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# Scrabulary

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## **EUCLID HUI** HONG KONG SCRABBLE CHAMPION 2022

# EUCLID HUI - The Hong Kong Scrabble Champion 2022

The Hong Kong Scrabble Championship 2022 was held on 3 and 5 June 2022 this year.

16 elite local players have competed in the Championship this year. Following the tradition, they played 18 rounds of Scrabble over 2 days to compete for the Hong Kong Scrabble Champion title.

The Championship this year was HKSPA-rated and is well covered by an online event coverage web page. For the top table, live streaming was also available provided on HKSPA Facebook page and attracted audiences from the overseas as well. Selected games were also annotated and published on the event coverage website within a few hours of the completion of the game for all interested Scrabble players to review anytime at anywhere.



Euclid's game with Wesley was annotated and Euclid is thinking about the best move in his streamed online. Euclid is thinking about the best move in his turn.

The competition this year was very intense and the Champion was only decided after all games were completed. Euclid finally won his title by winning 15 games and an accumulated spread of +1873 points. Matthew Choy followed and won the 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up award by winning 13 games. Thomson and Carson won 12 games, and were awarded the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up and 3<sup>rd</sup> runner-up respectively.

This is the third time Euclid crowded the Hong Kong Scrabble Champion title. He was also the Hong Kong Scrabble Champion in 2018 and 2021.

Scan the QR Code for the full results of the Hong Kong Scrabble Championship 2022 and view the annotated games



Other award-winners include: Best Under-18 player: CHOY Tsun Hin Best Under-16 player: Ian TSOI Yin High Game: Euclid HUI (673 points in game 3 against Paul CHRISTENSEN) High Word: Thomson LAW Long Yin (120 points word: QUETZAL in game 5 against Euclid HUI)

Congratulations to all prize-winners in the Champion this year!



Prize-winners of the Championship (from left to right): Carson IP, CHOY Tsun Hin, Euclid HUI, Thomson LAW Long Yin, Ian TSOI Yin



Group photo of the Championship

# SEVERAL HONG KONG PLAYERS FINISHED THE ASTAR SCRABBLE CHALLENGE INTERNATIONAL WITH PREEMINENT RESULTS

The ASTAR Scrabble Challenge International ("ASCI") 2022 was organised on 21-22 May 2022. This annual event hosted by the University of Malaya since 2006 continued to happen online this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the pandemic, Hong Kong had its largest group ever to the tournament this year. 16 contestants from Hong Kong participated in this online Scrabble tournament, which was also attended by players from 8 other countries / regions.

Players played 13-14 games online over two days. After the 2-day tournament, Hong Kong Scrabble players – Euclid HUI, Douglas TSANG, Thomson LAW Long Yin, Ian TSOI Yin and LOU Yuen Ching were awarded prizes in the ASTAR Scrabble Challenge International (ASCI) 2022 ("the Challenge").



Delighted to finish the tournament in 4th place and to only lose to eventual champion Thacha along the way. It feels unreal being able to top the table on several occasions and win a couple of games against players inside the world's top 50. Congratulations to Thacha for winning the tournament and to all prize winners, as well as to all my opponents for the wonderful games.

> Euclid HUI 4<sup>th</sup> place, Open Category



**G** Glad to win a prize in the ASCI 2022. It's the second time I got prize in a Malaysian-hosted tourney other than the Causeway Challenge. Winning in a overseas tournament is never easy as you know there are loads of top players around the world. But once when you managed to do so, you would find it unreal at first and then further reinforce the thought that "Hong Kong Scrabblers can be as competitive as the overseas counterparts". I am looking forward to seeing more Hong Kong players triumph in foreign tourneys in the near future.

> **Douglas TSANG** 10<sup>th</sup> place, Open Category

I am honoured and thankful to win the 4th place. It is wonderful to play with top players from different countries, and I have learnt a lot from them. Many thanks to the directors and supervisors. I am looking forward to meeting you guys in faceto-face tournaments in the upcoming future.

