



SPORTS FEDERATION & OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG, CHINA

即時發佈

港協暨奧委會就世界冰球錦標賽播放國歌出錯及其後更正事件 向政府提交初步調查報告

中國香港體育協會暨奧林匹克委員會（港協暨奧委會）剛於今天（2023年3月10日）下午，接獲香港冰球協會（冰協）就世界冰球錦標賽於2月28日中國香港對伊朗分組賽事後播放國歌出錯事件提交的書面調查報告。

港協暨奧委會於事件發生後密切跟進情況，綜合冰協由事件發生至今所提供的資料，今天下午向政府當局提交報告，撮要內容如下：

- (1) 根據港協暨奧委會紀錄，冰協並未跟隨《香港運動員及隊伍參與國際體育賽事期間處理播放國歌和升掛區旗的指引》（《指引》）第2段所示，於出發比賽前向港協暨奧委會索取可供體育總會使用的工具包；然而，根據《指引》，體育總會亦可於官方網站自行下載國歌及採購區旗，惟必須確保所使用的版本正確；
- (2) 冰協於3月1日發出的公開聲明及其後提交的報告均表示，已在比賽前向賽事主辦機構提供正確版本的國歌；港協暨奧委會在3月1日發出新聞稿後，接獲冰協以電郵提交的初步事件報告，但冰協在兩文件中並沒有交代於何時及何地向賽事主辦機構提供國歌，及是否以硬件形式（電腦硬碟或USB）把國歌交予賽事主辦機構，以及有否按《指引》第5段要求賽事主辦機構以書面確認收妥。直至今日，雖經港協暨奧委會多番追問，冰協提交的調查報告始終避而不答，沒有交代詳情，港協暨奧委會有理由相信冰協並沒有按相關《指引》行事；
- (3) 冰協於調查報告表示，其領隊於2月27日，即比賽之前，曾要求主辦機構核對國歌，惟由於對方當時沒有理會，領隊亦沒有再作跟進。冰協解釋，再次核對國歌「不是國際冰總慣常做法」。港協暨奧委會認為，如領隊有按照《指引》再次核對國歌，今次事件則可以避免，冰協應更嚴謹地按照《指引》第6段要求，更主動地於賽事開始前向主辦機構要求核對國歌；



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- (4) 冰協於調查報告表示，事件發生後翌日（3月2日），中國駐波斯尼亞和黑塞哥維那特命全權大使季平先生出席中國香港隊另一場賽事時，向冰協表示已調查事件，並得知事件是因為主辦機構一名工作人員下載錯誤歌曲，屬無心之失；
- (5) 冰協於調查報告表示，其領隊在出發參與賽事前透過 WhatsApp，提醒隊員在比賽期間如發現播放國歌出錯，須以「T」字手勢向主辦機構示意。港協暨奧委會認為，雖然相關領隊和隊員在發現播放國歌出錯後，已及時做出「T」字手勢令主辦機構隨即更正，但冰協並未於出發比賽前向領隊和隊員正式訓示相關《指引》，是與《指引》第8段的要求有落差；
- (6) 最後，港協暨奧委會認為，冰協明顯沒有遵從《指引》第5及第8段的要求，故此建議與政府相關部門作進一步商討，考慮按《指引》第13段，對冰協實施可行而恰當的懲處。

港協暨奧委會早前分別要求冰協及國際冰球總會於3月10日或之前提交書面調查報告，國際冰總於3月1日曾以電郵表示正調查事件，惟截至香港時間今天下午5時，國際冰總仍未提供相關報告，港協暨奧委會敦促國際冰總從速交代詳情。

港協暨奧委會重申，每場比賽都是運動員和訓練團隊努力的成果，而維護國歌和區旗尊嚴是大是大非的議題，合乎公眾期望。為此，港協暨奧委會將一如既往，全力支持香港運動員和團隊參與國際體育活動，並在切實可行的情況下提供支援，絕不容許他們的努力因為某些可以避免的人為失誤而蒙上污點。

發稿機構：中國香港體育協會暨奧林匹克委員會

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For Immediate Release

SF&OC Submitted Report to Government on the Incident relating to the Playing of the National Anthem at Ice Hockey World Championship

The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC) just received the written investigation report by the Hong Kong Ice Hockey Association (HKIHA) today afternoon (10 March 2023) on the incident relating to a wrong music played as the national anthem after the Team Hong Kong, China versus Team Iran match at the Ice Hockey World Championship on 28 February.

