

Summary of Decisions of the Structural Engineering Committee
SEC 7/2008 held on 23.09.2008

(a) Case 7/2008

Issue: Wind speed for assessing wind load on golf nets

Recommendation: To accept a gust wind speed of 38.7 m/s at 45m above general terrain (corresponding to a typhoon signal no. T1) be used in assessing the wind load on the golf nets which will be lowered when:

- (a) the golf driving range is closed, or
- (b) a typhoon signal no. T3 or higher is hoisted by HK Observatory, or
- (c) any one of the anemometers installed at the top of the net towers at the 4 corners of the site measures a gust wind speed reaching 25 m/s.

Decision: Members endorsed the recommendations subject to the following conditions:

- (a) a satisfactory analysis of wind speed records, including the use of appropriate wind speed record data and analysis method;
- (b) an effective management team be appointed to supervise and ensure the proper operation of the automatic golf net lowering system under the preset conditions and suitable procedures be in place to activate the lowering of golf nets in case of malfunction of the automated means;
- (c) the preset conditions for lowering of the golf nets shall be:
 - (i) at all times while the golf driving range is closed; or
 - (ii) while a tropical cyclone warning signal T3 or higher is hoisted; or
 - (iii) any one of the anemometers installed at the top of the net towers at the 4 corners of the site recorded a gust wind speed reaching 25 m/s.
- (d) a notice board stating clearly the preset conditions given in item (c) above be displayed at a conspicuous location for the attention of the players;
- (e) advance warning to closure of the golf driving range be given to the players by the management company when the recorded wind speed mentioned in item (c)(iii) above exceeds 20 m/s;
- (f) the golf net towers with the golf net lowered be designed in accordance with the Code of Practice on Wind Effects in Hong Kong 2004;
- (g) the permeability of the golf net be considered in assessing the wind load thereon; and the golf towers and nets, when erected, be designed for the appropriate wind loads in accordance with the size of the net holes adopted for the driving range.