



中國香港空手道總會有限公司
The Karatedo Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited

香港銅鑼灣掃桿埔大球場徑1號奧運大樓1031室
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20 April 2018

Mr. Ronnie M. C. WONG, JP

Hon. Secretary General

Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

2/F., Olympic House, 1 Stadium Path,

So Kon Po, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.

Dear Mr. WONG,

Selection of Athletes for the 2018 Asian Games

Thank you for your letter dated 17 April 2018.

In connection with the selection of athletes for the forthcoming Asian Games, you seek the agreement of the Karatedo Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited (KFHKC) to the following conditions:

- “1. The selection shall be extended to all athletes via an open application process.
2. The members/judges in your selection committee for the Games shall include at least 50% from outside of your Association.
3. Two independent observers shall be appointed by the Federation to oversee the selection process and to agree with the final nomination list.”

There are a couple of points we would like to seek clarification with you on the above conditions. We approached your liaison officer, Mr. Edgar Yang on 18 April 2018 with the request to set up a meeting between our two organisations for this purpose. We were given to understand that you are not in town and Mr. Yang considered that the conditions are so “straightforward” that your Federation has “nothing to supplement” in the proposed meeting.

In the circumstances and taking into account that we have to reply by close of play today, we are replying as follows, spelling out our assumptions and concerns at the same time.



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Compliance with Condition 1

For the majority of overseas tournaments, selection of athletes to participate in overseas tournaments is restricted to the athletes undergoing intensive training in KFHKC's feeder programmes and Hong Kong Sports Institute's elite training programmes. Trainees of these programmes have been pre-selected by annual local tournaments which are open to all athletes.

To the best of our knowledge, Asian Games is special in that your Federation will issue detailed selection criteria for NSAs to follow and they are heavily reliant on athletes' past achievements in international tournaments. Assuming that the selection criteria your Federation will impose on KFHKC this year are along the same lines as those issued to us in 2014 and issued to other NSAs this year, **we are happy to comply with Condition 1** because the requirement to open up application to all athletes will effectively be nullified by the requirement to possess outstanding achievements in past international tournaments. This compliance is agreed without prejudice to our policy to select athletes to participate in other overseas tournaments from the pool of pre-selected athletes, as mentioned above.

Compliance with Condition 2

In principle we do not agree with the concept that major decisions on KFHKC's affairs, including selection of athletes to participate in overseas tournaments, should be made by people, at least 50% of whom come from outside of KFHKC.

This condition amounts to usurpation of KFHKC's authority to run its own affairs. We wonder whether this is a norm in other NSAs and would appreciate if you could throw light on the rationale of this requirement.

Notwithstanding the above objection in principle and in our sincere effort to remove any obstacles to the nomination of athletes to participate in the Asian Games, **we are happy to comply with Condition 2** just for the Asian Games this year and on the assumption that we are at liberty to choose the members/judges from outside KFHKC.



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Compliance with Condition 3

To ensure fairness to the selection process, we are agreeable to the appointment of independent observers to oversee the selection process. With respect, it would suffice for the observers to confirm the fairness of the selection process and there is no need for them to agree with the final nomination list.

It is not clear what 'the Federation' refers to. It could either be your Federation or KFHKC. If it refers to your Federation, **we are happy to comply with Condition 3** if the names of the two observers are only confirmed after due consultation with KFHKC.

In light of the above undertaking, we would appreciate if your Federation could, as a matter of urgency, confirm that we could proceed with the nomination of athletes for the Asian Games and let us have your selection criteria and, where appropriate, the names of the two independent observers.

As your letter of 17 April 2018 was copied to all Officers of your Federation, I trust you will also copy this reply to them.

Yours sincerely,



Yu Kang Chau, Kenn

Chairman

The Karatedo Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited