

### TOPIC 3 - Collaboration and Teamwork

**Date:** 4 December 2024 (Day One)

**Speakers:** Mr Yeung Tak-keung

Mr Paul John

Mr William Thomas




#### **Mr Yeung Tak-keung**

- Head (National Games Coordination Office Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government)

**Mr Yeung** was appointed the Head of the National Games Coordination Office in October 2023, leading the organisation of the events in Hong Kong under the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games, the 12<sup>th</sup> National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 9<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympic Games to be co-hosted by Guangdong Province, Hong Kong and Macao.

Prior to his appointment to the current post, he has served in different government bureaux and departments. In 2008, he was appointed the Equestrian Events Coordinator in the Home Affairs Bureau, assisting in the organisation of the Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events in Hong Kong. On 1 February 2016, he was appointed the first Commissioner for Sports and served in the post until his retirement on 31 October 2022. During his tenure, he coordinated Hong Kong's preparation for international major games where our athletes have achieved remarkable results. He also led the development of the Kai Tak Sports Park which is scheduled for completion in 2024 and will serve as a main venue for hosting events of the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games.

	<p><b><u>Presentation Abstract: “From Tokyo Olympics to National Games in Greater Bay Area”</u></b></p> <p>Hong Kong athletes have performed very well in recent years including attaining record number of medals in the Tokyo Olympics, Hangzhou Asian Games and Paris Olympics. How did Team Hong Kong work together to support our athletes to achieve the breakthrough?</p> <p>The 2025 National Games will be co-hosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. How are we working with other cities in the Greater Bay Area and how the Games will benefit sports development in Hong Kong and our future collaborations with GBA?</p>
	<p><b>Mr Paul John</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head Rugby Coach (Hong Kong Sports Institute)</li> </ul> <p>With a remarkable 37-year rugby career as both a player and coach, <b>Mr John</b> has spent the last seven years leading the Hong Kong China Sevens program, where he oversees a team of 10 staff and 80 players. His coaching accolades include multiple Asian Games medals and recognition as Hong Kong Jockey Club Team Coach of the Year from 2017 to 2023, alongside a notable history as Head Coach of Wales Sevens, culminating in a World Cup victory in 2009.</p> <p>Presentation abstract to be announced</p>



### **Mr William Thomas**

- Head Karatedo Coach (Hong Kong Sports Institute)

As a high-performance Head Coach with over 35 years of experience in the sports industry, I am driven by a commitment to excellence and a passion for leadership. My journey has been profoundly shaped by my dedication to martial arts, particularly Karate, which has instilled in me the values of discipline, resilience, and a relentless pursuit of personal and team success.

Throughout my career, I have successfully guided athletes from grassroots to elite levels, leveraging my extensive experience to positively influence their development both on and off the field. My dual background as a coach and educator has equipped me with a unique perspective on the learning process, allowing me to foster environments where talent can thrive, and individuals can reach their full potential.

As a European and World Championship gold medallist, I bring a strong performance-oriented mindset to my leadership approach. My ability to thrive under pressure and work collaboratively within teams has been a cornerstone of my success. Currently, I serve in a leadership role at the Hong Kong Sports Institute, where I apply my comprehensive expertise to drive strategic initiatives and enhance performance outcomes. I was awarded the ‘Medal of Honour’ (MH) by the Hong Kong SAR Government for services to high performance.

My journey has not just been about competition; it has been about creating pathways for others. I have designed and led tailored performance programs in both England and Hong Kong, collaborating with various stakeholders to ensure equitable opportunities in sport. This commitment to inclusivity and empowerment is at the heart of my philosophy as a high-performance leader.

I am passionate about continuous self-development and eagerly embrace new challenges that allow me to inspire and effect positive change. My goal is to empower individuals through the transformative power of sport, fostering high-performing teams and nurturing the next generation of athletes and leaders.

### **Presentation Abstract**

Presentation on Collaboration and Teamwork This presentation explores the critical role of collaboration and teamwork in achieving organisational success. We begin by defining collaboration as the act of working together toward a common goal, highlighting its significance in fostering creativity, innovation, efficiency, and productivity within teams.

The presentation outlines our key underlining factors that underpins team collaboration, including improved problem-solving through those diverse perspectives, an enhanced understanding of athlete motivations is paramount to building stronger relationships that build trust among staff and team members.

Key components of effective teamwork are examined, emphasizing the necessity of clear goals, defined roles and responsibilities, and an environment of open communication. We also delve into the stages of team development, from forming and storming to norming, performing, and adjourning, illustrating the evolution of team dynamics over time. Strategies for fostering effective collaboration are presented, including the importance of regular meetings, the utilisation of collaboration tools like SMARTABASE and ZOOM, that encourage inclusivity.

Finally, we address common challenges teams face, such as conflict resolution, managing diversity, and building trust, providing actionable insights to overcome these obstacles and enhance teamwork. This comprehensive overview equips our team with the knowledge and tools necessary to cultivate a collaborative and high-performing team environment.