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All systems go for Team Singapore at the Tokyo Olympic Games



Team Singapore athlete and flag bearers Ms Yu Mengyu (third from left) and Mr Loh Kean Yew (fourth from left) will lead the Team Singapore at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games opening ceremony. From L to R: Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, President of the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC), Dr Ben Tan, Team Singapore Chef de Mission, Ms Yu Mengyu, Team Singapore athlete and flag bearer, Mr Loh Kean Yew, Team Singapore athlete and flag bearer and Mr Edwin Tong, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth. Photo: SNOC

- 23 athletes to represent the Republic across 12 sports – a record high – with breakthrough qualifications in three sports
- Paddler Yu Mengyu and shuttler Loh Kean Yew appointed as flag bearers
- Tokyo-bound athletes epitomising perseverance and commitment in unprecedented times, exercising care and caution while representing Singapore

Singapore, 6 July 2021 – Even before the first postponed and rescheduled Tokyo Olympic Games begin on 23 July, Team Singapore would have achieved many firsts in their 18th outing at the Summer Olympic Games.

A Games of Firsts

Twenty-three athletes are set to represent Singapore in 12 sports. This is the highest number of sports Singapore will contest at the Olympic Games, surpassing its previous

record of nine sports in 2012. The Republic's largest contingent of 51 athletes across six sports, including three team sports, competed at the Melbourne 1956 Olympic Games.

Three sports – diving, equestrian and marathon swimming – will field athletes at sport's pinnacle for the first time. Divers Jonathan Chan and Frieda Lim, equestrienne Caroline Chew and marathon swimmer Chantal Liew have all made history to qualify in their respective events and be the first Singaporeans from their sports to compete on the Olympic stage.

At this first gender-balanced Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has introduced one male and one female flag bearer for each delegation at the opening ceremony. Paddler Yu Mengyu, who will be making her second Olympic appearance, and shuttler and Olympic debutant Loh Kean Yew will both lead the Team Singapore athlete contingent at the Games.

Health and safety as top priority

In preparing the contingent to ensure their health and safety, the contingent has taken additional measures in their preparations. This comes on top of the playbooks issued by the IOC – a set of strict Covid-19 countermeasures developed based on science.

All in the Singapore contingent will receive their Covid-19 vaccinations prior to the Games. The Singapore-based athletes have been training within a “bubble” to minimise disruptions to their performance plans. Athletes will arrive five days before their competition commences, and depart within 48 hours after their competition ends. While in Tokyo, they will function in a “bubble within a bubble” to minimise their exposure to risks, and will undergo Covid-19 tests daily. A safety and hygiene protocol is in place to ensure that they are in tip-top shape and health at all times.

Support from all quarters – an united effort

The Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC), together with Sport Singapore, the Singapore Sport Institute, the National Sports Associations and many other government agencies and organisations, have been preparing for the Tokyo Olympic Games for years as with planning every other major Games. The level of support from the stakeholders include those from corporate organisations such as the Tote Board family comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and the Singapore Turf Club, Fitness First, Oakley, Singapore Airlines, Singtel, Toyota and Yonex Sunrise, who have pledged dedicated support to Team Singapore on their journey to Tokyo.

As SNOC's corporate sponsor for the past ten years and an avid supporter of Team Singapore, Singtel has stepped up to the plate again this year with a generous contribution of its roaming services including 5G roaming. With its extensive roaming coverage in Japan, the entire contingent can stay seamlessly connected to family, friends and fans back in Singapore. Live coverage of the Games will available on Singtel TV and CAST, as well as Mediacorp's meWATCH.

Mr Yuen Kuan Moon, Group CEO, Singtel, said, "The uncertainty that COVID has brought to the Olympic Games has made it a tough year and a half for our Team Singapore athletes. That they have persisted in their training and qualified for the games is testament to their resilience, and an inspiration to us all to keep striving in uncertainty. We wish them all the best and are proud to show our support with our connectivity services so they can stay well-connected and feel the virtual presence of family, friends and fans who are cheering them on back in Singapore."

Ready for Tokyo

Chef de mission Dr Ben Tan and 1996 Olympian said, "We are ready for the Tokyo Olympic Games. These Olympic Games is an unprecedented one, and we have prepared and put into place measures to ensure the health and safety of our contingent. We have been preparing for these Games for years with the support of stakeholders such as the Singapore National Olympic Council, Sport Singapore, the National Sports Associations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and many other government agencies, organisations and individuals behind Team Singapore.

"The Singapore contingent will be 100% vaccinated against Covid-19 before the Games commence. The sports medicine and science team led by chief medical officer Dr Teoh Chin Sim has put into place a health, hygiene and safety protocol which covers the contingent pre-departure, during the Games and their return to Singapore. While in Tokyo, we will be tested for Covid-19 daily and comply with the comprehensive Covid-19 safeguards.

"Having had the privilege to compete at the Olympic Games myself, I have an even greater responsibility to ensure that our contingent bound for Tokyo have a fulfilling experience while doing Singapore proud. Our athletes have demonstrated their resilience and adaptability in managing and working towards their sporting aspirations, and our support teams have taken great pains to ensure that they are in optimal physical and mental health and form to perform their best on the Olympic stage. I'm very proud of how professional our athletes have been, and thankful to all who have been supporting and caring for them.

As the Games draws near, I hope Singaporeans can lend their full support to cheer our athletes and wish them success at the Games."

Support Team Singapore athletes via updates from the SNOC (@sgolympics) and Team Singapore (@teamsingapore) social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram and live coverage of the Games will available on Singtel TV and CAST, as well as Mediacorp's meWATCH.

