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Immediate release

BEA and Blue Cross Insurance — Title Sponsors of the 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships

*“Pursuing Dreams, Creating Legends” photography and memorabilia exhibition features
Hong Kong elite fencers*

Hong Kong, 3rd November, 2022 – The Hong Kong Fencing Association (“HKFA”) today announced that the ‘BEA x Blue Cross 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships’ will be held on 3rd and 4th of December, 2022, co-sponsored by The Bank of East Asia, Limited (“BEA”) and Blue Cross (Asia-Pacific) Insurance Limited (“Blue Cross”).

In the run up to the tournament, a photography and memorabilia exhibition titled “Pursuing Dreams, Creating Legends” will run from 4th to 6th November, 2022 at Festival Walk. The launch ceremony, held earlier today, was officiated by Mr Wally Yeung, Chairman of the Hong Kong Fencing Association, Mr Adrian Li, Co-Chief Executive of BEA and Ms Bonnie Tse, Chief Executive Officer of Blue Cross.

Elite fencers Mr Edgar Cheung Ka Long and Mr Shawn Cheung Siu Lun attended the ceremony and were joined by a group of young fencing athletes, including Ms Daphne Chan Lok Sze, top Female Junior Foil Fencer, Ms Sit Summer Fay, gold medallist in the 2022 Asian Under-23 Fencing Championships Women’s Team Sabre, Ms Janelle Leung Ya Lei, gold medallist in the 2022 Asian Junior & Cadet Fencing Championships Women’s Foil and Mr Royce Chan Lok Hei, ranked first Male Junior Sabre Fencer. All of them will take part in the upcoming ‘BEA x Blue Cross 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships’ in December, under the leadership of Mr Zheng Kang Zhao, Head Coach of the Hong Kong Fencing Team.

The exhibition will display memorabilia, including the game-worn fencing shoes of Mr Edgar Cheung Ka Long, the fencing glove worn by Mr Shawn Cheung Siu Lun, as well as other items such as fencing blades and chest protectors used by the Hong Kong Fencing Team members, to promote fencing to the local community. In addition, a total of eight fencing workshops will be organised with the aim of increasing youth participation in the sport.



“We are excited to have BEA and Blue Cross Insurance as our co-title sponsors this year. The BEA x Blue Cross 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships will be held on 3rd and 4th December, 2022. In addition to the senior category, this year’s event will include the under-14 category so that both adults and young fencers can participate. Under the 0+3 inbound arrangement, it is our hope that more overseas fencers will participate in the Championships, fostering both fencing and athletic exchange for this special event. Competition inspires progress, growth and passion, this Championships will be an excellent training ground for all Hong Kong fencers, especially for the young players.” said Mr Wally Yeung, Chairman of the Hong Kong Fencing Association.

Ms Bonnie Tse, Chief Executive Officer of Blue Cross, added, “Blue Cross has been working with the Hong Kong Fencing Association for the past seven years to promote fencing in Hong Kong. In addition to sponsoring the Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships, we also actively support various youth training programmes in fencing to nurture the next generation of young fencers. Over 3,000 young people have been participated in and benefited from these programmes. We are delighted to see the growing popularity of fencing in Hong Kong in recent years and the remarkable results achieved by the junior fencers of the Hong Kong team. We hope that the public will continue to support our local athletes and sports development in the community.”

Mr Adrian Li, Co-Chief Executive of BEA, said in his welcome remarks: “We at BEA are proud to sponsor the 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships and support our local athletes. Like them, our bank shares a constant pursuit of excellence that embodies the Hong Kong spirit. We look forward to continuing our work with the Hong Kong Fencing Association to engage the local community, and promote this fine sport to a new generation.”

As in previous years, the “BEA x Blue Cross Best Hong Kong Fencer Award” will be given to the 24 Hong Kong fencers who achieve the best results in the Men’s and Women’s open categories of Foil, Epée and Sabre, with prizes totalling over HK\$100,000.

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“Pursuing Dreams, Creating Legends” Photography and Memorabilia Exhibition:

Date: 4–6 November 2022 (3 days)
Location: Level LG2, Festival Walk, Kowloon Tong

Experiential Fencing Workshops:

Date: 5–6 November 2022 (Saturday & Sunday)
Venue: Level LG2, Festival Walk, Kowloon Tong

About The Bank of East Asia, Limited

Incorporated in 1918, The Bank of East Asia, Limited (“BEA”) is a leading Hong Kong- based financial services group listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong, with total consolidated assets of HK\$900.5 billion (US\$116.0 billion) as of 30th June, 2021.

BEA provides a comprehensive range of corporate banking, personal banking, wealth management, and investment services to customers through an extensive network of about 150 outlets covering Hong Kong, the rest of Greater China, Southeast Asia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. For more information, please visit www.hkbea.com.

About Blue Cross Insurance

Blue Cross (Asia Pacific) Insurance Company Limited (“Blue Cross”), a subsidiary of AIA Group Limited. With over 50 years of operational experience in the insurance industry, Blue Cross provides a comprehensive range of products and services including medical, travel, and general insurance, which cater to the needs of both individual and corporate customers.

In 2022, Blue Cross is assigned the Financial Strength Rating of A (Excellent) and the Long-Term Issuer Credit Rating of “a” (Excellent) by AM Best, a global rating agency and information provider with a unique focus on the insurance industry. For the latest rating, please access www.ambest.com. For business details, please access: www.bluecross.com.hk.

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Photo Captions:



1. Hong Kong fencer Mr Shawn Cheung Siu Lun (3rd from the right), together with young fencing athletes, including Ms Daphne Chan Lok Sze (2nd from the left), Ms Sit Summer Fay (1st from the left), Mr Leung Nga Lui (1st of the right) and Mr Chan Lok Hei (2nd from the right) will take part in the 'BEA x Blue Cross 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships' next month. At today's launch ceremony, they joined Ms Bonnie Tse (3rd from the left), Chief Executive Officer of Blue Cross, Mr Wally Yeung (4th from the left), Chairman of the Hong Kong Fencing Association and Mr Adrian Li (4th from the right), Co-Chief Executive of BEA for a group photo.





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2. (From left to right) Ms Bonnie Tse, Chief Executive Officer of Blue Cross, Mr Wally Yeung, Chairman of the Hong Kong Fencing Association and Mr Adrian Li, Co-Chief Executive of BEA officiate the launch ceremony of the 'BEA x Blue Cross 2022 Hong Kong Open Fencing Championships'.



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3. The "Pursuing Dreams, Creating Legends" photography and memorabilia exhibition will run from 4th to 6th November, 2022 at Festival Walk, featuring showcases of memorabilia from Hong Kong elite fencers including Mr Edgar Cheung Ka Long and Mr Shawn Cheung Siu Lun.