

Speech by Mrs. Grace Chan at Tee-Off Ceremony on 28 November, 2012

Dear friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning! On behalf of the Hong Kong Blind Sports Federation, a very warm welcome to you all and thanks very much for taking part in the 1<sup>st</sup> Hong Kong International Golf Tournament for All despite this cold weather.

Yesterday we just finished one day blind golf tournament at which 19 of our blind golfers from Australia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Hong Kong competed seriously and bravely under very cold weather, temperature was as low as 10 degree. Let's give a big applause to our blind golfers for their perseverance!

This morning our blind golfers have started the 2<sup>nd</sup> day tournament as early as 7 a.m. and I know that the competition results so far between the Australian, Japanese and Korean Teams are very close and we shall know which team will be the team champion later in the afternoon.

Today thanks to the great support of Golf 18 Club, our Co-organizer, we shall have about 100 people with and without visual impairment coming together to compete in this Golf Tournament with one objective, that is, to promote an inclusive society and to arouse the public awareness on the abilities of the blind. Needless to say your support and participation in this tournament will set a milestone in the blind golf development in Hong Kong. In addition, this tournament will be a great experience for our Hong Kong blind golfers as they will have the opportunities to exchange and share golfing skills with international blind golfers. To this end, we should thank International Blind Golf Association (IBGA) which is represented by our long time friend, Mr. David Blyth, IBGA Immediate Past President, today who supported us to acquire a grant from IBGA for organizing this tournament.

So thank you all and may I wish this tournament a great success and hope all our friends will have a great fun day today!