



April 7, 2014

To All Members,
亲爱的会员：

While returning to full league operations after great tournament performances by our Select teams in Singapore, the Board of Directors would like to provide the Association membership with some important updates as we approach the midpoint of this Spring session.

当新加坡公开赛圆满结束后，我们的冰球课程也恢复如常运作。正当春季课程进行得如火如荼之际，董事会将为球员提供一些重要的讯息。

But first, let's recap the Singapore Ice Dragons Tournament –
不过，首先，让我们重温新加坡精彩的赛事：

- Our players represented the organization well with fine on-ice play buoyed by the strong support of our spirited fans! And consistent with past road trip experience the Thunderbirds received compliments from tourney organizers and other participants about our professional approach and exemplary sportsmanship – on and off the ice.

精英队球员在冰上表现优越并得到家长们热烈的打气！如以往外出比赛一样，雷鸟球员在冰上及场内的专业表现和体育精神，获得主办单位和其他参赛队高度的赞扬。

- In terms of the final standings, the U10 and U12 achieved the semi-finals where they were both knocked out by tough Dubai Sandstorms teams – in the case of the U12, ultimately falling 2-1 in the 10th round of a shoot-out after a scoreless overtime period – words fail to describe the intensity and excitement. Our U15 took it a step further, advancing to the finals where they ultimately fell to an extremely talented Beijing Imperial Guard squad.

成绩方面，U10和U12止步于半决赛。我们两组都败於强劲的迪拜队；U12更于半决赛加时平手后，以2：1在第十轮点球中落败。这场赛事的紧张及激烈程度，真非笔墨可形容。我们的U15队进入了决赛，最后拿取了亚军。北京御林军队夺冠。

- Our players experienced both the jubilation, and tears, that come with participation in competitively elite events. Our teams raised their performances to levels that they did not realize they could reach - and they also learned just how much they love this great game and how much it hurts when coming agonizingly close to achieving lofty goals. Both the highs and the lows are part of the learning process - for all they experienced, for the way they responded, for how they represented their teams, the Association and their families, we are incredibly proud of the players.

我们的球员经历了欢呼和泪水。这也是参与竞争力高的赛事的一部分。在他们还没意识到之时，整队的表现其实已经提高了。球员亦了解到自己已深深爱上这项运动并感受到与胜利擦身而过的痛苦。他们所经历的高高低低都是成长过程的一部分——对于他们所有的经历，所作出的回应以及他们如何代表自己的团队、代表雷鸟及各自的家庭——我们为这班球员感到无比自豪。

- Huge thanks are owed to all of the Team Managers for their extraordinary organization skills, to the Coaches for preparing the players so well, and to families and friends for spirited support of all tourney participants. 最后，十分感谢各组别的团队经理，为是次比赛作出出色的安排。亦感谢各教练为球员努力的付出和各球员家庭鼎力支持球员参赛。

A Look Forward! 前瞻!

While operational oversight is constant, your Board of Directors also actively considers the future of our great organization, looking for opportunities to continue leveraging our unique strengths while also addressing known key challenges. In this way we look to preserve and enhance the development experience for the players and the membership experience for our families.

虽然运作上已稳定下来，董事会仍积极考虑协会的未来，并努力不懈地寻找机会，利用我们独特的优势，并同时解决我们主要的挑战。这样，我们才能继续维护并加强球员的冰球发展体验和球员家庭的投入感。

As part of this process, and while operating within our mandate, we brainstorm, investigate and discuss collaboration opportunities with representatives from other Shanghai minor hockey organizations. Over the past 6 months we have been in deep discussions with a like-minded organization and are pleased to inform the STMHA membership of our intent to begin working more closely with the Sunshine Zero Corporation – the largest arena operator in China with the largest China-wide minor hockey program.

