

Organised by the Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China
Subvented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Co-organised by the Education Bureau

School Sports Programme
2023 Easy Sport Competition – Mini-volleyball Competition

【Prospectus】

1. **Objective:** To offer former participants of the Easy Sport Programme – Mini-volleyball under the School Sports Programme (SSP) an opportunity for exchanges to develop their interests in Mini-volleyball and enhance their skills and gain experience in competitions.
2. **Eligibility:** Priority will be accorded to primary schools which participated in the Easy Sport Programme – Mini-volleyball between 1 September 2018 and 31 December 2022. Other applicants will be accorded a lower priority.

3. **Time and Venue:**

	Date	Time	Venue
Preliminary Round	2/4/2023 (Sun)	9:00am – 6:00pm	Sham Shui Po Sports Centre
	9/4/2023 (Sun)	9:00am – 6:00pm	Che Kung Temple Sports Centre
Final Round	15/4/2023 (Sat)	9:00am – 6:00pm	Tsing Yi Sports Centre

4. **Division and Quota:**
 - a. 32 teams for boys' and 32 teams for girls' divisions (4-8 persons per team).
 - b. For efficient use of the resources, the Organiser may adjust the quota for each division in the light of application response. The quota of each division will be finalised on the ballot date. Participating schools/participants shall raise no objection.
5. **Notes on application:**
 - a. Priority will be accorded to schools which participated in the Easy Sport Programme – Mini-volleyball between 1 September 2018 and 31 December 2022. If the number of applying schools exceeds the quota, the places will be allocated by ballot. Each school may enrol a maximum of 2 teams in each division. Please indicate their priority on the application form (i.e. "Team 1" and "Team 2"). If there are remaining places after the first round of ballot, teams with lower priority may be considered. Any places still remaining will be allocated by ballot to schools which have never participated in the Easy Sport Programme – Mini-volleyball.
 - b. Each student may only be in one team and should be a current student of the school represented by the team during the Competition. Participants may only enrol in the division appropriate to their age.
 - c. Please submit completed application forms by post or by fax (fax number: 2684 9076 or 2697 5087) to this Office.

- d. A list of successful applicants and payment details will be sent to the schools concerned by post.
 - e. The list of participants is not subject to change after payment has been completed.
6. Fee: \$139 per team (The fee covers both the preliminary and final competitions.)
 7. Application submission period:
14/12/2022 to 6/1/2023 (The postmark date will be deemed the date of submission.)
 8. Enrolment ballot:
The ballot will be held at Room 1613, Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters at 10:00 am on 16/1/2023. Representatives of schools are welcome to attend. Schools allocated with places will be informed by post, while unsuccessful ones will not be notified. The ballot result will be posted on the following website on 27/1/2023:
http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ssp/competition_info/competition_info.html
If an Acknowledgement Receipt is not received within two working days before the ballot date (i.e. 12/1/2023), please contact our staff on 2601 7615 or 2601 7602 to check if we have received your application. Otherwise, we may not be able to process your application.
 9. Payment period for successful applicants: 3/2/2023 to 16/2/2023
 10. Payment period for successful waiting list applicants: 20/2/2023 to 24/2/2023
 11. Match Draw:
The match draw will be held at the Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters (Rm 1613) at 5:00 pm on 2/3/2023. Visitors are welcome. Letters will be sent to participating schools informing them of the results of the draw and reporting time. The relevant information will also be posted on the LCSD's web page on 15/3/2023:
http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/ssp/competition_info/competition_info.html
 12. Format:
 - a. The single round robin system on a group basis shall be adopted. The team that comes first in each group shall proceed to the pre-quarter-finals. (If there are fewer than eight groups, the team that comes second in each group shall draw lots for the right to take the place(s), the number of which is subject to that of unfilled place(s).) The rally point scoring system shall be adopted in the competition, in which the team shall have the right to serve after scoring a point. The 31-point scoring system shall be adopted for all sets. There shall be no ties in the preliminary round and the pre-quarter-finals, and the team that first scores 31 points shall win. Ties shall be played in the quarter-finals. The team that first scores 31 points and is 2 points ahead of its opponent shall win. The winning team shall score two points, the losing team one point and the teams withdrawing from the competition no points.
Preliminary round: There shall be eight groups of four teams each in both Boys' and Girls' Divisions. The single round robin system shall be adopted.

Pre-quarter-finals: The team that comes first in each group in the preliminary round shall play in the pre-quarter-finals. They shall be divided into two groups of four teams each. The single round robin system on a group basis shall be adopted. The Champion, 1st, 2nd and 3rd runners-up of each group shall be determined according to their scores to proceed to the quarter-finals.

Quarter-finals: The Champion and the 3rd runner-up of each group in the pre-quarter-finals shall play against each other while the 1st runner-up shall play against the 2nd runner-up. The winning teams shall play in the semi-finals and the losing teams shall play in the playoffs for the fifth to eighth places. The same format shall apply in the semi-finals where the Champion and the 3rd runner-up in the previous round shall play against each other while the 1st runner-up shall play against the 2nd runner-up. The winning teams shall play in the final and the losing teams in the third place playoff.

