



# Responsible Gambling Policy

有節制博彩政策

## Illegal gambling a growing threat to society 非法賭博禍害深遠

The illegal gambling market in Hong Kong is sizeable and growing, fuelled by the advance of mobile technology which has made online gambling opportunities more readily accessible. It is estimated that Hong Kong people lose around HK\$12 billion to illegal operators each year.

Unlike The Hong Kong Jockey Club which implements a stringent responsible gambling policy, illegal bookmakers lure customers with credit betting, price incentives and a wider range of bet types and gambling products. By offering loans and discounts that encourage their customers to “chase losses”, they exacerbate the problems of addiction and debt.

Equally important is the impact of illegal gambling on public funding and charitable work, as illegal bookmakers pay no tax in Hong Kong. Moreover their revenues are frequently used to fund other types of crime.

非法賭博市場正在本港不斷滋長和擴張，近年更因為流動資訊科技越趨便利，外圍莊家利用網上平台直接招攬顧客。據估計，本港市民每年因為參與非法賭博而輸掉高達一百二十億港元。

有別於馬會所奉行的有節制博彩政策，外圍莊家肆意利用借貸、折扣及層出不窮的賭博項目吸引顧客，誘導賭博人士不斷下注以填補損失，結果令賭博人士債台高築。

非法賭博更嚴重掠奪本港公共財政及慈善服務資源，因為外圍莊家毋須在本港納稅，並往往將在本港獲取的收益用於其他犯罪活動。

## Partnership with community the key

### 與社會各界合作

For these reasons, the Club has long been committed to providing well-regulated betting services supported by a strict responsible gambling policy, so as to divert public demand from illegal operators.

Recognising that combating illegal gambling requires close partnership with the wider community, the Club collaborates closely with Government bodies and NGOs. It exchanges intelligence on illegal operations with the police and helps promote responsible gambling in partnership with organisations like the Ping Wo Fund.

Club representatives regularly meet with local NGOs and attend regional conferences to share experiences and discuss ways of tackling problem and illegal gambling. This helps the Club refine its responsible gambling policies.

因此，香港賽馬會一直致力提供受規管的博彩渠道，並且嚴格執行有節制博彩政策，以滿足市民對博彩的需求，從而打擊非法賭博。

馬會認為，社會各界必須緊密合作才能有效打擊非法賭博。馬會多年來一直與多個政府部門及相關機構，包括警方及平和基金攜手推行打擊非法賭博的措施。馬會定期與警方交流非法賭博市場情報以協助警方執法，並與平和基金合作向市民宣傳有節制博彩的訊息。

馬會亦重視與賭博問題關注組織交流及溝通，因此馬會代表定期與非政府組織會面，又參與亞洲區賭博問題研討會分享馬會執行有節制博彩的經驗，並藉此進一步完善相關措施。

“Thanks to the Club’s support, the Ping Wo Fund has been able to introduce new services, including a preventive outreach programme.”

*Dr Yau Wing-kwong,*

*Chairman of the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee*

「全賴馬會的支持，平和基金得以推出新服務，包括預防問題賭博的外展服務。」

平和基金諮詢委員會主席邱榮光博士







## Public education

### 公眾教育

The Club has also strengthened its efforts to caution the public against illegal gambling. It recently produced five one-minute TV info-segments to remind the public about the risks involved in patronising illegal bookmakers.

This year, the Club launched a new responsible gambling website, providing bettors with a one-stop portal for accessing relevant information and self-assessment tools.

另一方面，馬會亦加強宣傳推廣，提醒市民切勿沾手非法賭博。馬會製作了五段一分鐘的資訊短片，向市民講解參與非法賭博的風險及後果，呼籲市民提高警覺。

此外，馬會於今年推出了全新的有節制博彩網頁，一站式地提供更豐富的有節制博彩資訊，並設問題賭博傾向自我測試，冀能教育市民博彩必須適可而止。

## Contributions to

## Ping Wo Fund doubled

### 資助平和基金款額倍增

The Club takes problem gambling very seriously and has taken many steps to help reduce this social concern. As long ago as 2001 it commissioned an independent study to identify preventive measures. It then allocated funding for the Government to launch a two-year pilot project providing counselling and treatment services, leading to the establishment of the Ping Wo Fund in 2003.

The Club has since been the biggest donor to the Fund, and from the beginning of this year is more than doubling its annual donations from HK\$20 million to HK\$45 million a year. By 2019, its total contributions will have exceeded HK\$362 million.

Managed by the Government, the Ping Wo Fund supports research on gambling-related issues, conducts public education programmes to alleviate these problems, and helps fund NGOs that provide counselling and treatment services. Since 2003, over 87,000 problem or pathological gamblers have received counselling from the four treatment centres the Fund supports.

馬會非常關注問題賭博對社會帶來的影響，故採取了多項措施緩減賭博問題。早於二〇一一年，馬會委託專家進行獨立研究，找出預防問題賭博的最有效模式；及後馬會撥款資助政府推行為期兩年的問題賭徒輔導及治療服務先導計劃，並促成政府於二〇〇三年成立平和基金。

基金成立至今，馬會一直是最主要的資助者。今年，馬會再度增加向平和基金的撥款額，每年的撥款額由二千萬港元，大幅度增加至四千五百萬港元。計及新增的撥款額，至二〇一九年，馬會向平和基金撥款的總額將會超過三億六千二百萬港元。

平和基金由政府負責管理，基金透過撥款資助問題賭博相關研究、推行公眾教育活動，並且資助非政府機構提供問題賭博輔導及治療服務，至今已經有八萬七千名問題賭徒接受過服務。



“The Club’s support has helped the ICAPT pioneer an integrated treatment approach to help people with multiple addictive behaviours.”

Elda Chan, Supervisor,  
Integrated Centre on Addiction Prevention &  
Treatment (ICAPT)

「馬會的支持助我們推出創新綜合治療方案，幫助受多重成癮行為困擾的人士。」

預防及治療多重成癮綜合服務中心主任陳美璐



Club's practices

**internationally recognised**

榮獲有節制博彩國際認證

In 2011, the Club was granted Level 4 accreditation, the highest attainable, under the Responsible Gambling Framework of the World Lottery Association (WLA). Operators seeking accreditation are required to demonstrate their commitment to promoting responsible gambling through a series of stringent criteria, judged by a panel of independent international experts in sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

To achieve the maximum Level 4, operators must adopt the WLA's ten responsible gambling principles into their day-to-day operations and decision-making. These cover game design, stakeholder engagement, employee training, public education, problem gambling treatment services referral, and monitoring of the effectiveness of responsible gambling measures.

WLA accreditation has to be re-evaluated every three years, and in March 2015, the Club was proud to be granted Level 4 recognition for the second time, becoming the first operator in Asia to be recertified.

二〇一一年，馬會首次榮獲由「世界博彩協會」頒發的「有節制博彩」第四級(最高級別)認證。參與認證的機構，必須恪守一系列推動有節制博彩的準則，並需經由獨立委員會進行嚴格評審，委員會由對可持續發展和企業社會責任有豐富認識的國際專家組成。

取得第四級(最高級別)認證的機構必須於決策及日常運作中，履行協會所訂定全部十項有節制博彩準則，準則涵蓋博彩形式、對外溝通、員工培訓、公眾教育、問題賭博輔導服務轉介及有節制博彩措施的成效檢討。

獲認證的機構需要每三年接受覆審一次，馬會於今年三月便再度獲頒此殊榮，成為亞洲區首家兩次獲最高級別認證的機構。