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WING LUNG BANK

Press Release

Three International Football Teams to Compete with Hong Kong League Selection at the Wing Lung Bank 2008 Lunar New Year Cup

16 January 2008, Hong Kong – The Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) announced today the three international football teams that are invited to compete with the Hong Kong League Selection for the championship title at the *Wing Lung Bank 2008 Lunar New Year Cup*, one of the greatest football events in Hong Kong. The three teams are Hajduk Split from Croatia, Penarol from Uruguay and Ulsan Hyundai from South Korea.

“HKFA is honoured to have Wing Lung Bank as the official sponsor of 2008 Lunar New Year Cup. This year, the three international teams from different continents have all been champions of their respective national football leagues. The tournament is sure to be an exciting one with a number of national players participating in the matches”, said Mr Brian Leung, Chairman of The Hong Kong Football Association at the press conference held at the Wing Lung Bank Head Office in Central.

“Wing Lung Bank celebrates its 75th Anniversary this year. As a local Chinese bank, Wing Lung has witnessed the tremendous progress of Hong Kong throughout these years. While we are commemorating our 75th Anniversary, we have joined hands with HKFA to organize this year’s Lunar New Year Cup by sponsoring the event. This event will definitely bring Hong Kong people great fun and joy during the Lunar New Year,” said Mr Samuel Wu, Senior Manager of Wing Lung Bank.

Caring for the community is one of the key priorities of Wing Lung Bank. The Bank has arranged with Shun Tak Fraternal Association to give out 600 free tickets to students from schools of the association in Tin Shui Wai to let them have the opportunity to enjoy the tournament.



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The Hong Kong League Selection Team, led by the famous team manager Mr Steven Lo, taking their host advantage, gets an early start in training in order to better prepare for the tournament.

The three international teams are all one of the best in their own country. The Penarol Football Club from Uruguay, one of the oldest football clubs in South America with 117 years history, has an impressive record of 36 Uruguay League championship titles and 3 times champions of the Liberators of the Americas Cup. Coming equally strong is the Hajduk Split Football Team from Croatia which has 16 championship titles in the Croatia League and currently has five footballers representing the Croatia National Football Team. Meanwhile, South Korea's Ulsan Hyundai Football Club will be a fierce contender, bringing with them 3 national team players. Since joining the Korea-League in 1984, Ulsan Hyundai has won 3 league championship and 5 first runner-up titles.

Matches of the Wing Lung Bank 2008 Lunar New Year Cup will be played on the first and the fourth day (i.e. 7 and 10 February 2008 respectively) of the Lunar New Year at the Hong Kong Stadium. There will also be a Lunar New Year carnival with various entertainments at the Stadium, bringing festive joy to the visitors.

The tournament, similar to previous ones, will be a knockout competition with two matches on the first day (7 February) and finals on the second day (10 February). The lots draw details will be announced later.

Tickets will be available for sale at Hong Kong Stadium and the HKFA Head Office in Homantin from 26 January 2008. Ticket prices are HKD150, HKD200, HKD280 and HKD380. Students and the elderly will be offered HKD100 special price tickets. A pair of Lunar New Year couplets will be given for every ticket purchased.



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Details of the matches of Wing Lung Bank 2008 Lunar New Year Cup:

Date : First and Fourth Day of Lunar New Year
7 February (Thursday) and 10 February 2008 (Sunday)

Kick off time : 7 February 2008 Match 1 3:00pm
Match 2 5:30pm
10 February 2008 3rd/4th Play off 3:00pm
Final 5:30pm

Teams : Hong Kong League Selection
Hajduk Split, Croatia
Penarol, Uruguay
Ulsan Hyundai, South Korea

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