But the team didn't give up at all. They got 63 VP out of 80VP in the last 4 rounds and eventually enter the semi final. Salute to them!

I could see the players had tried the best in this event. They are concentrated throughout the match and had strong winning desire. I also appreciate that all players have good discipline throughout the tournament.

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Leo Cheung

NPC, Hong Kong Men's Team



**HONG KONG CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION**

**Appeals form**

Event	Open League 2017-18 (Round of 16)
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Round	2	Date	12 May 2018
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Board	14	Result	6C S =
	S AQ3		
	H 83		
	D K54		
	C KJ865		
S T9762	N	S KJ84	
H QJ2		H KT954	
D QJ7		D 986	
C 76		C T	
	S 5		
	H A76		
	D AT32		
	C AQ932		

Bidding				Play			
N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W
Peter Chow	Louis Tam	Mark Ng	K. W. Tam	Irrelevant			
	P	1C	P				
2C	DBL	2D	2S				
3H	P	3S	P				
3NT	P	4C	P				
4D	P	6C	AP				

**Facts Presented**

The Tournament Director (TD) on-duty was summoned by West after the conclusion of play.

West claimed that he could lead Hearts instead of Spades if South explained the 3H bid correctly.

West asked the opponent only about the meaning of 3H before his lead. South explained that 3H is "values". North remained silent during the conversation between South and West. The Convention Card provided by North-South shows no explanation of the 3H in this specific sequence, or any other similar sequences. Under further investigation by TD, North-South explained that they showed values after intervention, and mentioned "叫個樣有個樣".

Before the start of the last board, TD came to the table and announced that based on the result of consultation, table result stood.

Right after official score received, appeal for review had been proposed by the opposing team (YOTTKPSS) before the end of Appeal time. Opposing team was informed that review of ruling would be carried out by Chief TD (CTD) and both teams had the right to appeal after receiving the review by CTD. A review of ruling by CTD had been received at around 23:00 that night. Opposing team has no comments on the rectification.

#### Director's Ruling

Since the actual hand deviated from what was explained, it should be taken as a mistaken explanation as there was no solid evidence to prove otherwise.

A consultation was then conducted. 7 players of same class were inquired. Given West hand and the actual auction, they were asked about what they would lead with the correct and incorrect information, and the rationale for the difference, if there was any. Based on the consultation results, it was considered that the damage was clearly related to the mis-explanation as all consulted players would choose a Heart lead with the correct information.

Therefore, the table result is adjusted to 6C by South 11 tricks

Law reference: 75B1, 75D3, 40B3(a), 20F5(b), 12C1(a)

Facts Confirmed by	
Captain of Appealing Team	Captain of Opposing Team

Reasons for Appeal
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According to the communication with CTD, there are two rounds of consultation. The TD ruling described in the appeals form is based on the second round consultation. The first round of TD ruling was void due to “procedural error” – Players playing are not allowed to be consulted unless no other options available. We argue for the followings:

1. Such “procedural error” is nowhere mentioned in the law book. TD on-duty should have the discretion on the appropriate persons to consult to match the decisions made by the players of the same class. Rulings made based on the result of the consultation should not be void unless the consultation procedures are grossly out of line with existing practice.
2. In practice many players have the experience of being consulted by TDs during HKCBA events. Open League is the biggest event organized by HKCBA so it is even harder to find a person not playing the match to consult than any other events. We, as the club players, are readily available for consultation when approached by TDs. We do not expect rulings being void on the grounds that the consultation had been carried out on other players playing the match. Further, we would like the Appeals Committee to clarify whether players playing at the club should decline TD’s consultation and whether this will be communicated to all club players going forward.
3. The second round of consultation was carried out after the match. The hand records were available, scores and match-up of the quarter final were announced and whispers of the review case spread quickly. Every vote from the consulted players has a weight on the destiny of the remaining seat in the quarter finals. We believe that there is too much information for a consultation to be carried out in an unbiased way after the match. In this context, we do not believe that the post-match consultation could do more justice, if not less, than such “procedural error”.
4. We believe that the decision to void the ruling based on the first round of consultation is not well-grounded. Therefore, we would like the Appeals Committee to restore the rulings based on the first round of consultation.

## Decision of Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee has gone through the case and the appeal reasons. They also communicated with the CTD in order to understand more about this case and they have the consensus on the following responses according to the Reasons for Appeal above:

1. No, it's not in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, not because of the wording "procedural error" is a generalized description exchanged between players and TDs, but due to the "Director's judgement after consultation" is described in the WBF Code of Practice instead: "It is the function of the Director to make a ruling in a judgmental matter, having consulted appropriately, that executes most accurately the intention of the laws."

We have not been presented any guidance with respect to how TDs on-duty should have been granted any discretionary power as the Appellant described, in choosing appropriate persons for consultation according to the wording. Instead of "discretion", we would rather consider that TDs on-duty should have the "function" to choose appropriate persons for consultation. In this case, the TD on-duty failed his function; the CTD rectified the TD's error.

Might the Appellant consider procedures grossly out of line suggests ruling could be void, then, "In the event that the process had not been followed properly in some material way, the Reviewer will ask the Chief TD to correct the failings and issue a new ruling." (WBF Code of Practice) sounds very much a description of what the CTD had done in correcting the failings, thus the issuance of a new ruling.