SF&OC has actively followed up on the incident. Based on the information provided by HKIHA so far, SF&OC submitted a report to the Government today afternoon. Below is a summary of the report: -

- (1) According to the SF&OC records, HKIHA did not collect the toolkit from SF&OC before the event in accordance with Para. 2 of the Guidelines on Handling the Playing of the National Anthem and Raising of the Regional Flag for Hong Kong Athletes and Teams Engaging in International Sports Events (Guidelines). However, according to the Guidelines, this is not a prerequisite as national sports associations could also download the national anthem from the official website and procure the regional flag on their own, but they have to ensure that the correct versions are used;
- (2) In HKIHA's announcement on 1 March and their later reports, HKIHA stated that they had passed the correct version of the national anthem to the organiser before the event. However, both HKIHA's initial report and the subsequent report on the incident did not specify as when and where the correct version of the national anthem was provided. Also, HKIHA failed to mention as whether a hard copy (computer disk or USB) of the national anthem was passed to the organiser, and whether they had requested the organiser to confirm receipt in writing as per the requirement stipulated in Para. 5 of the Guidelines. As of today, despite persistent questioning by SF&OC, HKIHA has been evasive and failed to address such questions in their two reports. It is therefore strongly believed that HKIHA did not perform the duty in accordance with the Guidelines;



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- (3) According to HKIHA's investigation report, their team leader made a request to the event organiser on 27 February, a day ahead of the competition, to check on the national anthem. However, according to HKIHA, the request was not attended and the team leader did not take follow-up action. HKIHA explained that it was not the normal procedure of the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) to do so. Given that this incident could be avoided if HKIHA had checked the national anthem again, SF&OC is of the view that HKIHA should strictly abide by Para. 6 of the Guidelines and make a more robust request for checking the national anthem with the event organiser before the start of the match;
- (4) In the investigation report, HKIHA stated that on 2 March, a day after the incident, at another match of Team Hong Kong, China, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Bosnia and Herzegovina Mr Ji Ping told the team that he had investigated the incident and noted that a staff member of the organiser had inadvertently downloaded a wrong music by mistake;
- (5) According to HKIHA's investigation report, their team leader had reminded athletes via WhatsApp before their departure that in case a wrong music is played as the national anthem during the event, they should use their hands to display a "T" sign. Despite the fact that during the display of a wrong music, the team leader and athletes concerned were able to respond timely by displaying the "T" sign and correction was subsequently made by the organiser without delay, HKIHA's omission of providing a proper briefing was clearly in deviation from Para. 8 of the Guidelines.
- (6) Lastly, SF&OC is of the view that the conduct of HKIHA was clearly not in compliance with the requirements as stipulated in Para. 5 and 8 of the Guidelines. It is hence suggested that SF&OC, in conjunction with the respective department of the Government, should consider implementing possible and appropriate sanctions against HKIHA as per Para. 13 of the Guidelines.

SF&OC has requested HKIHA and IIHF earlier to submit a written investigation report on or before 10 March. IIHF said in an email dated 1 March that they were conducting an investigation. However, as of 5:00 pm (Hong Kong time) today, SF&OC has yet to receive the respective report. SF&OC urges IIHF to explain the details promptly.



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SF&OC reiterates that every competition is the result of the hard work of athletes and their training teams, while public expectation is clear on preserving the dignity of the national anthem and the regional flag, which is a cardinal issue of right and wrong. In this connection, SF&OC will, and as always, fully support Hong Kong athletes and teams in participating in international sports events and provide necessary assistance wherever practicable. SF&OC will never allow the efforts made by Hong Kong athletes and teams to be tarnished by human errors which could be avoidable.

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