

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
of Iyengar Yoga Association of Hong Kong
held on 1 May 2018 (Tuesday) at 12:30 pm
at Eclat, Hong Kong Park View, 88 Tai Tam Reservoir Road, Hong Kong**

Present :

Mr George Dovas (Chair)

Ms Tiffany Hambley (Vice Chair)

Ms Cary Au Yeung (Treasurer)

Mr Chun Pang Yu (Secretary)

Ms Aishah Binte Jantan (Hong Kong Island Representative)

Ms Maggie Tan (Chair - Ethics and Certification Committee)

Ms Katharine Sara Lock (Membership Co-ordinator)

Ms Karen Lam (Assessment Co-ordinator)

Absent with apology :

Mr Wing Tat Ray Lui (Kowloon and New Territories Representative)

In attendance :

_____ (The attendance record is at **Annex A**)

(Instant Cantonese translation was provided by Ms Karen Lam)

Minutes of Last Meeting

1. The minutes of last meeting which was uploaded to the Association's web page for members' sighting beforehand, was approved without amendments.

Committee Report

2. The Chair welcome those present to the meeting amidst the lunch break of the Raya's Convention with a record high attendance. He introduced to all present the members of the Executive Committee and Standing Committee and their responsibilities contributing to the smooth running of the Association throughout the past year.

Financial Matters

3. The treasurer highlighted the financial situations of the Association by drawing reference to the financial statement with the estimation of an accumulated surplus of around HKD 380,000 ending 23 April 2018. The overall financial situation was healthy. The details are at **Annex B**.
4. Members were told that donation to the Bellur Krishnamachar Sheshamma Smaraka Nidhi Trust would be taxable by the Government and practicable thoughts would be most welcome to make the charity donation tax free.
5. It was planned to use the available fund in hand to sponsor the community classes of Iyengar style in Hong Kong by subsidizing the teaching fee. Liaison had been in process with a local charity organization, i.e. the Hong Kong Tuberculosis, Chest and Heart Diseases Association (HKTBA).
6. **Nicholas Fung & Company** was re-appointed as the accounting firm for the Association in the new year term without objection.

Trademark Registration

7. The Ethics and Certification Committee informed the meeting the application of two trademarks, namely, the 'certification mark' symbol and the the symbol of Guruji in Hanumanasana were under processing by a local solicitor firm.
8. It was also decided to apply for trademarks on the texts of 'Iyengar Yoga' and 'Certified Iyengar Yoga Teacher'. Some experienced members suggested that the Association should also consider applying the Chinese text trademarks simultaneously, which was duly noted.

Assessment

9. The Assessment Committee informed that two assessments were conducted in January and June last year and with ten new teachers having attained the Introductory Level certification. There were also few teachers joined higher levels of assessment. The successful assessments were helped out by experience assessors from overseas, local assessors in training and many other volunteers. The meeting was informed that it was the first time for the Association to hold its own assessment since inception.

10. There was no fixed time table for the next assessment in Hong Kong. However, there would be assessments outside Hong Kong in the East Asia and South East Asia from time to time. Local qualified candidates could sit for but only very short advance notice would be given if available because of the resource priority accorded. It would be beneficial for candidates to make known to the Association their readiness with approval of their teachers such that better co-ordination and organization of assessment events could be made locally. The Mainland Association would hold their own assessments with Putonghua translation in the Mainland but did not seem to have spare capacity to entertain outside candidates.

Events

11. A written request was made last year to RIMYI to invite a teacher to come and hold a workshop in Hong Kong. It was therefore a great pleasure and honor to have Mr Raya Uma Datta now to teach for 5 days here, having altogether 130 students from local and overseas to participate and learn in this special event.

12. Members were told that it was not easy to hold similar event too often as teachers from the RIMYI had their tight schedules teaching overseas. It was noticed that the month of May seemed to be a good timing. It would be therefore more pragmatic for the Association to organize similar event every two years.

Public Relation, Press and Communication

13. Members were informed that since earlier this year, the Association had subscribed to use the software 'Wild Apricot' to manage the web site, email communication with members, membership renewal, events hosting and online payments which was effective and efficient overall speaking.

14. The use of social web sites such as Facebook would still be continued to promote Iyengar yoga in Hong Kong to the public.

Planning

15. There was no further update on this year's planning apart from those reported in paragraph 5 and 12 above.

Appointment of new members for the Executive Council and Standing Committees

16. Following the resignation of Ms Tiffany Hambley from the post of Vice Chair because of her moving back to her original country, Ms Aishah Binte Jantan was nominated as the Vice Chair and Mr Arnold IP as the Hong Kong Island Representative. Ms Tiffany Hambley was nominated as the Chair for the Standing Committee for Public Relation, Press and Communication.
17. Mr Marshal Ng was nominated as the Treasurer to replace Ms Cary Au Yeung who resigned because of personal reasons. Ms Icy Lee was nominated as the Chair for the Ethics and Certification Committee to replace Ms Maggie Tan whose position was due for re-election according to the Constitution of the Association. The nominations were agreed by all present with immediate effect. The Chair thanked all leaving officers for their efforts and welcome those new comers on board.

Any Other Business

18. In relation to the questions about the regular communications between RIMYI and the Association. Members were told that there was official communication especially when there were important events being held such as the Yoganuasanam. Less regular communication included the passing down of RIMYI's opinions on the teacher training held by the Associations worldwide. Other communication also included those being passed down from visiting teachers instructed by RIMYI like the present occasion. Raya communicated to us which was Geetaji's view that how we should focus on Light on Yoga in our learning more than just on the syllabus.
19. There were also occasions that the Association was made aware of things going to happen but the details took times to confirm before conveying to members.
20. An example was the hosting of a special course for the Hong Kong group of students in Pune as part of the Guruji's Centenary celebration in 2018. The fixing of the duration of course, start date and end date plus other arrangements also took time to confirm before the community could have a full picture. Right now, it could be confirmed that the special course for the Hog Kong would start after 9 January 2019 and end on 19 January 2019, one day before the RIMYI celebration day on 20 January 2019. It was up to the local community to decide the actual duration which should not be more than two weeks. The special course would have our own instant Cantonese translation.

21. It was permitted by Raya to pre-announce the upcoming Centenary event to be held in the Balewadi Sport Complex in Pune between 3 to 12 December 2018 where Geetaji, Prashantji and Abhijata would be teaching. On 13 and 14 December 2018, there would be Guruji's Centenary celebration ceremony. More details would be announced by early June 2018 when registration began.
22. In response to the slippage of shipping of Yoga Rahasya in the previous year, members were informed that the order of which had been put online starting from this year and the delivery would be grouped to one yoga studio for further distribution to minimize errors.
23. Members were informed that a Teacher Album was created in the Association's web page where local certified teachers could upload their head shot photos. Separate email would be issued soon about the arrangements.
24. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. The next Annual General Meeting would be announced in due course.

Signed
Chun Pang Yu
Secretary

Distribution

All members