

Chairman of Hong Kong Jockey Club reviews Fire Services passing-out parade (with photos)

The Chairman of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Mr Michael Lee, reviewed the Fire Services passing-out parade for 36 station officers, five ambulance officers, 15 senior firemen/senior firewomen of the Mobilising and Communications Division, 84 firemen and 55 ambulancemen at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy today (May 23).

Speaking at the parade, Mr Lee said that Hong Kong is subject to natural disasters such as typhoons and rainstorms from time to time. Therefore, the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) supports the Fire Services Department (FSD) through its Charities Trust to implement the HKSAR Government FSD's Disaster Management Programme. The programme aims to promote the training of emergency response and preparedness, strengthen regional collaboration and enhance public emergency awareness, in a bid to improve Hong Kong's overall emergency response capabilities.

Mr Lee mentioned that the HKJC supported the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) joint emergency response and rescue exercise, "Liancheng-2025", held in March this year. The Hong Kong FSD, the Fire and Rescue Corps of Guangdong Province and the Macao Fire Services Bureau jointly held the exercise in Hong Kong. It simulated Hong Kong experiencing a typhoon and rainstorm with prompt cross-boundary support from Guangdong and Macao rescue teams. The exercise concluded successfully by not only demonstrating the collaboration among the rescue teams of the three places, but also laying the foundation for the GBA rescue network.

Mr Lee also said that, with the support of the HKJC, the FSD provides basic fire safety equipment and stand-alone fire detectors for the community, while also expanding automated external defibrillator coverage and organising public education activities to promote fire safety knowledge.

Mr Lee added that, thanks to the FSD's thorough preparation in advance, a number of major events in Hong Kong could be held safely and smoothly. For the 15th National Games to be held in November this year, the FSD has stepped up fire safety inspections at the venues and co-ordinated with other departments to conduct various test events and stress tests, with a view to better protecting the athletes and audiences.

Mr Lee commended the graduates for their high morale and readiness to take up the FSD mission of "saving those in distress and protecting the community", which is in line with the core values of the HKJC in serving the community. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the FSD for its outstanding contributions to Hong Kong over the years and for nurturing a new generation of excellent fire and ambulance personnel.

The parade was followed by a demonstration of firefighting and rescue techniques by the graduates. The 195 graduates will be posted to various fire stations, ambulance depots and the Fire Services Communications Centre.



