



TSG ANNUAL REPORT 2020

President's Report

Dear members of the Singapore Touch Community,

I hope all of you are well during this period, adapting to not playing Touch for over four months and not meeting your teammates and friends.

The past year was relatively quiet following the heels of the Touch World Cup with some clubs and players taking a break or developing their younger players in the lower grades of the August league. The competition was intense nonetheless and the social grades remained popular with many of them oversubscribed and matches played throughout the day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. due to limited field availability.

A State of the Game meeting between club representatives and TSG was held to discuss the difficulties that the clubs were facing and to make aware the constraints that the committee faced in running the sport. It was established that we had to strike a balance between catering to the masses and focusing on the elite programme. There is a need to build infrastructure and pathways to increase our player pool but to do that, we need more support from the community.

We were off to another strong season in February with 117 teams registered, the highest number ever recorded. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic that has gripped the world and affected everyone globally, we had to cancel the league. We also had to put on hold our plans for the Asian Champs at the end of the year and the Youth World Cup 2021.

2017 was a momentous year with the inception of TSG. It has been an enriching and trying term as we seek to lay the foundations of how the sport should grow and be managed.



Processes were tried and tested, refined and improved. Mistakes were made and lessons learnt. I am pleased to report however, that in the last three years, we have seen the sport grow and the number of players increase from over 100 to 2000.

We have also sent the biggest number of teams to compete in the TWC 2019 since Singapore first participated in 1999 (from 1 to 8) and witnessed our Men's Over 50s team bring home a bronze medal and the Women's Open and Over 27s teams missing out on a podium finish. Our Singapore International Touch Knockout tournament has also become a permanent feature on the regional calendar, attracting top teams from different parts of Asia and Australia.

We have many areas to improve on and as we develop as a sporting association, we need to continue to learn to govern ourselves better. We have many challenges ahead, with the resumption of playing Touch in new circumstances, the redevelopment of Turf City and the establishment of clearer development pathways for our players and coaches. However, I am certain that under the leadership of the new President, TSG will deliver.

Next, I would like to thank our sponsors such as Fitlion, Singlife and partners like Crossroads and Worn to Win. I would also like to thank and acknowledge the tireless work of the outgoing committee members. They have given up their time on weekends and occasionally worked late at night during the week so that we could debate, develop and resolve issues. They have allowed the association to function smoothly whilst still attending to their family commitments and jobs. Not in any order of merit, I would like to show my appreciation to:

- Derelyn Chua, who as Judiciary Director, offered legal advice and set in place our judiciary and disciplinary processes;
- Anne Goh, who as Coaching Director, created a Coaching Commission, mentored many coaches and provided opportunities for them to gain expertise;



- Chris Hallewell, the Marketing and Sponsorship Director who has secured multiple sponsorships and partners over the years and is a key sounding board for issues and ideas within the committee;
- Jason Hoang, who as National Events Director has worked generously, passionately and tirelessly every weekend to ensure the smooth running of the leagues and that no one is ever denied the opportunity to play;
- Chris McNamara, who initially agreed to be Treasurer on a temporary basis, has done such a good job managing our finance and ensuring that we stay healthy, that he is likely to stay on another term;
- Lynda Scott, who as Referees Director has given her time and body by conducting courses, assessing and mentoring numerous young referees as well as personally refereeing back to back matches on weekends;
- Sophie Sorgo, our International Events Director for volunteering her time and coordinating with FIT and visiting teams;
- Terence Toh, who has aptly performed the role of Secretary-General and been the heartbeat of TSG, running the day to day operations of the association and looking to develop the sport; and
- Chris Wall, who as Elite Director oversaw the selection processes and elite programme and most notably, coached our Women's Opens team for three editions of the TWC.

Some of the existing committee members are looking to seek a second term of office and I hope you will support them. However, whilst all of them have done a fantastic job, we are always in search of new volunteers. This is not only to replace departing personnel but also to re-invigorate the committee with new opinions and ideas. The existing committee members are a very welcoming group of individuals and will gladly help new members transit into their new roles, be it in the executive or sub-committees.

It has been an honour and humbling experience being the very first President of TSG. I have learnt a lot and gained a wealth of experience from everyone. I wish the upcoming Exco all the very best.

Jeslyn Lim
TSG President



Secretary General's Report

Dear Members of the Singapore Touch Community,

I hope everyone has been well and safe in this difficult time in our country and sport. Touch in 2020 has somewhat come to a standstill with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting and stopping any sort of sport in Singapore for the past few months.

We had started 2020 with a lot of hope, kick starting the year with a "State of Game" Meeting with the various key stakeholders and clubs to discuss and come up with ideas and solutions to further improve our sport. The league was much looked forward to. Unfortunately, despite our very best efforts to kick start the league, we were eventually left with no choice but to shut the league down in respect of the government's measures.

Besides the league, there were many other TSG competitions that had to be canned including the National Junior Colleges Championships (NJCC), the Inter-Tertiary Men's Touch Invitational (ITTI), the Singapore International Touch Knockouts (SITK) and more. We share the disappointment with the many teams, schools and players who have planned and worked towards these tournaments and will endeavor to make up for 'lost time' when it is possible.

Looking forward, we anticipate that Singapore will move into Phase 2 soon and that sport will soon be allowed to be practiced in a limited capacity. There is no clear timeline or guidance measures given to the resumption of sport yet but as mentioned, we are committed to restart Touch and the league in the 2nd half of the year once we are allowed to.



Going into the AGM, I reflect on the past 3 years that I have served as Secretary General of Touch Singapore. It has been a privilege and an eye-opening experience to serve in a position that allowed to contribute and positively impact the sport that I love. As the youngest person on the committee, I am very grateful to the other directors for the advice and guidance given that has helped me grow tremendously. Thank you all for the support of my work throughout the years.

I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Jason, our League Director who gave much of his valuable time to mentor and guide me with the various leagues and competitions we deliver and run throughout the year. I would also like to give my appreciation to Jeslyn, our President for her encouragement and support throughout our term. We encountered numerous situations where we have had to make many, often difficult decisions and I am thankful that we had each other as a pillar to lean on.

The past 3 years spent building the foundations of the Association has not by any means been easy. There has been differences in views, opinions and visions but what was very clear and important to all of us is the fact that we all wanted the best for Singapore Touch.

In closing, I would also thank everyone in Singapore Touch Community for your continuous support and the volunteer work you put in for the sport, schools and clubs. Touch in Singapore will not be what she is today without the various voluntary and selfless contributions of many.

Terence Toh
TSG Secretary General

Key Note: The 2020 AGM Report is a summarized version due to the proximity to the last Annual Report in Nov 2019 and the exceptional circumstances of the COVID 19 Pandemic.

End of Annual Report