Thomson LAW Long Yin 4th place, Under-18 Category Age: 17 School: Methodist College First played: 10 years old First competed: 11 years old

Previous achievements in ASCI:

- ASCI 2018 Under-15 Category 1st runner-up
- ASCI 2019 Under-15 Category 1st runner-up
- ASCI 2021 Under-18 Category 6th place



## HONG KONG SCRABBLE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION - SCRABULARY

**G** I am so glad that I can play in the ASCI for the first time. At the beginning, I wasn't at the best. I slightly struggled with my racks and even sometimes being led my opponent for a couple of games. I only won 4 out of 8 games for the first day. After Round 9, I lost 5 games already. At that moment, I felt almost hopeless about earning any prizes. But then, I started to step up my game and won the remaining 4 games in the tournament. I can't believe that I made a comeback during the final games of the tournament. I hope that I can play better in next year's tournament.

#### Ian TSOI Yin

10<sup>th</sup> place, Under-18 Category Age: 15 School: Methodist College First played: 9 years old First competed: 10 years old

I am fortunate to win a prize in the U15 category of ASCI 2022. Thanks to those who taught me and practiced together online and face-to-face in the pandemic time. During the competition, I also learnt a lot from my opponents. I will continue to strive for the best results in the upcoming competitions.

## LOU Yuen Ching

15<sup>th</sup> place, Under-15 Category Age: 15 School: St. Paul's Co-educational College First played: 9 years old First competed: 10 years old



Other Hong Kong players in the Challenge include:

### Under-18 Category:

- Ernest So Yat Long (MC)
- Alex Chan Ka Kit (MC) •
- Fung Ka Kuen (MC)
- Matthew Lam Pui Wai (MC)
- Leung Hoi Yi (MMWC)

#### Under-15 Category:

- Agnes Lai Sum Yi (MC)
- Stephanie Poon Cheuk Laam (MC)
- Henry Lou Hoi Hang (MC)
- Baldwin Chung Man Hiu (MC) •
- Anthony Ting Man Yui (MC)
- Joseph Leung Chun Hei (MC) •





很多年前,當時HKSPA還未成立,有一個全港最大型的校際Scrabble比賽, 比賽場地有很多塊寫著「The Favourite Word Game」的橫額,但是, Scrabble 真的只是一個Word Game嗎?

在我現時任教的學校裡,副校長問了一個問題:「推動Scrabble活動對學生 有甚麼益處?」坦白說,我從來沒有想過這個問題,一直就只是覺得這個 遊戲很有挑戰性。這個遊戲就像只是利用英文字母來下棋,到底樂趣何來 呢?

是學習面對人生。

這一個小時的遊戲裡,你會遇到不同程度的順境逆境,每一場比賽就像極 真實的人生體驗,每一步都要從字袋裡與運氣較量,你無法完全預知對手 下一步會怎樣走,你無法預知你接下來會面對甚麼處境。

我學會了冷靜和從容面對困局。究竟會抽出甚麼字母,會沒有響音嗎?會 全都是響音嗎?會有bingo嗎?不知道。運氣差和落後的時候,我不會把情 緒放在臉上,我反而會更加沉著應戰,希望一分一分的收復失地,更要用 心思考,靜待對手出錯,也靜待運氣回來。

Scrabble也令我學會了面對失敗。「勝不驕,敗不餒」彷如老生常談,但 每一回合比賽最多只有一半的玩家能夠勝出,每個比賽也只有一個冠軍。 落敗有很多原因,但可以做的,就只有「抹掉眼淚繼續再上路」。人生 如是,人生又豈能盡如人意呢?來一個深呼吸,再堅強面對接下來的挑戰 吧!

相比起學習英文,更重要是品格的教育。我從中學會了冷靜應對難題,改 善了衝動的性格,也懂得要堅毅。你呢?

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