

Vol. 8 September 2017



# Scrabulary



**HONG KONG CROWNED  
EAST ASIAN SCRABBLE CHAMPION 2017**



# HONG KONG WON THE FIRST-EVER EAST ASIAN SCRABBLE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Hong Kong Scrabble Team has won the first-ever East Asian Scrabble Championship in Hiroshima, Japan by winning 32 out of 50 games.

The Hong Kong Scrabble Players Association (HKSPA) and Japan Scrabble Players Association (JASPA) joined hands in organizing the team tournament between the only two East Asian countries with competitive Scrabble players. JASPA hosted the Championship with support from the Hiroshima International University. Hong Kong and Japan each sent 5 players to the tournament and a total of 50 WESPA-rated games were played from 1-2 April 2017. You can watch some selected annotated games on <http://hkscrabble.org/east-asian-scrabble-championship-2017/>.





# HONG KONG 32 : 18 JAPAN



Douglas Tsang, the Team Leader, said before the Championship, “I am excited to participate in this distinguished event with my compatriots, competing with the best players in our neighboring country. I am sure that my team members also have the same feeling. As the slogan of our association suggests, “Scrabble connects tiles and people”, we are focussed on building up relationships with Scrabble players and associations around the world. This Championship provides an excellent platform for Japan and Hong Kong in exchanging skills and fostering our friendships.”

The members of the Hong Kong Scrabble Team for the Championship were Douglas Tsang, Brian Po, Calvin Ma, Herbert Ma and Tam Pok Hin.

The award winners:

Team Champion	Hong Kong
Individual Champion	John OZAG (Japan)
Best Student Player	Brian PO (Hong Kong)
Highest Game	Douglas TSANG (Hong Kong); 563 points
Highest Word	John OZAG (Japan); SHAFTED, 100 points

Congratulations to the Hong Kong Scrabble Team, and thanks JASPA and Hiroshima International University for bringing us this historic tournament!





# METHODIST COLLEGE BECOMES BACK-TO-BACK SECONDARY SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

One of the largest annual school Scrabble events, the “Headstart Cup” Inter-Secondary School Scrabble Championship was successfully held on 4 March 2017. Hosting this prestigious championship for the third time, HKSPA is glad to cooperate with the Headstart Group to take the event to a higher level.

118 students from 33 schools participated in the Championship and enjoyed a day with the world’s favourite word game. The schools were divided into 2 divisions according to the previous results of the 2016 Championship. The top 10 schools competed in the Masters Division while the remaining schools played in the Novice Division. After 4 rounds of exciting games, Methodist College was crowned the Champion of the Master Division while Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section) was the winner of the Novice Division. Thanks Collins, The Link, Mattel, and Vitasoy for their sponsorship to make the event a great success!

The “Headstart Cup” Hong Kong Inter-Secondary School Scrabble Championship 2018 is now open for application. The Championship will be held on 3 March 2018 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm in TWGHs Wong Fut Nam College.

Application must be submitted by a school teacher. More information will be released on our website, <http://hkscrabble.org> and sent to your school very soon. Stay tuned!



# LOK WAH CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL CROWNED PRIMARY SCHOOL CHAMPION FOR THE FIRST TIME

On 18 February 2017, 94 players from 21 schools competed in the Inter-School Scrabble Championship 2017 – Primary Category, the most prestigious Scrabble competition for primary schools in Hong Kong.

The kids aged 10 to 12 played 5 games of Scrabble on that day. There were two divisions, namely Gold and Silver, for schools of varying levels. In the end, Lok Wah Catholic Primary School became the Hong Kong Primary School Champion for the first time in history due to their great performances in Division Gold. Wong Chun Ki from their school was also the Individual Champion. HKMLC Ming Tao Primary School won the Division Silver.



## 110 STUDENTS PLAYED IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ASSOCIATION CUP 2017

The Association Cup 2017 Inter-School Scrabble Tournament was held on 24 June 2017. With a total of 110 participants, the tournament was one of the largest tournaments in the year of 2016-2017. There are three categories, including Primary, Junior Secondary and Senior Secondary. 5 games were played with Swiss Draw.

For the Primary Division, Baptist (Sha Tin Wai) Lui Ming Choi Primary School won the School Champion with Lam Ki Hang from the school being crowned the Individual Champion. For the Junior Secondary Division, the School Champion goes to HKMA K S Lo College while Kwok Ka Ming from the school won the Individual Champion. Last but not least, for the Senior division, CCC Mong Man Wai College got the School Champion with its student Boris Chung as the Individual Champion.

Congratulation to all winners, and we are looking forward to seeing you in the Association Cup 2018!

# HONG KONG SCRABBLE TEAM FOR THE WESPA YOUTH CUP 2017

Following the success of Hong Kong players in the previous two World Youth Scrabble Championships, HKSPA will once again send a Hong Kong Team to the tournament (called “WESPA Youth Cup” this year). The Cup will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 27 to 29 November 2017.



As a member association of WESPA, HKSPA is entitled to send 10 quota players to the event. 26 players participated in the qualification process, in which 5 players qualified via their Ratings while the other 5 qualified from a fierce two-day qualifier. The Team consists of 6 students from CCC Mong Man Wai College, 3 students from Methodist College and 1 student from Queen's College.

And here are the members of the Hong Kong Scrabble Team 2017!



Team Leaders: Douglas TSANG, Mandy LAU, Owen YIP

Team Members: Calvin MA, HO Chun Hung, PO Chun Wo, CHUNG Cheuk Hang, Wesley CHOY Wing Chi, NG Ka Wing, LI Pun Wang, HO Cheuk Yiu, LAU Wai Keung, MAK Chung Ting

The trip to Malaysia will be a precious opportunity for the Hong Kong Team members to learn from players from all over the world. It will surely broaden their horizons and improve their oral English. Good luck to the Hong Kong Team!



# CARSON IP RETAINS THE TITLE OF HONG KONG SCRABBLE CHAMPION



The second Hong Kong National Scrabble Championship (“the National”) was held on 14 and 17 April 2017. 85 players played in this WESPA-rated tournament. The National consists of two stages: the Qualifying Rounds (held at City University) and the Finals Day (held at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club). The top 16 available players at the Qualifying Rounds advanced to the Finals Day.



The winner in the Finals Day, Carson IP, was crowned the Hong Kong Scrabble Champion for the second time, receiving the Lion Rock Trophy.

# SINGAPOREAN DUO VICTORIOUS AT THE HONG KONG SCRABBLE CHALLENGE

The Hong Kong Scrabble Challenge is a flagship championship organised annually by HKSPA. The Challenge consists of two one-day tournaments, namely the “Main” and “Extra” tournaments, this year on 16 and 17 July 2017 respectively.

81 players from Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand participated in the 8-game Main tournament on 16 July 2017. The Main tournament was attended by three Scrabble giants from Singapore – Hubert Wee, Michael Tang and Tony Sim, from whom their local opponents learnt a lot. The three Singaporeans, as expected, finished as the top 3. Also giving the locals a hard time were the top Japanese players - Isao Takemura, John Ozag and Warodom Geamsakul, who again met the 5 Hong Kong players they faced in the East Asian Scrabble Championship in Hiroshima this April. Warodom and Isao finished in top ten.

With 8 wins and a spread of +1214, Michael Tang won the Main tournament. Toh Weibin from Singapore won the Extra tournament with 8 wins and a spread of +800.



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Editors: Horace Wai, Chris Lau, Owen Yip,  
Ryan Yongmanvong, Elizabeth Kwok

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