作为这过程的一部分，董事会在会员授权的能力范围内，集思广益与上海其他冰球俱乐部研究并讨论有关合作的机会。过去六个月，我们一直与志同道合的组织深入讨论。现在，董事会很高兴的告诉各会员，我们有意与零度阳光——中国最大的冰场营运商并拥有最多青少年冰球队——作紧密合作。

Our intended collaboration will involve –

双方合作的意向包括：

- Moving our STMHA program, intact, to a new, conveniently located Sunshine Zero managed ice rink as soon as it is ready sometime in the coming 2014/15 season
雷鸟的课程及球员发展计划将保持不变，并会在零度阳光于2014/15年赛季所落成的新冰场执行。
- Maintaining our Thunderbirds brand and retaining our volunteer-based organization structure and self-governance model
我们仍保留“雷鸟”的队名，并继续作为一个非盈利机构，由作为志愿者的会员管理。

And Sunshine Zero will provide –

零度阳光将提供：

- Under a tenancy/rental arrangement, a dedicated home for the Thunderbirds with optimal ice-times in a brand-new, full size arena
以租约形式，为雷鸟提供一个全新、国际级的冰场，并配合最佳的冰时。这冰场将作为雷鸟的主场。
- Incremental hockey families/players that will join STMHA
更多冰球家庭将会参加雷鸟队。

- Access to experienced coaches eager to participate in our coaching development programs and participate collaboratively in leading on-ice activities

有更多经验丰富的教练乐意参加雷鸟的教练发展计划，并积极参与、协助带领冰上活动。

Surely much of this will sound familiar to our members -- but we can assure the Association that the like-mindedness of the Sunshine Zero representatives and the autonomy to be maintained by our respective organizations are elements of the intended collaboration that are fundamentally different in comparison to partnership discussions conducted earlier with other parties.

可能你会觉得，这听起来很熟悉。但我们可以肯定的是，零度阳光与雷鸟的意向与想法一致，而双方合作基于雷鸟能够保持现有的自由度及自治权。这是跟去年我们与其他俱乐部商讨合作时的最大分别。

Sunshine Zero and the Thunderbirds will maintain independence and collaborate as equals, enhancing the Thunderbirds experience by leveraging the strengths of both organizations.

零度阳光和雷鸟在平等的合作基础上，将保持各自独立运作。并希望借着双方的优势，提高雷鸟队员的冰球体验。

Save the Date! 预留日期

The 2014 STMHA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on the afternoon of Saturday April 19, with additional specifics regarding time/venue/activities to be provided later. We hope to have active membership participation for more formal Association discussion on the aforementioned strategic collaboration opportunity, including ratification of some related items that fall outside the Board's mandate.

2014年雷鸟青少年冰球协会周年会员大会将于四月十九日（星期六）举行，详细资料稍后公布。希望所有会员能够出席这次大会，就有关与零度阳光的策略性合作作深入讨论。这包括一些董事会授权范围以外的议题，需要会员议决。

It will also be time to elect a Board of Directors for the 2014/15 season – so it is an appropriate time to remind that as a not-for-profit organization the STMHA relies solely on the exceptional talent and dedication of volunteers. The Board is issuing a call for additional volunteers interested in serving the association in an expanded capacity. We need to elect a new BoD, we are in need of additional individuals interested in participating in our coaching development program and contributing on the ice, we have ongoing need for uniform/equipment/apparel coordination and for website development and administration – and we would like to aggressively promote and market our organization in a more coordinated manner. These are some primary areas of need but I'm sure there are other ways our members can leverage their talents and find ways to participate that will further enhance our great organization – tell us how you would like to participate!

周年大会上，我们会选出2014/15年度的董事会成员——我想再次提醒大家，雷鸟是一个非盈利机构，其成功完全有赖自愿者的才能和付出。董事会呼吁更多会员出来帮忙。随了新一届董事会成员，我们亦需要教练、球服/装备/队服负责人员、雷鸟网站开发和管理人员等——我们亦需要积极并有系统地在上海推广雷鸟青少年冰球协会。这些方面都是协会基本需要人才的地方。当然，我深信以我们会员的才能及经验，必能寻找到一个合适自己参与的范畴，进一步加强我们的组织——告诉我们你希望如何参与吧！

I have said many times in my 4 years with the STMHA that the Thunderbirds experience typically rewards our members in proportion to the level of personal investment – i.e., 'you get out of it, what you put into it'. As a volunteer organization we value each and every member equally with no judgments made based on the type of contribution made – I only offer my own personal experience that the experience became richer when my personal investment increased. Our organization is special because of our members - if you think you might have something specific to offer, or want help exploring how you might contribute, please speak up!

