

9th World Squash Coaching & Development Conference 2009



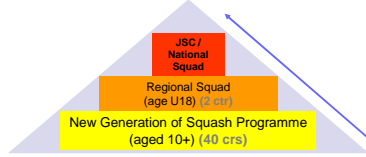
Junior Development in Hong Kong

Mr. Tony Choi
National Coach, Hong Kong Squash
Head Squash Coach, Hong Kong Sports Institute



Junior Development Structure in HK

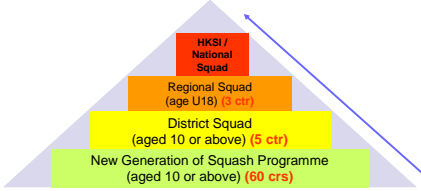
- **Early Stage (Mid 80's to Early 90's)**
 - 3-levels of junior development
 - New Generation of Squash : grass-root training programme for 9 months



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Junior Development Structure in HK

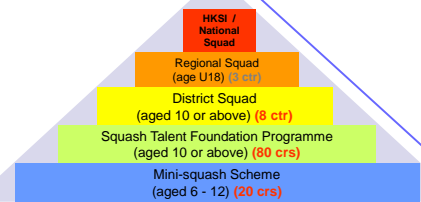
- **Developing Stage (Mid 90's to Late 90's)**
 - 4-levels of junior development
 - Increasing no. of regional squad
 - Introducing district squad level
 - Expanding New Generation of Squash Programme



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Junior Development Structure in HK

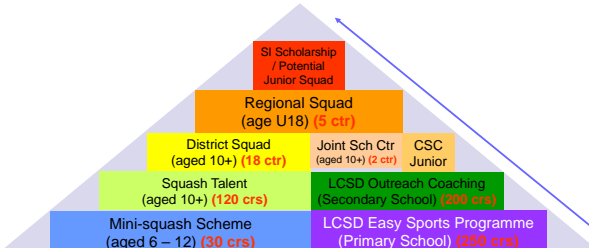
- **Growth Stage (Late 90's to Mid 2000's)**
 - 5-levels of junior development
 - Increasing no. of district squad centres
 - Expanding Squash Talent Foundation Programme (former named as New Generation of Squash)
 - Introducing mini-squash to primary school students



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Junior Development Structure in HK

- **Mature Stage (Mid 2000's - Now)**
 - Increasing no. of regional & district squad centres
 - Aligning with Community Squash Clubs Junior Programmes
 - Developing into two streams – **Individual-based** & **School-based**



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Mini-squash Scheme

"Bring fun out of squash!"

- **Why?** Encourage children start playing & knowing squash in their earlier ages
- **When?** Launched in 1998
- **Whom?** Target for primary school children who aged 6 – 12
- **Where?** at schools or squash courts
- **How?** Training in Fun & Safe environment
- **What's our goal?** Finding talents




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Mini-squash Scheme

5-elements of the scheme

- (1) Mini-squash Instructor Course
- (2) School Roadshows
- (3) School Team Training / Individual Training Courses
- (4) Mini-squash Competitions
- (5) Carnival

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Mini-squash Scheme

Tailor-made Portable Mini-squash Court

- Adjustable size fits for all venues
- Not influence by any weather & venues

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Mini-squash Scheme

Tailor-made Mini-squash Balls & Rackets

- Two types of balls (Pink ball for aged 10 – 12 & Green ball for aged 6 – 9)
- Two types of rackets (23 inches & 25 inches rackets)

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Mini-squash Scheme

(1) Mini-squash Instructor Course

- Two-days intensive training for primary school teachers
- Introducing basic mini-squash skills to school teachers

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Mini-squash Scheme

(2) School Roadshows

- One-hour free demonstration at school playground or assembly halls
- Demonstrating basic squash skills
- Playing fun games with students

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Mini-squash Scheme

(3) Trainings

a. School Team Trainings

- 24-hours free coaching session arranged for schools
- Training held either in schools or public squash courts
- Followed by subsidized coaching sessions (arranged by schools)

b. Individual Training Courses

- 12-hours training course held at different districts
- Attracting individual children whom may not have team training in school

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Mini-squash Scheme

(4) Mini-squash Competitions

- Organizing various competitions : Individual-based & school-based
- Supported by Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation



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Mini-squash Scheme

Carnival

- Held in indoor / outdoor
- Various squash-related game booths
- Squash stars challenge
- Mini-squash Novice Competition
- Attracting public awareness and media coverage



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Successful Stories

Guess who??

Left : He was the inaugural Mini-squash Novice Competition Champion
Right : She was competing for the first Inter-school Mini-squash Competition



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Successful Stories

Leo Au

- Asian Junior Individual Championships 2008 – Boy's Gold Medal
- ASF Outstanding Player of the Year (Junior) 2008 Award

Liu Tsz Ling

- Asian Junior Championships 2009 – Individual Bronze Medal
- Pioneer Cup 2008 – GU17 2nd Runner-up



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Successful Stories

Annie Au

- World Junior Women's Championships 2007 - Individual Bronze Medal
- Asian Junior Championships 2007 – Individual Gold Medal
- World Squash Awards 2008 – WISPA Young Player of the Year
- Current World Ranking No.18



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Successful Stories

Ho Ka Po

- Asian Junior Individual Championships 2008 - GU15 Silver Medal
- British Junior Open 2009 – GU15 2nd Runner-up
- Dutch Junior Open 2008 – GU15 Champion

Lee Ka Yi

- Asian Junior Individual Championships 2009 - GU15 Bronze Medal

and many more ...



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The Ways Forward

Our Goal : To produce the World-class players

- Enhancing and refining current junior programmes
- Seeking more funding from government & commercial sponsors
- Encouraging more media coverage for promoting the sport to public



Question & Answer



Thank you very much!