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**PARA SWIMMER SOPHIE SOON ANNOUNCED AS FLAGBEARER FOR SOLO 2022
ASEAN PARA GAMES OPENING CEREMONY**

- 37 athletes across nine sports selected for the Games
- 16 athletes to make their ASEAN Para Games debut
- Renewed commitment of Athletes Achievement Awards, with highest incentives for para athletes to date



Flag presentation ceremony for the Solo 2022 ASEAN Para Games held at the National Stadium. Photo: SNPC

Swimmer Sophie Soon has been named as the flagbearer and will lead Team Singapore at the Opening Ceremony of the Solo 2022 ASEAN Para Games.

The Opening Ceremony will be held on Saturday, 30 July at Manahan Stadium.

This is Sophie's second appearance at the ASEAN Para Games after making her debut at the 2015 Games in Singapore.

"Being selected flagbearer is such an amazing honour that I didn't expect," said Sophie, who also competed at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

"I want to thank my family, teammates and coach for all of their support. I would not be in this position or be the athlete I am without them."

A mix of youth and experience to lead the way forward

Singapore's athletes will take part in nine (9) sports at the Games. There will be 16 athletes making their ASEAN Para Games debut

The two other Paralympians who competed at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, Nur Syahidah Alim (Para Archery) and Muhammad Diroy Noordin (Para Athletics), will lend their major games experience to the Team Singapore contingent.

Dr Teo-Koh Sock Miang, President, SNPC believes that this mix of youth and experience bodes well for Singapore's aspirations for continued success at major games.

"We have several promising athletes who are really looking forward to competing in their first Games," said Dr Teo-Koh.

"The number of young, up-and-coming athletes in this Team is a clear sign that our para sport ecosystem – from talent identification at grassroots level onwards – is on the right path.

I am confident that the contingent will do Singapore proud, inspiring others to pursue sports and follow in their footsteps.”

Renewal of Athletes Achievement Awards

These ASEAN Para Games will be the first major Games that will see a revised Athletes Achievement Awards, with the incentives higher than ever before.

The Tote Board and DBS are the primary sponsors of the AAA which provides a cash award to athletes who win gold, silver or bronze medals at the Asian Para Games, Commonwealth Games, and Paralympic Games, and gold medals at the ASEAN Para Games.

An individual gold medallist at the upcoming ASEAN Para Games will now be awarded \$5,000 for each gold medal (cap at a maximum of three highest achievements) with gold medallists in team events and team sports being awarded \$8,000 and \$16,000 respectively.

“We are grateful to the Tote Board and DBS for recognising the efforts and performance of our para athletes,” said Dr Teo-Koh.

“The resilience that our athletes have shown in preparing for these Games have been nothing short of remarkable.”

Health and safety of athletes of paramount importance

In consideration of the ongoing COVID-19 health pandemic, the Singapore contingent will take additional precautions above what has been outlined by the medical committee.

The contingent will be issued with a travel essentials kit prepared by Sport Singapore and will contain items such as surgical masks, hand sanitiser, disinfectant wipes, Antigen Rapid Test Self-Test Kits and mosquito repellent.

"The safety, health and wellbeing of our athletes is our number one priority," said Chef de Mission, Mr Low See Lien.

"It's about helping people succeed, so for me it's all about the athletes and the structures we can put in place around them to ensure they're supported and to optimise their performance".

I'm really looking forward to contributing to the success of Team Singapore as a whole."

One Team Singapore

SNPC has collaborated closely with Sport Singapore, Singapore Disability Sports Council and many other government agencies and corporate organisations such as Tote Board, in the journey to Solo.

The Solo 2022 ASEAN Para Games is scheduled to take place between 30 July to 6 August. This will be the first ASEAN Para Games since the 2019 edition in Kuala Lumpur.

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About Singapore National Paralympic Council

Founded on 23 June 2008 as a charity organisation with no direct government funding, the Singapore National Paralympic Council (SNPC) is focused on supporting and empowering Singapore's para athletes and is responsible for fielding Singapore teams for the ASEAN Para Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Para Games, Asian Youth Para Games and Paralympic Games.

As a member of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), SNPC is part of a worldwide social change movement, which uses the power of sport to positively influence community perceptions of people with disabilities and to promote a more diverse and inclusive society by educating and strengthening the values of the Paralympic Movement and Paralympic aspirations in Singapore.

In addition, SNPC works closely with its corporate partners and sponsors to run various engagements and initiatives that include hiring people with disabilities within their organisation.

Websites

SNPC: <https://www.snp.org.sg>

Solo 2022 ASEAN Para Games: <https://apg2022.com/>

Annex A: About the Athletes

S/N	Sport	Name	Age as of 02 July 2022	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	Impairment Group	APG Debutant
1	Archery	Lim Qi Mao	29	22/06/1993		Y
2	Archery	Nur Syahidah Binte Alim	36	12/08/1985	PI	
3	Athletics	James Ethan Ang Kai Meng	21	26/05/2001		Y
4	Athletics	Maisarah Binte Mohamed Hassan	24	18/02/1998	II	
5	Athletics	Muhammad Diroy Bin Noordin	30	25/02/1992	PI	
6	Athletics	Muhammad Nur Ariq Bin Yaakub	18	22/08/2003	II	Y
7	Athletics	Siti Nurhayati Binte Ali Aksar Khan	19	12/07/2002	II	Y
8	Athletics	Suhairi Bin Suhani	25	18/06/1997		
9	Badminton	Ang Chee Hiong	43	20/06/1979		Y
10	Boccia	Aloysius Gan Kai Hong	15	19/09/2006	PI	Y
11	Boccia	Ho Jing Rui, Gareth	22	02/07/2000		Y
12	Boccia	Tan Yee Ting, Jeralyn	33	01/02/1989		
13	Boccia	Neo Kah Whye	26	23/06/1996		
14	Boccia	Toh Sze Ning	28	06/08/1993		