我在雷鸟四年的生活中曾多次提及，会员所得着的体验，与其投入程度成正比——即“你投入多少，就得着多

少”。作为一个志愿者机构，我们珍惜每位成员的付出。不论贡献的类型或多少，我们会平等地对待每位成员。我为球队提供了我个人的经验，而透过不断的付出和参与，我个人经验变得越来越丰富。雷鸟能够成为一个出色的冰球协会，主要是因为其会员。如果你认为你在某方面可以帮忙，或想在这方面多了解一些，请让我们知道。

Reserve Your Spot! 请预留位置

Registration for the Fall '14 session commencing in late August/early September will be opened shortly requiring placement of a refundable RMB 2,500 deposit to secure your player's spot with the Thunderbirds next season. With additional families joining STMHA from Sunshine Zero's Lightning team, and the planned move to a convenient new facility with more attractive ice times, spots may be limited so reserve your spot now!

2014年秋季课程（八月下旬/九月初开始）将于短期内开始报名，注册费订金（留位费）为2500元。因着更多球员家庭加盟雷鸟，再加上如上述所说，我们计划搬到一个既方便又新的大冰场运作，名额将有限，所以请尽早报名，预留位置。

Opening registration for next season (as well as holding the AGM) a bit earlier than in past years is deliberate and in recognition of the amount of planning and coordination required in advance of the completion of the current school year when many players and families head in separate directions for the summer. And for next season an enhanced amount of planning is required in the remaining months of this season in order to accommodate our collaboration with Sunshine Zero.

今年，我们特意提早秋季课程注册以及周年会员大会的时间，主要是希望能于学期完结及暑假开始前，把规划及调协工作完成。在余下的几个月时间内，我们须在秋季课程开始前，为与零度阳光合作计划进行大量的筹备工作。

More specific instructions regarding Fall registration will be coming shortly, get ready!

关于秋季报名的具体说明，将于短期内推出，请大家做好准备。

Be an Ambassador! 做雷鸟的大使！

If you feel positively about the Thunderbirds experience your player and family are having, do you actively share your feelings and promote the STMHA when you speak to other non-STMHA hockey families in Shanghai? I know the answer for many of us is a resounding 'YES!' – and I want to encourage all of our members to be equally as vocal as we all need to recognize that the fragmented nature of minor hockey in Shanghai, combined with the presence of aggressive, commercially oriented organizations poses a threat to us.

如果你和你的球员在雷鸟冰球队有正面而开心的经历，你有没有与非雷鸟的冰球家庭分享并推广我们的冰球课程呢？对许多会员而言，我知道答案一定是“有”。我希望鼓励更多的会员积极地发声。需知道上海青少年冰球运动缺乏系统性，再加上过分偏重商业利益而引发恶性攻击，这对我们协会构成威胁。

But more positively, as a membership organization each and every one of us can play a role in preserving and enhancing the Thunderbirds experience for current and future Thunderbirds by actively promoting the STMHA through sharing our own personal experiences, and sharing information about the content and execution style of our development programs that is unique in comparison to many of the other Shanghai hockey organizations. This approach is particularly important when our relative strengths, upon initial inspection, may not be as easily discerned in comparison to relatively more obvious assets of other Shanghai hockey organizations – obvious assets that may in fact be less meaningful in terms of the overall development experience.

更正面地，作为一个会员制的组织，每位会员可以透过分享在雷鸟的亲身经验和雷鸟独特的冰球课程内容及执行风格（有别于上海其他冰球俱乐部），为现在和将来的成员保存并提高雷鸟冰球的正面、积极体验。这对我

们是尤其重要，特别是当我们的相对优势，骤眼看来，比较起其他上海冰球俱乐部拥有明显的资产，并不是那么容易辨别得到。其实，拥有明显的资产，实际上在球员整体的发展经验方面，意义并不大。

So in addition to the Board of Directors' ongoing operational and strategic efforts to enhance the Thunderbirds experience, I'd ask all of our members to take advantage of opportunities that are presented from time to time to talk to other local hockey families and share your points of view – our members are our biggest asset, be a Thunderbirds Ambassador!

因此，除了董事会继续在运作及策略上提高球员在雷鸟的正面冰球经验，我要求所有会员把握每个时机，向其他冰球家庭分享你的体验和我们的优势——我们的会员是我们最大的资产。做雷鸟的冰球大使！

Respectfully, and on behalf of the Board of Directors,
尊敬的，并代表董事会，

Erik Eliason
STMHA President / 雷鸟主席