

Summary on Members' Opinion Survey (August)

Responses received: 392 (Google form: 327; Hardcopies: 65)

1. Two-year term appointment

Fully agree - 151 (40%)

Agree - 110 (29%)

No comment - 28 (8%)

Disagree - 45 (12%)

Very Disagree - 39 (10%)

*373 responses were received on this question.

Members who support:

- Allow more time to implement plans and avoid abrupt change to decisions and plans. (2)
- Three-year term is considered more appropriate to formulate and implement any development plan. (3)
- Agree but the extension of appointment term should come with a 'staggered' GC board for members to take turn to retire, for example, half of the GC members to be retired the coming year and the other half to be retired in the year after, in order to maintain continuity (2).

Members who do not support:

- Annual election is a good way for members to vote for the right composition of the GC. If a committee member performs well, he/she will get re-elected on annual basis and will have the time to continue the work he/she has started. (5)
- Should consider it when written confirmation on the renewal of lease is received from Government. (1)
- One year should be sufficient for the new GC to perform their commitments to members. (1)
- There is blatant conflict of interest in this proposal on the part of the currently elected officers. We have a tried and tested process. Normally, members who have

a period of service to the club become office bearers, GC or convenors. If there is an appetite for longer terms to be introduced, they should be established so there are always some members overlapping and some retiring. (1)

2. Continuously serving in the same position of a committee for no more than 6 years

Fully agree - 145 (37%)

Agree - 125 (32%)

No comment - 36 (9%)

Disagree – 57 (15%)

Very Disagree - 29 (7%)

Members who support:

- There should be different treatment between Convenor and Sub-committee members. Agree that Convenor can serve in the same role for not more than 6 years. However, there should not be any restriction for the Sub-Comm members as you need some continuities in handling external matters like external matches (3).
- Allow fresh ideas and approaches to resolution of issues and avoid entrenchment of power and ossification of the operation (2).
- Should be better for 4 years as we have so many members who are willing to contribute, opportunity should be given to fresh blood to bring in new ideas. (4)
- Can consider some carve-out (e.g. can continuously serve if the member can provide persuasive reasons why it is beneficial for him/her to continue to serve; continuous appointment subject to approval/voting) (3)
- Members who have served in the same position continuously for more than 6 years can take the position again in the future after one term of break. (4)
- This is good governance and can bring new blood into committee (2).

Members who do not support:

- Most sections don't have an exceptionally large group so if a person is great at their role and is voted in, it's not necessary to have a term limit. In addition, there

may not be capable members who are willing to take up the position when the existing members have completed the 6-year term. (2)

- This must come with other criteria, shouldn't be just simple service term (1)
- It is not necessary to set a limit of tenure as Members should have the ability to determine who are best fit for each committee position through elections (2).

3. Aggregately serving on the same committee for no more than 8 years

Fully agree - 119 (30%)

Agree - 104 (27%)

No comment - 53 (14%)

Disagree - 71 (18%)

Very Disagree - 45 (11%)

Members who support:

- Should be better for 6 years max or less (10)
- Members who have served in the same position continuously for more than 8 years can take the position again in the future after serval years of break. (2)
- Suggest the terms for GC should not be more than 4 years. Same for Audit Committee as you need a fresh eye to identify issues in an operation. This practice has been adopted by a lot of top multi-national companies in their internal audit function. (1)
- Opportunity should be given to other members to serve in club affairs with new ideas (1)

Members who do not support:

- As long as a committee member performs well, he/she should be allowed to be re-elected without limit. Instead of a definite no to long serving committee members, it is suggested to limit the number of longer serving committees allowed to serve each year (1).

- Limiting terms has positive points but we also limit good / capable members' ability to benefit the club over the longer term. (2)
- Not necessary to set a limit for those elected position. (4)
- Should be performance based. if the person is capable, no need to set a limit. (2)
- Members who have reached the limit and are kind enough to continue to offer their service to the club should be encouraged to join other sub/committees. (1)

4. Previous appointments accounted for in applying the 6-year and 8-year rules

Fully agree - 118 (30%)

Agree - 91 (23%)

No comment - 75 (19%)

Disagree - 63 (16%)

Very Disagree - 45 (11%)

Members who support:

- Agree only if flexibility is introduced to allow for re-election after cooling down of one term upon 8 years (1)
- This will encourage more members to participate in the management and have more sense of belonging (1)

Members who do not support:

- The count should start when this new rule becomes effective. New policy shouldn't be retroactive as most common law practice. It is highly unfair and worrying. (6)
- It is fine with asking anyone who has served a consecutive 8 years to take a break, but oppose the idea that he/she will never be able to serve again even if he/she is capable and well loved by members. (1)
- If is through election, there is no need to have time limit. Not fair to count back previous years of service as seems is forcing experienced members out and not recognizing their contributions. New inexperience members may not perform as well. (3)