2. That practice described by the Appellant sounds very much like a mishap given in the past while instant communication platforms were not as common as nowadays. We share the common understanding that the more players participants in an event, the more difficult the TDs in seeking appropriate persons for consultation.

No, neither would we expect "rulings being void on the grounds that the consultation had been carried out on other players playing the match", however, it would not be a surprise if "rulings being void on the grounds that the consultation had been carried out on other players playing the match, whilst alternative persons, deemed appropriate, were available for consultation – i.e. other options available thus players playing are not allowed to be consulted".

We would fully expect TD rectify his own error as "It is the responsibility of the Director to rectify errors of procedure" as per Law 82A (RECTIFICATION OF ERRORS OF PROCEDURE, Director's Duty).

Recommendation to the HKCBA Council and/or the Board of Tournament Directors: may give some consideration in enhancing expectation management, for the sake of public relations with minimal technical, operational necessity.

With respect to the clarification request: We deem the privilege, apart from the obligation if any, of making such clarification (to “all club players”) is in the possession of the Council alone. Similar guidelines have been provided in the HKCBA announcement dated 11 August 2016 (It can be found here: <http://www.hkcba.org/news.php?nid=4&keywords=please+read>) for the issue of “avoidance”, and therefore we suppose another one for “declination” would not be provoking.

3. “Every vote from the consulted players has a weight on the destiny of the remaining seat in the quarter finals” – We are making a discreet attempt in interpreting this statement, with the understanding that the identities of persons being consulted in the second round of consultation have been kept confidential from the Appellant. This could well be considered as a frivolous allegation of biasness with the persons being consulted as the Appellant would not even know whom he/she is accusing.

With respect to the Appellant’s “disbelief”, we wish not ascertain what priority has the CTD given to “justice” while arranging extra players being consulted, as that word seems to have never appeared in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017. For Appellant’s interest, “The purpose of the Laws remains unchanged. They are designed to define correct procedure and to provide an adequate remedy for when something goes wrong. They are designed not to punish irregularities but rather to rectify situations where non-offenders may otherwise be damaged. Players should be ready to accept graciously any rectification, penalty, or ruling.” We hope this direct quote from the INTRODUCTION TO THE 2017 LAWS OF DUPLICATE BRIDGE may serve the purpose in delivering the message that one should be sorry for himself/herself if he/she keeps seeking justice among the Laws, unless he/she feels “adequate remedy” is the same as “justice”.

4. It is believed that the Appellant is going to say “We believe that the decision (by CTD) to void the ruling (by TD) based on the (procedural error in the) first round of consultation is not well-grounded”. Those insertions, thus alterations, might / might not have led to gross deviation from what the Appellant meant. Against the Appellant’s belief, here we would like to summarize how the decision is “well grounded”:-

TD made “procedural error” in first round consultation, made an erroneous ruling out of it.

CTD rectified TD's error, in accordance with Law 81C (THE DIRECTOR, Director's Duties and Powers) & D (THE DIRECTOR, Delegation of Duties), 82 (RECTIFICATION OF ERRORS OF PROCEDURE), with the issuance of a replacement ruling.

"Therefore, we would like the Appeals Committee to restore the rulings based on the first round of consultation." – Technically speaking, the Appeals Committee would not be in any position to "restore" an erroneous ruling in the circumstances that such ruling had already been replaced with another one by TD / CTD; such replacement ("new") ruling if being appealed, the Appeals Committee either uphold it, overturn it, or recommend the TD / CTD to change it. Even if the overturning decision or the recommendation to change happens to associate with a result same as the initial erroneous ruling, that would not mean a "restoration" of the erroneous ruling but rather a coincidence might that be, for which the Appeals Committee's decision / recommendation may have an entirely different rationale behind.

The appeal case is against the replacement ruling, however, the Appellant has made no attempt in presenting any evidence or rationale regarding which part of this replacement ruling was flawed and how that would have affected the replacement ruling, or might the replacement ruling reflect any margin of doubt that continues to exist after the appropriate consultation procedure (thus potentially some merits).

The Appellant simply ignored the correctness of the replacement ruling from the Laws perspective, requested the Appeals Committee to deprive TDs from rectifying errors through backing an erroneous ruling from a procedural perspective by "restoring" it, like a result merchant. With sympathy that the Appellant did not (and should not, anyway) approach me for enquiries due to the respect to the HKCBA announcement dated on 11 August 2016 (as mentioned before) or other reason, or other persons whom could have served him/her with technical suggestions given the tight time frame, ignorance rather than hostile intent might have led to such request, we consider no offence taken.

Having said that, the lack of merit alone "may be the subject of a sanction imposed by regulation." as per Law 92A (RIGHT TO APPEAL, Contestant's Right). Despite not the reasons for appeal from the Appellant, on our own initiative we have examined the poll of the second consultation, we are satisfied with that suitable persons have been asked appropriate questions to enable a judgmental view to be obtained; and the replacement ruling was within the bounds of reasonableness.

Final decision:

The replacement ruling by the CTD (6C by South 11 tricks), upheld.

Deposit:

Since there is no consensus among the members regarding deposit. The deposit was returned.

Mr. LH Chin

Mr. Kenny Lau

Mr. Raju Ramchandani

Signature of Appeals Committee

如有會員有興趣投稿, 歡迎電郵到 [wklai2@yahoo.com](mailto:wklai2@yahoo.com), 或與 Dicky Lai 聯絡(電話 94152075)