

Bio & Policy Statement from A Nominee for Second Vice President Board of Governors 2023-2024

Tim HUXLEY Affiliation: Mandarin Shipping



With COVID related restrictions behind us and the uncertainty of the lease renewal clarified, hopefully the year ahead will be less stressful for the Board, membership and staff of our club. There remain plenty of challenges ahead, hence why I am seeking your support for another term as Second Vice President.

The renewal of our lease was clearly a huge relief and the upturn in new members joining together with increased utilization of the Club has helped put us on track to putting the losses of the past few years behind us. We still have some way to go to bring membership numbers up to pre-COVID levels and hence I remain committed to ensuring that Club continues to offer great value and attracts a wide range of interesting speakers and events which will appeal to existing and future members. Whilst the improvement in our finances over the last quarter means we can proceed with the essential maintenance work we have scheduled, we are not immune to the twin foes of inflation and the shortage of staff in the F&B industry, hence prudent stewardship of all aspects of our operations must remain a priority.

Most important of all is that the new Board ensures the continued health of the FCC by always acting in the interests of its members. The Board of Governors are answerable to you, our shareholders, and have a legal obligation to act in your interests and act within the law. The FCC often comes in for criticism from non-members and some former members, but we are first and foremost a private members club with an obligation to those who have committed to membership and are hence our shareholders. I know that the vast majority of our members want to see the FCC continue in its current form. Whilst we can and should play a role in the wider community, we are not an advocacy group or trade union. That is why I believe any statements made by the FCC should only be made with the unanimous approval of the entire Board.

There will be plenty of changes over the coming year with the arrival of a new General Manager and Financial Controller. After surviving the tribulations of the past few years, there is no reason why these changes cannot be undertaken smoothly and I hope that having some continuity on the Board will help that transition. I look forward to serving your interests for another year.

Bio: Tim Huxley has been an FCC member for over twenty five years. He is the founder and Chairman of Hong Kong based shipowner Mandarin Shipping and also a Director of a number of prominent shipping related companies in Asia and Europe. In addition, he is the Chairman of Hong Kong based publisher Studio 8 Editions and is a regular commentator on shipping issues in the media as well as being the presenter of RTHK Radio 3's coverage of the Macau Grand Prix.