

2013 Sports News

Table Tennis Academy Wins 6 National Colours, 7 Zone Awards, 3 Team Awards

By Jansen Yeo
Strategic Communications Executive



Singapore Sports School won a record 162 Zone Awards and 102 National Colours this year. Additionally, the various sports academies won 33 Team Awards, presented to teams that finished in the top 4 of the national round of competition.

Bowler Darren Ong Wei Siong and football player Irfan Fandi Ahmad were named the Best School Boy in their sport, as were table tennis player Ang Wan Qi and shooter Martina Lindsay P Veloso for the Best School Girl awards. This is the second year that Darren and Wan Qi have been singled out for special recognition.

Alumnus Calvin Kang Li Loong, who had represented Singapore at four major competitions before he was 20 years old – 2007 Nakhon Ratchasima Southeast Asian Games, Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games and Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games – was the guest-of-honour at the School's presentation ceremony on 23 September 2013.

The recipients of Zone Awards and National Colours in the Table Tennis

Academy are:

Ang Wan Qi 3rd National, 3rd Zone, Best School Girl (Table Tennis)

Darren Loy Meng Hean 1st National, 1st Zone

Edric Lim Zheng Jie 3rd National, 3rd Zone

Ethan Poh Shao Feng 2nd Zone

Gladys Wong Yan Lin 1st National, 1st Zone

Maxxe Tay Ming Han 1st National, 1st Zone

Yee Heng Hwee 3rd National, 4th Zone

National Colours Team Awards

C Division Boys

C Division Girls

B Division Girls

Keen To Make An Impression

The likes of China, Japan and South Korea will start as favourites for the table tennis competition at the Nanjing 2013 Asian Youth Games but Singapore's paddlers will look to make a strong impression with national paddler Yee Heng Hwee, 16, in the forefront of the competition. A member of the national women's table tennis team since 2012, Heng Hwee won the Women's Team gold medal at the 2013 Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships in Delhi, India.

Heng Hwee has also helped Singapore dominate regional competitions. She won gold medals in the Under 18 Girls Doubles and Team events and a silver medal in the Under 18 Mixed Doubles event at the 2013 Southeast Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships.

Joining Heng Hwee in Team Singapore's lineup for the Nanjing 2013 Asian Youth Games is teammate Edric Lim Zheng Jie. Edric, 16, is a member of Singapore Table Tennis Association's National Youth Development programme. He has been traveling extensively, competing in various tournaments on the International Table Tennis Federation Junior Circuit, in countries such as Bahrain, France, Sweden and Thailand.

Schoolmate Angeline Tang An Qi, 15, will be representing Malaysia at the Games.

The three paddlers are part of the 29-strong Singapore Sports School contingent

competing at the Nanjing 2013 Asian Youth Games. A total of 84 youth athletes will be representing Singapore at the Games.



**Angeline Tang An Qi, 15 (Representing Malaysia)
Table Tennis**

Angeline Tang An Qi, a Singapore Youth Olympic Scholar from Malaysia based at Singapore Sports School since 2011, won four gold medals in the Under 15 Girls Singles and Team events, and the Under 18 Girls Singles and Team events at the 2012 Penang Table Tennis Youth Championships.

Angeline also finished second in the Under 15 Singles and Team events at the 2012 Malaysia Table Tennis Youth Championships. This year, she went one better, winning the Under 15 Girls Singles, Doubles and Team golds at the 2013 Malaysia Table Tennis Youth Championships.

Representing Malaysia at the 2013 Southeast Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships, Angeline won a gold medal in the Under 15 Girls Doubles, a silver medal in the Team event and a bronze medal in the Singles.

Angeline was a member of the Singapore Sports School team that won back-to-back National Schools Table Tennis Championships in the “C” Division Girls in 2012 and “B” Division Girls in 2013.



Edric Lim Zheng Jie, 16
Table Tennis

Edric Lim Zheng Jie has been a member of Singapore Table Tennis Association's National Youth Development programme since 2011. In the last two years, Edric has travelled extensively, competing in various tournaments on the International Table Tennis Federation Junior Circuit, in countries such as Bahrain, France, Sweden and Thailand.

Representing Singapore at the 2012 Southeast Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships, Edric won a silver medal in the Under 15 Boys Team event and a bronze medal in the Under 15 Boys Doubles.

Edric is on Singapore Sports School's "School-Within-A-School" programme, where he trains in the day and attends academic lessons in the evening.