- Most of the sub-committees would be collapsed, once the 6-year or 8-year rules apply retrospectively, because most of the sub-committee members have been serving in their own position longer than this. (1)
- Should not deprive members' right to serve for multiple sub-committees (1)
- There is no rush to make changes or over complicating our processes which have delivered our position today. We have gone through enormous change. Pause & reflection might be productive. I think we should observe for a little while before making further changes. (1)

5. Adoption of special proxy voting forms for Club elections and General Meeting voting

Fully agree - 119 (30%)

Agree - 157 (40%)

No comment - 75 (19%)

Disagree - 15 (4%)

Very Disagree - 26 (7%)

Members who support:

- Proxy forms should be submitted to the club directly by the member him/herself. A number of proxy a person can hold should be limited too. (6)
- Members should enjoy the right to grant general or specific proxy. (2)
- The club should encourage members to vote in person, not by proxy. however, if proxy is necessary, special voting form is an option (2)
- These are practical and helpful methods (1)

Members who do not support:

- No proxy is allowed for the Election. (1)
- From the above questions, it is highly problematic that the GC only puts forward one perspective (its own), leaving other perspectives to only be voiced out by

individual members –which unfortunately, may not be heard by other members, and is thus far being taken advantage of by the GC in these surveys. As GC, you should be putting forward a properly analyzed position, setting out both the pros and cons of something before seeking members' views. Otherwise, it is just plain misleading and improper in the discharge of its functions. (1)

- Members who care about the Club's election/ voting should attend the meetings in person rather than giving proxies. This of course that sufficient notices and reasonable days/ hours are given/ set for elections/ voting (e.g. Saturday/ Sunday). (1)

6. Enhancement of membership admission application arrangements

Fully agree - 137 (35%)

Agree - 160 (41%)

No comment - 50 (13%)

Disagree - 32 (8%)

Very Disagree - 13 (3%)

Members who support:

- 15 years or above is better. (8)
- Fully support on the understanding that the maximum number of members in the club will remain the same, to avoid an overly increasing in member number degrading the prestige status and image of the club. (1)
- Must be acquainted & ask for letter/statements to pledge character and qualifications. Must have a least 2 members to pledge. There should also be a quota of 1 or 2 every year or 2 for each eligible member to be the proposer or seconder. (1)
- Set criteria in accepting new members e.g. willingness to participate in a sport and not just come for catering. Also, an interview before accepting their application. (1)
- Agree with 10 years of membership, but either the proposer/seconder should be SVM. (2)

- The applicant must know either the proposer / seconder. (3)

Members who do not support:

- Need more information on the advantages and disadvantages on the changes. (1)
- Too drastic a step. Should adopt an interim step change first (1)
- The aim of the proposal is not actually resolved by the proposal. If the aim of the proposal is to resolve the question of a proposer and seconder not being acquainted with the applicant, how is this resolved by allowing members with 10 or more years of membership to act in the same capacity –the same problem plainly exists. This is not the correct way of going about it. Please figure out something else instead of simply trying to remove SVM's rights under the existing rules. The improper motive in putting forward this proposal is clear, disappointing, and does nothing for the Club. (2)
- This might lead to a decrease in quality of members admitted. Please make reference to the system of new member admission of HKJC and CRC. (1)

7. Proposed conversion of Internet Corner on the ground floor of Club House Building into Offices

Fully agree - 80 (20%)

Agree - 110 (28%)

No comment - 64 (16%)

Disagree - 86 (22%)

Very Disagree - 52 (13%)

Members who support:

- Agree with turning the space to office usage but the computers should move to the foyer outside Old Corner. (1)

- Part of Newspaper reading should be retained in foyer, as reading room is inconvenient for old people. (4)
- Internet corner is countering sport promotion within CCC premises. It is proper to be used for promoting club management. (1)
- The usage of Internet Corner is low. (2)

Members who do not support:

- The club needs to provide more facilities to members, instead of using that place as office. May be current occupancy rate is not high so the Club should consider what other function can be used in that area instead of office. (10)
- Should consider to extend the Internet Corner as part of the Old Corner. (1)
- Offices should be in back-office areas. There are insufficient lounge & meeting spaces for members undercover & indoors. (4)
- Suggest to consider increasing the club's range of merchandise and convert the internet corner as shop. (1)
- The Club should not hire that many personnel in the first place, a waste of money without generating any benefits, not in the interest of the club members. (1)
- Placing more sofas and newspapers at the reception area might disturb the tranquility of and jamming the reception. (1)
- Quiet Room can be an alternate location for the office. (3)
- The noise of the keyboards of all the computers may annoy members who are reading a book or newspapers in the reading room. (2)