- b. In preliminary round and pre-quarter-finals, if two teams tie on points, the winner of the match between the two teams shall be awarded the higher position. If three or more teams tie on points, their ranking will be decided by the quotient of points gained divided by points lost in the matches involving such teams. Should the tie still present, their ranking will be decided by the quotient of points gained divided by points lost in all their games played in group. If still tie, ranking will be decided by lots drawing or balloting.
- c. Each mini-volleyball team shall consist of a minimum of 4 players and a maximum of 4 substitute players. 2 teams will play on a court divided by a net. The height of the mini-volleyball net is 2.1 metres.
- d. Players' positions: there will be no restrictions on front-row and back-row positions, but the service order must be followed. All players can hit the ball over the net to the opposite court or block shots from the opposite court at any time, but they are not allowed to block an opponent's service.
- e. Like volleyball players, mini-volleyball players mainly use their hands or palms to hit the ball, but any part of the body may touch the ball. The game is played by each team sending the ball over the net with the aim of grounding it on the opposite court with a limited number of hits, following the prescribed rules, and preventing the ball from grounding on its own court.
- f. A rally begins when the player at the right of the back row (i.e. No. 1 position) player serves the ball from behind the end line over the net into the opposite court and ends when either the ball grounds on the opposite court, grounds outside the court or touches any obstacle and hence cannot be hit back according to the rules.
- g. In the matches, each team is entitled to a maximum of 3 hits before sending the ball over the net. A player cannot hit the ball twice consecutively (except for shot blocking). Any part of the body can be used to hit the ball.
- h. Service order: when a team wins a point and is awarded the right to serve, the next server must move to No. 1 position in the back row to serve the ball.
- i. Exchange of court sides: when one of the teams earns 16 points, the 2 teams shall exchange their court sides.

- j. Time-out: the coach or captain of each team is allowed one 30-second time-out in each set.
- k. Substitution: the coach or the captain of each team can make 4 substitutions in each set. A substitute player shall be paired with the player he/she will replace. In other words, if a substitute player has replaced a player, the former can only be replaced by the latter in the same set.
- l. Points shall be deducted when faults are committed as follows:
The ball fails to cross the net or is out of the court when it is served / the ball grounds on the same court of the playing team / the ball is hit out of the court / a player hits the ball twice consecutively / one of the teams hits the ball more than thrice consecutively / the net is touched by any player(s) etc.
- m. The team should complete all matches. If a team withdraws from a match; its opponent will be adjudged the winner with a set score of 31 to 0. The withdrawers will be disqualified from playing in the remaining matches.
- n. Unless otherwise stipulated in this prospectus, the existing rules employed by the Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China will be adopted.
- o. The Organiser has the right to change the format as necessary.

13. Reporting on Arrival:

- a. Participants shall report to the staff of the Organiser 15 minutes before the scheduled time of the match. Those who fail to show up within five minutes after the staff of the Organiser's roll call will be deemed to have waived their right to participate.
- b. Participants shall produce unambiguous proof of identity bearing photos, e.g. student handbooks, student cards, etc. to the staff of the Organiser on the competition day for verification.
- c. The competition schedule shall be as announced on-site.

14. Inclement Weather Arrangements:

- a. In case the Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above, or Rainstorm Signal Red / Black is issued by the Hong Kong Observatory two hours before the reporting time for the first round of events on the competition day; or the Environmental Protection Department has announced that the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) recorded at its general monitoring stations reaches 10+ ("Serious" health risk category) in the competition area; or the Education Bureau has announced the closure of schools, all events on the day will be cancelled. Participants will be notified of the corresponding arrangements. Under other weather conditions, all participants are required to report to the Organiser as scheduled. The referees on the site shall decide whether the Competition should proceed or not.
- b. If the AQHI recorded at the general monitoring stations in the competition area reaches 10+ ("Serious" health risk category) during the Competition, all events in progress shall be **terminated immediately**.

15. Remarks:

- a. Participating teams which play in consecutive matches may take a break of 5 to 10 minutes between each match. The Organiser reserves the right to make arrangements according to actual circumstances. Participating teams shall not request postponement of matches on the grounds of fatigue.
- b. Schools should remind their students to bring along their lunch and sufficient drinks.
- c. Any team leaving the playing area during a match shall be deemed to have forfeited the match. The opposing team shall be declared the winner by the Organiser.
- d. In case of a breach of the rules or regulations of the Competition or unsporting behaviour by a team leader or team member, the referee shall have the right to disqualify the team from the Competition.
- e. All teams shall prepare two sets of sportswear in different colours (one in dark colour and the other in light colour). Team members shall wear proper sportswear and shoes with non-marking rubber outsoles during the Competition.

16. Awards:

- a. Each team member will receive a commemorative certificate.
- b. Trophies will be awarded to the champion, first, second and third runners-up and four merit award winners in each division. (The actual number of awards is subject to the number of participants.) Medals and certificates will also be awarded to members of the winning teams. The prizes will be presented to the winners on the spot after the finals are completed.
- c. For participating teams which fail to show up for or complete any event, the Organiser has the right to revoke their eligibility for prizes and no trophies, medals or certificates will be given to them.

17. Appeal:

No appeal will be accepted. The referees' decision on the competition results shall be final.

18. Notes to Participants in View of the Latest Situation of COVID-19:

Please refer to Appendix "Notes for Participants".

19. Enquiries:

School Sports Programme Unit, 1/F, Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters, 1-3, Pai Tau Street, Sha Tin. (Telephone number: 2601 7615 / 2601 7602)

In case of any inadequacy in this Prospectus, the Organiser reserves the right to amend it at any time without further notice.