Yee Heng Hwee, 16
Table Tennis

Yee Heng Hwee was promoted to the Singapore National Women's Team in

2012. As a member of the Singapore team, she won the Women's Team gold medal at the 2013 Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships in Delhi, India.

Herng Hwee had also won a silver medal in the Women's Team and a bronze medal in the Women's Doubles at the 2012 Southeast Asian Table Tennis Championships in Vientiane, Laos.

On the Junior circuit, Herng Hwee has been winning medals in regional competitions. She was the Under 15 Girls Doubles champion with Singapore Sports School teammate Ang Wan Qi at the 2012 Southeast Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships. This year, she won gold medals in the Under 18 Girls Doubles and Team events and a silver medal in the Under 18 Mixed Doubles event.

Herng Hwee led Singapore Sports School to the National Schools Games "B" Division Girls Table Tennis title, beating Raffles Girls School's Li Jiaxin 3-2, to win the match and the title in April 2013. She had also won the Under 17 Girls Individual gold medal.

Clarence Wins 3 Golds At SEA Juniors, Signs Off In Style

By Jansen Yeo
Strategic Communications Executive



Singapore Sports School alumnus Clarence Chew Zhe Yu signed off on his final appearance at the 19th Southeast Asian Juniors Table Tennis Championships in style, winning 3 golds and 1 silver as Team Singapore topped the medal table with a total of 8 gold, 4 silver and 5 bronze medals. The 17-year-old, who will be over-aged for next year's championships, won gold medals in the Under 18 Boys' Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles, and a silver medal in the Team event.

Clarence edged out T Padasak of Thailand in a tightly contested final, coming back from two sets down to win the Singles gold medal 7-11, 5-11, 11-8, 11-7, 11-6, 9-11, 11-5. He partnered Kerry Tan Kiat Yi to the Doubles gold medal and with Lin Ye, he picked up his third gold medal in the Mixed Doubles. However, he had to settle for silver as the Singapore team, which also includes Sports School alumnus Tay Jit Kiat, lost to Thailand in the Team final. Jit Kiat, who is also competing in his final Sea Juniors Table Tennis Championships, added a bronze medal in the Mixed Doubles with Singapore Sports School student-athlete Ang Wan Qi.

Wan Qi and Sports School teammate Yee Heng Hwee returned from the Sea Juniors Table Tennis Championships, held in Manila from 12 to 16 July 2013, with two gold medals apiece. Wan Qi, a Singapore Youth Olympic Scholar, won the Under 15 Girls' Singles and partnered fellow Sports School student-athlete Gladys Wong Yan Lin to the Under 15 Girls' Team gold. The pair also won the Under 15 Girls' Doubles bronze medal.

Heng Hwee won the gold in the Under 18 Girls' Team event and teamed up with Lin Ye to clinch the Under 18 Girls' Doubles. Heng Hwee and partner, Kerry Tan, won the Mixed Doubles silver medal, after losing to Clarence Chew and Lin Ye.

The Sports School pair of Darren Loy Meng Hean and Maxxe Tay Ming Han won two silver medals in the Under 15 Boys' Doubles and Team events. Darren also won a bronze in the Under 15 Boys' Singles event after losing to Malaysian Leong Chee Feng in the semi-finals.

Sports School student-athlete Angeline Tang An Qi, also a Singapore Youth Olympic Scholar and representing Malaysia, won a gold medal in the Under 15 Girls' Doubles event with partner Amanda Wong. Angeline, picked up a silver medal in the Under 15 Girls' Team event, losing to schoolmates Wan Qi and Gladys.

Janina For Latin America At 2013 ITTF World Cadet Challenge

By Jansen Yeo
Strategic Communications Executive



Janina Sophia Herrera Nieto has been selected to represent the Latin American team to compete at the 2013 International Table Tennis Federation World Cadet Challenge in Slovenia from 23 October to 4 November. Janina, a Singapore Youth Olympic Scholar, was among the top eight paddlers in the Girls' Under 15 singles event at the Lima 2013 Latin American Championships, held from 16 to 22 June 2013. From this group of eight, the four paddlers with the highest ITTF ranking points competed in a special qualifying round where Janina won all three of her matches to confirm her spot for the Latin American team. She will have the opportunity to pit her skills against the best Under 15 paddlers from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and North America in Slovenia.

Janina had spent her June holidays competing in the Latin American Championships and the ITTF Junior Circuit Open, held at the Peruvian capital of Lima. Besides sealing her qualification to the Latin American team, she won a bronze medal in the Girls' Under 15 team event at the Lima 2013 Latin American Championships. She followed that with another bronze medal in the Girls' Under 15 team event and a gold medal in the Girls' Under 15 doubles event at the ITTF Junior Circuit Open, organised from 23 to 27 June 2013.

