

## **Press Release**

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### **Ngong Ping 360 presents Gold Medal Rope Skippers 360 The world champion rope skipping team's first public performance in Hong Kong Timothy Ho and Tommy Chow lead the team to a new record for the 30-Second Front Flip in Double Dutch**

(Hong Kong, 24 August 2016) As an important tourist attraction in Hong Kong, Ngong Ping 360 is devoted to promoting local arts and sports. Apart from launching Ngong Ping 360's Got Talent in 2014 to identify talented local performers, we collaborated with Mr Raman Hui, a local movie director dubbed the "Father of Shrek", on his production Monster Hunt in 2015. This autumn, we have invited the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Team 01 (Hong Kong Team 01), the champion team of the 2016 World Rope Skipping Championships, to give their first full-team public performance since the tournament. Local citizens and international guests will be able to catch a glimpse of the team's outstanding speed, endurance and skills.

With a common Hong Kong origin, Ngong Ping 360 and Hong Kong Team 01 have gained worldwide recognition. In the past two years, Ngong Ping 360 has been selected as one of the "Cable cars: 10 amazing rides around the world" by The Daily Telegraph in the UK and named amongst "10 of the world's most amazing cable car experiences" by CNN.com in the USA. Hong Kong's Rope Skipping Team won 79 medals at the World Rope Skipping Championships, which ended on 2 August. Our collaboration will support the sustainable development of the sports and tourism industries in Hong Kong.

### **World champion rope skipping team's first live public performance after the tournament**

Following his triumph at the World Rope Skipping Championships, Mr Ken Cheng, coach of Hong Kong Team 01, led the members to attend the Gold Medal Rope Skippers 360 Press Conference, which was officiated by Mr John Tsang, HKSAR Financial Secretary, and Dr Stella Kwan, Managing Director of Ngong Ping 360, at Ngong Ping 360 today. The team are Timothy Ho, first Chinese World Champion of Rope Skipping, Tommy Chow, first Chinese Individual Freestyle Champion of Rope Skipping, Angus Wong, Parco Shum and Man Lau. During the press conference, Dr Kwan said "the international challenge tournament that took place at Ngong Ping Village last year forged a bond between Ngong Ping 360 and Timothy Ho. We are delighted to see the return of this renowned athlete and invite the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Team to give their first public performance here at Ngong Ping 360". She went on to say that Ngong Ping 360 was dedicated to identifying local talents from the wide pool in Hong Kong. "We intend to provide an international performance platform for our outstanding Hong Kong Rope Skipping Team to demonstrate Hong Kong's very own Lion Rock spirit".

Mr John Tsang, who is a sports enthusiast, praised the team's performance at the press conference: "I watched their astonishing performance online earlier. Today, I am thrilled to be able to witness it live and that Ngong Ping 360 has invited them to perform, allowing Hong Kong citizens and overseas tourists to take delight in their skills, too."

### **Timothy Ho and Tommy Chow lead the team to set a record for the 30-Second Front Flip in Double Dutch**

Apart from their first rope skipping performance, Hong Kong Team 01 set a new record for the 30-Second Front Flip in the Double Dutch category in Hong Kong by performing 14 front flips in 30 seconds. Coach Cheng expressed his excitement after the new record had been set. "As long as you are willing to persevere, you can make the impossible possible, which is the Hong Kong spirit", he enthused.

Timothy Ho also performed a 30-second double jump rope challenge completing 92 skips in 30 seconds. "I was at Ngong Ping 360 in 2015 participating in an international challenge tournament and am happy to be back for a new challenge with my teammates today", he said. "This place means a lot to me as it has witnessed our achievements. Please continue to support the rope skipping team, rope skipping, Hong Kong athletes and Ngong Ping 360."

Guests can be able to take on a simple or double jump challenge and be named on the Champion Challenge Board on selected dates. The participant who records the highest number of jumps each day will receive two 360 Fun Passes (Crystal Cabin), and those who can successfully match Timothy Ho's record in the double jump will receive Ngong Ping 360 Private Cabin Service (Crystal Cabin) together with a certificate issued by the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Club.

### **World Champion Rope Skipping Performance at Ngong Ping Village open to the public**

There will be two rope skipping performances by Hong Kong Team 01 at Ngong Ping Village on 28 August and 11, 18 and 25 September (Please refer to the appendix for details). The performances will be open to the public free of charge, so Hong Kong citizens and international guests will be able to enjoy the amazing performance of the World Champion Rope Skipping Team.

### **Rope Skipping Workshop by the Gold Medal Coach**

Coach Cheng today taught rope skipping to a group of 10 children who were recruited by the InspiringHK Sports Foundation from Tin Shui Wai and Tuen Mun. He will further instruct 40 Hong Kong children aged 4-11 on the 4 performance days. Registration for the workshops will open on 25 August on the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Club's Facebook page. Selected participants will enjoy a free cable car ride on the workshop day. Participants who complete the workshop

will be awarded a certificate from Coach Cheng and will be invited to have their photo taken with the World Champion Rope Skipping Team as a memento.

