

恒生乒乓球學院校務處 • Hang Seng Table Tennis Academy Registry

香港銅鑼灣大球場徑一號奧運大樓2009室

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PRESS RELEASE

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徐寅生先生 Mr Xu Yinsheng 中國乒乓球協會主席 President Chinese Table Tennis Association

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周達明先生 Mr Thomas Chow JP 康樂及文化事務署署長 Director Leisure and Cultural Services Department

許晉奎先生 Mr Victor C F Hui SBS, JP 香港乒乓總會名譽會長 Honorary President Hong Kong Table Tennis Association

余潤興先生 Mr Yue Yun Hing BEM, MH 香港乒乓總會會長 President Hong Kong Table Tennis Association

恒生乒乓球學院是由香港 乒乓總會主辦·康樂及文化 事務署支持以及恒生銀行 贊助。

The Hang Seng Table Tennis Academy is presented by the Hong Kong Table Tennis Association; supported by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department; and sponsored by Hang Seng Bank.

HANG SENG TABLE TENNIS ACADEMY REWARDS NEW GENERATION OF TABLE TENNIS STARS

Twelve outstanding table tennis players were today awarded for their excellent performance during the last academic year by the Hang Seng Table Tennis Academy (HSTTA). Over 100 young players, coaches and guests attended the 2008 Graduation Ceremony of HSTTA at Hang Seng Bank's headquarters.

Officiating at the ceremony were Mr Joseph Poon, Managing Director and Deputy Chief Executive of Hang Seng Bank; Mr Tony Yue, Chairman of the Hong Kong Table Tennis Association; and Ms Joanne Fu, Chief Leisure Manager (Sports Funding) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Hong Kong National Table Tennis Team stars Li Ching and Ko Lai Chak were also present to support the young talents and to share their valuable experiences.

Mr Poon said: "Participation in sports provides young people with valuable lessons about teamwork and goals-driven achievements. The Bank's enthusiasm for sports development stems from a desire to promote the importance of a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Since 1991, the Bank has contributed over HK\$25 million to support the development of table tennis in Hong Kong."

Mr Yue reinforced the contribution of the HSTTA to the development of table tennis in Hong Kong. "Many of today's elite junior athletes came up through the HSTTA's programme and have achieved outstanding results at major international competitions. Li Ho Ching, Ng Wing Nam and Guan Meng Yuen, who won the 2008 French Junior Open Girl's Team Event, were all former Regional Squad members of the HSTTA."

The Awards and Scholarships

All the winners underwent several rounds of assessment, which began with nominations by HSTTA coaches, followed by a stringent selection process during which young players were appraised by a panel of table tennis professionals with respect to learning attitude, tournament results and table tennis skills.

Awards presented today include Best Player, Player with Most Potential, Star of Tomorrow, Most Progressive Player, Most Supportive Family, Most Supportive School and two Scholarships. Scholarship winners were awarded tickets to the 2009 World Table Tennis Championships in Yokohama at which they will be able to observe the skills of world-class athletes up close.

Best Male Player and Best Female Player went to 15-year-old Lee Wai Ki and 11-year-old Law Yee Lam respectively. Lee also won the Star of Tomorrow Award. Wai Ki's positive attitude and leadership qualities were highly regarded by his coaches. Yee Lam built on her past achievements after winning the Player with Most Potential in 2006 and Most Progressive Player in 2007. She has been training with the Hang Seng Regional Squad for at least six hours a week, and her consistency and hard work have been rewarded with remarkable progress in skills.

Hang Seng Table Tennis Academy Rewards New Generation of Table Tennis Stars / 2

Scholarship winner Wong Chun Ting was Best Male Player in 2006 and 2007. Wong is currently a member of the Hong Kong Junior Team. Ko Lai Chak praised Wong's performance by affirming his potential, and he brought a variety of playing tactics to the match.

S. K. H. Chu Oi Primary School, winner of the Most Supportive School Award, had over 110 badges scheme participants last year – the most among all schools in Hong Kong.

The list of award winners is as follows:

Best Player Lee Wai Ki (M) Kiangsu-Chekiang College (Shatin)

Law Yee Lam (F) Pentecostal Yu Leung Fat Primary

School

Player with Most Potential Lee Yan Zhuang (M) Tsung Tsin Primary School and

Kindergarten (Primary School

Section)

Leung Ka Sin (F) St Edward's Catholic Primary School

Star of Tomorrow Lee Wai Ki (M) Kiangsu-Chekiang College (Shatin)

Yeh Tsz Yan, Nancy (F) The Chinese Foundation Secondary

School

Most Progressive Player Wong Kin Sing (M) WF Joseph Lee Primary School

Yuen Lai Ki (F) The Chinese Foundation Secondary

School

Most Supportive Family Family of Yeung Cheuk Hin La Salle College

Most Supportive School S. K. H. Chu Oi Primary School

Scholarship Wong Chun Ting (M) Lam Tai Fai College

Guan Meng Yuan (F) -

About HSTTA

The HSTTA was established in 2001 as a continuum of the former "Hang Seng Table Tennis Development Programme". Over the past eight years, the HSTTA has organised over 2,650 activities, benefiting more than 130,000 table tennis enthusiasts.

The HSTTA continues to provide a wide range of activities for table tennis enthusiasts of different ages. These activities are held at indoor sports centres of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department across the territory. For further information, please call 2575 5330 or visit www.hktta.org.hk/hstta.

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