

Operator fined for illegal club operation

A man was fined \$4,500 at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (September 29) for contravening the Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance.

The courts heard that in August last year, officers from the Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA) of the Home Affairs Department conducted an inspection at a club on Yee Wo Street in Causeway Bay, which had been operating with a certificate of compliance (CoC).

During the investigation, the OLA officers found that the club had a layout that deviated from the registered drawing. The OLA officers also found that the number of people at the club exceeded the maximum allowable capacity as stipulated in the CoC, and the club's staff failed to show the registered drawing upon the OLA officers' request. Conditions 3, 6 and 10 of the CoC were breached. The man, being the CoC holder of the club, was charged with contravening section 21(2) of the Ordinance.

A spokesman for the department reminded all CoC holders to comply with the conditions as stipulated therein. Enforcement action will continue to be taken against illegal club operations.