15	Chess	Tan Yong Zhao, Edwin	27	19/10/1994		
16	Goalball	Aw Peiwen, Christina	32	26/01/1990		Y
17	Goalball	Inez Hung Hui Min	30	15/02/1992		Y
18	Goalball	Joan Hung Hui Xin	26	15/03/1996		
19	Goalball	Norliana Bte Mohamed Ajam	39	01/07/1983		
20	Goalball	Nurul Natasya Binte Idrus	24	23/05/1998		
21	Powerlifting	Lin Shuangchun	37	16/12/1984		Y
22	Swimming	Colin Soon Jin Guang	17	05/05/2005	VI	Y
23	Swimming	Chan Wei Siang, Darren	19	22/04/2003	II	Y
24	Swimming	Fu Ai-Lin Nicole	22	02/06/2000	II	
25	Swimming	Tong Jing Xuan	14	22/09/2007	PI	Y
26	Swimming	Liauw Thiam Hee Jeremiah	15	05/07/2006	PI	Y
27	Swimming	Moi Yan Ting, Danielle	22	30/09/1999	II	
28	Swimming	Sophie Soon Jin Wen	25	09/06/1997	VI	
29	Swimming	Wong Zhi Wei	19	28/06/2002	VI	
30	Table Tennis	Caleb Lee Jia Xuan	17	22/10/2004	PI	Y
31	Table Tennis	Claire Toh Shumin	29	10/04/1993	PI	
32	Table Tennis	Fong Wei Cheng	25	11/05/1997	PI	Y

33	Table Tennis	Muhammad Dinie Asyraf Bin Huzaini	32	20/11/1989	PI	
34	Table Tennis	Mu Yuguang	52	10/10/1969	PI	
35	Table Tennis	Tan Kok Leong	57	31/07/1965	PI	
36	Table Tennis	Ting Chee Keong, Eric	49	09/07/1972	PI	
37	Table Tennis	Yeo Kwok Chian, Aaron	43	24/01/1979	PI	

II: Intellectual Impairment

PI: Physical Impairment

VI: Visual Impairment

Annex B: About the Spokespersons

<p>Dr Teo-Koh Sock Miang SNPC President</p>	<p>Dr Teo-Koh previously served as Vice-Dean of the School of Physical Education (PE), Associate Dean for PE Programs and Head of the PE & Sports Science Department at the National Institute of Education (NIE). She was a Visiting Fellow at the College of PE, Recreation and Health, Indiana University - Bloomington, USA, (Aug 2004 to May 2005).</p> <p>Dr Teo-Koh is a specialist movement consultant for movement programs for preschool and lower primary children, including adapted physical education programs for individuals with disabilities. She has been engaged by the Ministry of Education, Singapore, to provide professional development courses in fundamental movement programs to early childhood educators and special education educators.</p> <p>Dr Teo-Koh's journey with disability sports began when she took on the role of a volunteer wheelchair racing and swimming coach more than 30 years ago. Since then, she has taken it upon herself to serve the disability sports community.</p>
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<p>Mr Low See Lien Chef De Mission</p>	<p>Mr Low See Lien is the Honorary Treasurer at SNPC.</p> <p>He is a Partner, Assurance at Baker Tilly Singapore.</p> <p>With his extensive audit experience, See Lien’s appointment augments the firm’s assurance competencies.</p> <p>He has more than 20 years of professional experience, and his clients include listed companies, multinational companies and statutory boards with an industry portfolio comprising oil and gas, technology, manufacturing, media and communication and retail.</p> <p>See Lien is a Practising Member of the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA).</p>
<p>Ms Sophie Soon Flag bearer</p>	<p>This will be Sophie’s second ASEAN Para Games after her international debut at the 2015 Games in Singapore.</p> <p>She also represented Singapore at the World Para Swimming World Series in 2019 with her younger brother and fellow swimmer, Colin.</p>

	<p>She was part of the Team Singapore contingent for the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics, finishing fourth in the women's SB12 100m breaststroke</p> <p>At the 2022 World Para Swimming Championships, Sophie won a silver medal in the 100m breaststroke SB12 event.</p>
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Annex C: Athlete Achievement Award 2022-2024 figures

Description / Games		ASEAN Para Games	Commonwealth Games	Asian Para Games	Paralympic Games
Individual	Gold	\$5,000	\$40,000	\$85,000	\$500,000
	2nd Gold	\$5,000	\$40,000	\$85,000	\$500,000
	3rd Gold	\$5,000	\$40,000	\$85,000	\$500,000
	Silver	-	\$20,000	\$60,000	\$300,000
	Bronze	-	\$10,000	\$35,000	\$150,000
Team Event	Gold	\$8,000	\$60,000	\$125,000	\$700,000
	Silver	-	\$30,000	\$90,000	\$450,000
	Bronze	-	\$15,000	\$50,000	\$275,000
Team Sports	Gold	\$16,000	\$80,000	\$170,000	\$900,000
	Silver	-	\$40,000	\$125,000	\$600,000
	Bronze	-	\$20,000	\$75,000	\$350,000