



HONG KONG
GOLF ASSOCIATION

Hong Kong Golf Association

Media Statement

The Hong Kong Golf Association (HKGA) is greatly distressed by the Development Bureau's decision to accept the recommendation of the Task Force on Land Supply to take back eight holes from the Hong Kong Golf Club's Fanling Golf Course. Following through on this decision would reduce public access to quality golfing facilities in Hong Kong – which are already scarce by the standards of an international city – and seriously hinder the promotion and development of golf and sports in Hong Kong.

HKGA maintains that private sport clubs and the Hong Kong Golf Club in particular have always played a critical role in filling the huge gap in golfing capacity for professional and amateur training. About 70% of international and local tournaments hosted by the HKGA (over 30 tournaments annually) were held at the Hong Kong Golf Club. The Hong Kong Golf Club has offered 170 squad members and more than 15,000 HKGA members access to its facility throughout the year. The Hong Kong Golf Club will play host to the 2020 World Amateur Team Championship (WATC) organised by the body that runs golf at the Olympics and the most prestigious amateur golf tournament in the world. It is considered not only a unique achievement that Hong Kong has won the bid to host this major international event for the second time but also a miracle that the city has managed to achieve so much with such scarce golfing resources. This is testament to the effort and support that the Hong Kong Golf Club has contributed to the development of golf.

For golfers around the world, the Fanling Golf Course, with its three 18-hole golf courses, classical golf course architecture and design, and world-class golf course maintenance standards is synonymous with golf in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Open and the Hong Kong Ladies Open, both hosted at the Fanling Golf Course, are two key tournaments held in the city that offer talented local players the chance to earn world ranking points allowing them access to international tournaments. Reclaiming any part of Fanling Golf Course would be a devastating and irreversible loss for Hong Kong.