

中國香港舉重健力總會有限公司

The Hong Kong, China Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association Limited

Affiliated to:-

SPORTS FEDERATION & OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, CHINA INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDFERATION (I.W.F.)
INTERNATIONAL POWERLIFTING FEDFERATION (A.W.F.)
ASIAN WEIGHTLIFTING FEDFERATION (A.P.F.)

Declaration

Regarding the news from Sing Tao Daily on 15th February, 2024, about the accusation towards HKWPA from athletes Kitsui Masahito and Fong Chai Chi, there are many details that are not align with the facts. HKWPA would like to clarify and reserves the right to pursue further action.

- 1. Fong Chai Chi started learning and training Powerlifting at the HKWPA's Basic Powerlifting Training Course. He trained at the Association's training centre until he left the Association. Since 2014, he has been coached by senior coaches of the Association. He has not paid any coaching fee for subsequent training except for the public basic powerlifting training course fee. It is completely false to state in the article that he has never been trained in the Association.
- 2. The article mentioned that Mr Kitsui Masahito gave 1/3 of the funding to the Association in the first year. He volunteered to give it as compensation for the long years of unpaid coaching provided by Coach Pok Kim Won. He admitted that he only gave it once and did not give anymore in other years.
- 3. After both Mr Fong and Mr Kitsui contacted the HK police, our Association has handed over all related documents and receipts to the police for investigation. There are no Sport Aid Grant that was unpaid to both of them. Fong Chai Chi still owes sponsorship funding to the Association. Our Association will wait until the police investigation is completed to pursue for the refund.
- 4. Our Association has invited Kitsui Masahito to the Association twice to calculate and verify the relevant funding documents and clarify the facts under the witness of the Executive Committee of the Association, but he did not attend both times.
- 5. The Association held an internal disciplinary hearing that Kitsui Masahito's misused the Sport Aid Grant from the Hong Kong Sports Institute to purchase equipment and use it for commercial purposes. It was misconduct and breach of integrity and such act was not compliant with the purpose of the Sport Aid Grant and is contrary to public expectations, so after the internal

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disciplinary hearing the Association decided that Kitsui Masahito needed to return the mentioned equipment, but he failed to comply with the decision of the disciplinary hearing. The Association has not dealt with this matter yet.

- 6. When our Association decided that we would not support their eligibility of getting the HKSI's subsidy, we have given written submission to the Hong Kong Sports Institute explaining the decision, and refunded all the unused Sport Aid Grant to the Hong Kong Sports Institute. It is not true in the article that the Association keep funding for many months. Our Association also provided evidence to the police.
- 7. Our Association has never taken any of the HKSI Sport Aid Grant from the Kitsui Masahito and Fong Chai Chi. All relevant documents have been investigated by the police.
- 8. Kitsui Masahito has notified the Association through his representative lawyer in a letter dated on 17th November, 2023 that he decided to leave the Association and he is now no longer a member of the Association.
- 9. In the event of discrepancies between the Chinese and English versions, the Chinese version shall prevail.

Hereby declare

The Hong Kong, China Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association Limited 15th February, 2024



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Appendix 1: Demand Letter from Kitsui Masahito for the notification of membership cancellation