Isabelle Li Gets \$100,000 To Boost Olympic Dream

By Jansen Yeo

Strategic Communications Executive



Representing Singapore at the Olympic Games has always been Isabelle Li Siyun's objective and she enrolled into Singapore Sports School for the purpose of strengthening her footing to achieve this goal.

"The School guided me through my formative years, with strong emphasis placed on balancing studies and sport, as well as on character development. The customised programme to suit my academic and sporting needs ensured my continued development as a student-athlete. With support from staff and my teammates, I have been able to strive for my goals, one of which is to compete at the Olympic Games," said Isabelle.

Isabelle is so determined to realise her dream that she has decided to defer her tertiary education until after the Rio de Janeiro 2016 Olympic Games. She will graduate from the Republic Polytechnic-Singapore Sports School Diploma in Sports and Leisure Management programme next year and go on to train full time with the national table tennis team. Isabelle is the top academic student in the DSLM programme.

Her dedication to her sport has not gone unnoticed, with local engineering and real estate firm Tee International Limited coming in with a cash donation of

\$100,000 to support her dream. About two-thirds of this amount, to be disbursed over three years, will be used to fund Isabelle's overseas training and competition programme. The rest of the money will be set aside for Isabelle's university education.

"It's always encouraging knowing that there are people behind you, giving their full support and helping you in every way they can. Tee International Limited is a local company that has turned dreams into reality and I am inspired to work hard to realise the dreams that I have, too," said Isabelle.

Isabelle may have taken a step closer to achieving her Olympic dream but first, she has set her sights on winning medals at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, which will serve as her platform for Olympic glory.

Next up on Isabelle's packed schedule will the China Open from 12 to 16 June 2013, and the 2013 Asian Championships from 30 June to 7 July 2013.

Isabelle Li Qualifies For Main Draw In World Championships



Alumnus Isabelle Li Siyun beat Neda Shahsavari in straight sets on 14 May 2013 to secure a place in the main draw of the Liebherr 2013 World Table Tennis Championships in Paris, France.

The left-handed Neda Shahsavari from Iran, a competitor at the London 2012 Olympic Games, bowed out of the preliminary round after Isabelle made short work of her in 11-7, 11-3, 12-10, 11-5.

According to International Table Tennis Federation Publications Editor Ian Marshall, Neda Shahsavari possesses a strong forehand top spin stroke; being a South paw, her natural forehand attacking stroke is across the diagonal, into the backhand of Isabelle.

“However, the 18-year-old Singaporean was able to adjust and caused problems for Neda Shahsavari who has experienced minimal opportunities against the defensive style of play,” he observed.

For the record, Isabelle did not make it past the next round.

Click [here](#) to listen to Isabelle's post-match interview, courtesy of ITTF.

Herng Hwee Tips Title In Sport School's Favour

By Jansen Yeo

Executive, Strategic Communications



National paddler Yee Herng Hwee was the toast of the team as she held her nerves to beat Raffles Girls School's Li Jiaxin 3-2 in the decisive Singles match to help Singapore Sports School win the National Schools Games "B" Division Girls' title.

The table tennis final at the Pasir Ris Sports and Recreation Centre on 23 April 2013 saw Ang Wan Qi and the Doubles pairing of team captain Or Zann Minn and Gladys Wong winning their respective matches to give Sports School a 2-0 lead. RGS pulled level to 2-2 before Herng Hwee carried her team across the finish line with a hard-fought victory – 11-9, 3-11, 11-5, 6-11, 11-5.

On 19 April, Herng Hwee won the gold medal in the Individual event and teammate Ethan Poh won the "C" Division Boys' Individual gold medal.

Table Tennis Academy clinch three North Zone titles

Congratulations to our Table Tennis Academy for bringing back not one but three Zone titles! The final took place last Friday, 15th Feb, at the Naval Base Secondary School table tennis hall. The atmosphere at the tournament venue was electrifying; roars of cheers from all schools rooting for their teams . Fighting for every point, our paddlers put up a strong challenge against our opponents, winning the 'B' Boys category with a score of 3-2 against Maris Stella while our 'C' Division boys were defeated against the team from the same school with a score of 2-3. Our girls swept the 'B' and 'C' Division North Zone titles when they were up against St. Nicholas Girls' School. Both teams won with a score of 3-0. Congratulations to the table tennis team for winning our first Zone titles for 2013!