

Managers and operators fined for illegal club operations

Two men, a woman and a company were fined \$1,800 to \$2,500 at the Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (July 8) for contravening the Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance.

The courts heard that in July and December last year, officers from the Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA) of the Home Affairs Department conducted inspections at two clubs on Portland Street in Mong Kok and on Tak Ku Ling Road in Kowloon City, which had been operating with certificates of compliance (CoCs).

During the investigation in the club on Portland Street, the OLA officers posed as customers and patronised the club for food and drinks without being asked to show their membership status or being invited to join the club as members. Condition 12 of the CoC was breached. The man, being the manager of the club and the woman, being the CoC holder of the club, were charged with contravening section 21(1) (a) and section 21(2) of the Ordinance respectively.

The staff of the club on Tak Ku Ling Road failed to show the registered drawing upon the OLA officers' request. Condition 10 of the CoC was breached. The man, being the manager of the club and the company, being the CoC holder of the club, were charged with contravening section 21(1) (a) and section 21(2) of the Ordinance respectively.

A spokesman for the department reminded all CoC holders to comply with the conditions as stipulated therein. Enforcement actions will continue to be taken against illegal club operations.