### **Increase in visitors to Ngong Ping 360 in the first half of 2016**

At the press conference, Dr Kwan added that “although the number of tourists visiting Hong Kong has not recovered steadily, a 7.6% increase in overall visitors to Ngong Ping 360 in the first half of 2016 was recorded as there were 6 more operating days compared to last year. The highest growth rates were recorded for Philippines (+58.2%), Thailand (+50.7%) and India (+28.3%). We anticipate that more Hong Kong citizens and international guests will be attracted to Ngong Ping 360 through our Gold Medal Rope Skippers 360 event.”

### **About Ngong Ping 360**

As an important tourist attraction located on Lantau Island in Hong Kong, Ngong Ping 360 offers an exciting opportunity for guests to experience a unique natural and cultural experience. The Ngong Ping Cable Car stretches 5.7 km from Tung Chung to Ngong Ping. Guests can visit the Chinese architecturally designed Ngong Ping Village, where they can enjoy a range of dining, shopping and entertainment options and culturally themed attractions, including Stage 360, Motion 360 and Walking with Buddha.

The Ngong Ping Cable Car is a rare example of a bi-cable gondola circulating lift system, and is also the longest aerial cable car of its kind in Asia. It offers a visually spectacular 25-minute journey with panoramic views of the flora and fauna of North Lantau Country Park, Tung Chung Bay and the Hong Kong International Airport.

Ngong Ping 360 received the CILT Award 2013 – Enterprise Award presented by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK) in 2014. It was also selected as one of the “Cable cars: 10 amazing rides around the world” in the same year by The Daily Telegraph in the UK and named as amongst “10 of the world's most amazing cable car experiences” by CNN.com in the USA in 2015. Ngong Ping 360 also won the “Certificate of Excellence 2015” from TripAdvisor.

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\*The athletes entered the competition and now the awards on behalf of the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Association, China.

Photos:

1. HKSAR Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang and Ngong Ping 360 Managing Director, Dr Stella Kwan enjoyed the cable car ride with a fascinating view of Lantau.



2. Mr Tsang, Dr Stella Kwan, Coach of Hong Kong Rope Skipping Team, Mr Ken Cheng, and team members, Timothy Ho, Tommy Chow, Angus Wong, Parco Shum and Man Lau, excitedly take selfies together on stage.







3. Mr Tsang, Dr Kwan, Coach Cheng and the team skipping long ropes with a group of children recruited by the InspiringHK Sports Foundation.



4. The team setting a new Hong Kong record for the 30-Second Front Flip in the Double Dutch category.



5. Mr Tsang and Dr Kwan witness the new record.



6. The first Chinese World Champion of Rope Skipping, Timothy Ho, performing a 30-second double jump.



7. The first Chinese Individual Freestyle Champion of Rope Skipping, Tommy Chow giving an individual performance of freestyle rope skipping.





### Appendix 1: Gold Medal Rope Skippers 360 Programme

Programme	Venue and Time
<p><u>World Champion Rope Skipping Performance</u></p> <p>Ngong Ping 360 has invited the World Champion Rope Skipping Team to demonstrate their rope skipping skills and give a group performance. Hong Kong residents and international guests can enjoy the spectacular jump rope performance.</p>	<p>Dates: 28 August and 11, 18 and 25 September</p> <p>Times: 14:30, 16:30 (15 minutes per session)</p> <p>Venue: Ngong Ping Village</p> <p>Free of charge</p>
<p><u>Rope Skipping Workshop</u></p> <p>Stay tuned to the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Club's Facebook page for enrolment details. Leave a comment to tell us why you want to learn rope skipping. The most creative answers and the commenters most eager to learn rope skipping will be selected by Ken Cheng. Selected participants* will enjoy a free cable car ride on the day of the Rope Skipping Workshop. Upon completion of the workshop, participants will receive a certificate presented by Ken Cheng and have the chance to take photos with the World Champion Rope Skipping Team.</p> <p>*Children entering the rope skipping workshop are required to present a valid identity document or Hong Kong Birth Certificate.</p>	<p>Dates: 28 August and 11, 18 and 25 September</p> <p>Time: 14:45-15:45</p> <p>Venue: Ngong Ping Village</p> <p>Quota: 10 people per day (40 people in total for four days)</p> <p>Free of charge</p>
<p><u>30-Second Double Jump Rope Challenge</u></p> <p>The first Chinese World Champion Timothy Ho set a record of 92 jumps in 30 seconds in the Double Jump Rope category. Guests can take up the challenge in either the simple jump or double jump event and be named on the Champion Challenge Board. The participant with the highest daily record will receive 2 of 360 Fun Passes (Crystal Cabin), while participants who</p>	<p>Dates: 28 August and 11, 18 and 25 September</p> <p>Time: 15:45 – 16:15</p> <p>Venue: Ngong Ping Village</p> <p>Free of charge</p>



<p>match Timothy Ho's success in the double jump will receive Ngong Ping 360 Private Cabin Service (Crystal Cabin) together with a certificate issued by the Hong Kong Rope Skipping Club.</p>	
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