8. Introducing fencing training at our Badminton Hall

Fully agree - 45 (11%)

Agree - 68 (17%)

No comment - 81 (21%)

Disagree - 63 (16%)

Very Disagree - 135 (34%)

Members who support:

- If we have suitable fencing facilities, apart from training elite athletes, it should also be used for the provision of affordable coaching and classes for interested members. (1)
- Fencing training course should be held first to test the response. (2)
- In addition to fencing, we should also consider other type of sports such as basketball, football. (1)
- Can try and review within 6 months time. (1)
- May also consider gymnastics or other sports, given the low utilization of the badminton courts (1)
- All aspects, such as space, financial expenditure, risks of injuries must be carefully considered before we embark upon the proposed project relating to fencing. (1)

Members who do not support:

- This activity is not suitable for most of the CCC members as most of them are 50 and above. (6)
- The multi activities room is a better location for fencing. (2)
- Sounds like a plan that came up on the whim of the moment. We should better plan and evaluate whether members' value fencing as a sport despite Hong Kong's wonderful successes. Recent pickleball event was very inclusive of members of all sexes and age for example and appears a sport that can accommodate more members and is also a growing sport in the public domain. (3)
- CCC Badminton Courts have been the best in Hong Kong for the past 21 years. Ever since the change to the new venue, it has been constantly cared for and is a

treasure to the club. Many members join the club just for the chance to use the facility. Fencing will damage the floor mats severely. Those swords will poke holes in the badminton carpets which costed a fortune. Training for kids, will ruin the badminton court, they might drop the swords regardless and make a dent unintentionally. (10)

- Badminton is Tier A sport and has sports members. It is not logical to have two Tier A sports using the same resources and squeezing existing sports members. (1)
- 2 Courts in minimum requirement for a club with this size of membership and prestige. One court for each sport makes the Club have no impact in performance and result for either sport (3).
- CCC badminton courts have nurtured a lots of elite hk badminton players, resources given to badminton should not be reduced. (4)
- It is getting hard to book a badminton court in Hong Kong while there are more than 50 training centers or societies being established in Hong Kong to conduct fencing classes. And fencing is not as popular as badminton and tennis. (11)
- Building sports profile takes years of planning and should be done with proper research into the cost and benefit of this exercise, likelihood of members utilising this facility or learning this sport, and relative to other sports that are played in the club. Fencing is not a sport played intra club among other clubs in Hong Kong (which should be a key criteria in assessing the viability of such proposal) and blindly following the hype is a waste of members resources. Needless to say the badminton courts are currently insufficient for members use. (2)
- The Club should focus on the development/enhancement of existing sports. For example, lawn bowls training classes should be conducted by licensed coaches, number of card rooms should be reduced and convert for other facilities, karaoke room should be converted into other facilities if new songs cannot be provided, high-end catering service should be provided, lighting of the Bar is too bright (not like a Bar) and Dragon Room should consider to open earlier during Sunday and Public Holidays in view of the high demand. (1)
- It is highly problematic that the GC only puts forward one perspective (its own), leaving other perspectives to only be voiced out by individual members (which

unfortunately, may not be heard by other members, and is thus far being taken advantage of by the GC in these surveys). As GC, you should be consulting its Sports Committee and Badminton Sub-Committee, then putting forward a properly analyzed position (setting out both the pros and cons of something), before seeking members' views. Otherwise, it is just plain misleading and improper in the discharge of its functions. (1)

- The quality of our Badminton Hall has enabled cooperation with the HK Badminton Association, and CCC has hosted the HK Annual Badminton Championships in recent years, including in 2023 and 2021. It has also enabled CCC to fulfill our social responsibilities, including by (1) the hosting of the Sports Day on 4 August 2024 in line with the Government's Sports for All Day (attended by 90 participants to learn from members of the HK Team); and (2) being reserved by various secondary schools from time to time. All of this contributes favorably to the renewal of CCC's lease with the Government –this is clearly important. This renewal of the lease should be the focus of the GC and CCC. (1)
- Our Badminton Hall has raised CCC's profile in HK. It has taken time, effort, and nurturing to reach this stage. I quote the background to your suggestion: "The enormous success has also proven that the city is on the right track in focusing on developing and nurturing our elite athletes." Instead of desperately grasping at the success of others, we should look at the success of our Badminton Hall as highlighted above. We are on the right track to developing and nurturing our CCC elite athletes. It is undesirable for the Badminton Hall to be used for other purposes, which would, regrettably, detract from our state-of-the-art facilities and the success we have attained along with it. (1)
- Fencing is an individual sport and not a social or family sport. It is doubtful that fencing be implemented into a club that should hold privileges of the club members and their families on social and competitive level at almost priority. (2)