Media contact

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About Team Singapore

Team Singapore is a shared identity for all Singaporeans, where sport is the national language. It represents the unique connection between our athletes and every other Singaporean – young or old, as they embark on a sporting journey as one. Team Singapore is one big family inspiring one another through sport. It is a relationship that extends beyond the sporting fraternity, and beyond the major Games. Team Singapore is about living better lives as we embody values inherent in sport: a winning spirit, an appreciation for teamwork, a commitment to purpose, the importance of ethical behaviour and a love for our country.

For further information on Team Singapore, please visit www.teamsingapore.com.sg Follow Team Singapore's action on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TeamSG and Instagram at @TeamSingapore.

About Singapore National Olympic Council

The Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC) is the national non-profit organisation that coordinates the selection of Singaporean athletes for competition at the major games such as the Olympic Games, the Asian Games, the Commonwealth Games and the Southeast Asian Games. Singapore's involvement in the Games is resolutely anchored in the Olympic ideals that were first espoused by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games, in 1894. For more information, please visit www.snoc.org.sg Follow the SNOC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SGOlympics and @SGOlympics on Twitter and Instagram.

About Sport Singapore

As the national sports agency, Sport Singapore's core purpose is to inspire the Singapore spirit and transform Singapore through sport. Through innovative, fun and meaningful sporting experiences, our mission is to reach out and serve communities across Singapore with passion and pride. With Vision 2030 – Singapore's sports master plan, our mandate goes beyond winning medals. Sport Singapore uses sport to create greater sporting opportunities and access, more inclusivity and integration as well as broader development of capabilities. At Sport Singapore, we work with a vast network of public-private-people sector partners for individuals to live better through sport. To find out more, visit our websites www.sportsingapore.gov.sg and www.myactivesg.com. Follow us at www.facebook.com/SingaporeSports and www.youtube.com/SingaporeSports. For photographs, go to www.flickr.com/ssc-sportsphotography

ANNEX A: Games Fact Sheet

Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Games Period: 23 July – 8 August 2021

Chef de Mission (CDM): Dr Benedict Tan

Flag Bearers: Yu Mengyu (Table Tennis) and Loh Kean Yew (Badminton)

Annex B: Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Team Singapore athletes

No.	Name	Sport	Event(s)
1	Veronica Shanti Pereira*	Athletics	Women's 200m
2	Loh Kean Yew*	Badminton	Men's Singles
3	Yeo Jiamin*	Badminton	Women's Singles
4	Jonathan Chan*+^	Diving	Men's 10m Platform
5	Freida Lim*+	Diving	Women's 10m Platform
6	Caroline Chew*+^	Equestrian	Individual Dressage
7	Amita Berthier*	Fencing	Women's Individual Foil
8	Kiria Tikanah Abdul Rahman*	Fencing	Women's Individual Epee
9	Tan Sze En*	Gymnastics	Women's Individual All Round
10	Joan Poh*	Rowing	Women's Single Sculls
11	Ryan Lo*	Sailing	Men's One Person Dinghy – Laser
12	Kimberly Lim*	Sailing	Women's Skiff – 49er FX
13	Cecilia Low*	Sailing	Women's Skiff – 49er FX
14	Amanda Ng Ling Kai**	Sailing	Women's Windsurfing – RS:X
15	Adele Tan*	Shooting	Women's 10m Air Rifle
16	Joseph Isaac Schooling***	Swimming	Men: 100m Butterfly
17	Quah Zheng Wen***	Swimming	Men: 100m Backstroke, 100m Butterfly
18	Quah Ting Wen***x	Swimming	Women: 50m free, 100m free
19	Chantal Liew*+	Marathon Swimming	Women's Marathon Swimming
20	Clarence Chew*^	Table Tennis	Men's Singles
21	Feng Tianwei****	Table Tennis	Women's Singles Women's Team
22	Yu Meng Yu**	Table Tennis	Women's Singles Women's Team
23	Lin Ye*	Table Tennis	Women's Team

Legend:

- * = first Summer Olympic Games
- ** = second Summer Olympic Games
- *** = third Summer Olympic Games
- **** = fourth Summer Olympic Games
- + = first time Singapore is represented in the sport at the Olympic Games
- ^ = Youth Olympian

ANNEX C: Profiles of Chef de Mission and Flag Bearers

Name:	Dr Benedict Tan Chi'-Loong
Designation:	Chef de Mission
DOB:	21 November 1967
Major Games experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold medalist in Sailing Laser event at the 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995 Southeast Asian Games and 1994 Asian Games • Represented Singapore in the Laser event at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, finished 36th/56th • Team Singapore's sports physician at the 2002 and 1998 Asian Games, and the 2001 and 1999 SEA Games in his capacity as the Singapore Sports Council's medical officer from 1996-2003
Current sports related appointments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member, Medical and Scientific Commission, International Olympic Committee • Chairman, Medical Commission and Chairman, Expert Panel on Sailing-Specific Conditioning to Prevent Injuries, World Sailing • Vice-President, Singapore National Olympic Council • Sports Patron, Singapore Disability Sports Council • Honorary Advisor, Singapore Ice Skating Association • Honorary Advisor, Singapore Sailing Federation

Name:	Yu Mengyu
Designation:	Flag bearer and athlete
Sport:	Table Tennis
DOB:	18 August 1989
Major Games experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlete, 2014, 2010, 2018 Asian Games • Athlete, 2014, 2010, 2018 Commonwealth Games • Athlete, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2015, 2017 Southeast Asian Games • Athlete, 2016 Olympic Games
Name:	Loh Kean Yew
Designation:	Flag bearer and athlete
Sport:	Badminton
DOB:	26 June 1997
Major Games experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlete, 2018 Commonwealth Games • Athlete, 2015, 2017, 2019 Southeast Asian Games