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## **SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship hits 10-year milestone, with firsts in high performance award given to five sports**

- *289 recipients in 32 sports from 194 schools will receive \$825,000 this year*
- *53 qualified for the high performance under-18 category, including athletes from road cycling, ice hockey, jiu-jitsu, softball and water polo for the first time*
- *In 10 years of the Scholarship, 2,930 recipients in 54 sports have received \$8 million to support their sporting dreams*

**Singapore, 20 May 2020** – This year, 289 youth athletes will receive the Singapore Olympic Foundation-Peter Lim Scholarship. Athletes from road cycling, ice hockey, jiu-jitsu, softball and water polo will also feature in the high performance under-18 category for the first time.

Traditionally, the SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship recipients will attend a ceremony to receive their awards – particularly so as the Scholarship hits a 10th year milestone. In these unusual times of the Covid-19 outbreak, celebrations will be muted and the ceremony, like many others, will not be held so as to comply with the Government's social distancing measures. Recipients will instead receive the scholarship cash awards via direct deposits in their bank accounts. The certificates will be sent to them after the circuit breaker measures are lifted.

### **10 years of supporting Singapore's young sporting talent**

But the absence of an award ceremony doesn't mean this year's recipients stand out any less, or are any less deserving of recognition. Over a decade, 2,930 scholarships amounting to \$8 million have been awarded to athletes from 54 sports.

“Pursuing sports excellence is life changing – it gives inspiration and hope,” said SOF chairman Ng Ser Miang. “Over the past 10 years, Mr Lim's continued generosity has allowed many young Singapore athletes to pursue and excel in their sporting dreams. It stemmed from his simple wish that no young athlete be held back, or have unrealised potential because of financial difficulties.”

When Singapore hosted the Youth Olympic Games in 2010, entrepreneur and philanthropist Mr Peter Lim donated \$10 million to the SOF to start a sport scholarship. Such is its success that last year Mr Lim renewed his commitment by pumping in another \$10 million to further fund the scholarship from 2021 to 2030. His commitment remains the single largest donation in Singapore from an individual towards sports development in Singapore.

The Scholarship has become a stepping stone for many athletes to greater achievements. Many recipients have gone on to represent the country at major Games: 13 at the Olympics; 77 to the Asian Games; 28 to the Commonwealth Games; and 146 to the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games.

## **2020 edition**

A total of 289 recipients representing 32 sports from 194 schools will receive \$825,000 this year, with 53 athletes qualifying for the high performance under-18 category. This is the first time athletes in road cycling, ice hockey, jiu-jitsu, softball and water polo will feature in the high performance category.

To qualify for the Scholarship, recipients have to meet a set of criteria, including posting consistent results in relevant sports competitions. A majority of the recipients come from financially-challenged backgrounds and have demonstrated a potential to excel in their respective sports. Recipients can use the funds to pay for their competition expenses, buy sport equipment as well as to cover school-related expenses.

Putri Nur Syaliza Binte Sazali, 16, is the youngest footballer to play for the Singapore national women's team. In 2018, at just 14, she scored on her debut for the Lionesses. However, her football journey has not been an easy one. Her mother, who works as a bus driver, is the sole breadwinner in the family of six, as her father is unemployed because of health problems. Issues off the pitch threatened to hamper her performance on it. Said the eight-time recipient, "The scholarship has really helped me a lot over the years. It was very difficult for me when I needed the money to get good sports equipment."

Said 2019 SEA Games gold medallist short track speed skater Xu Jing Feng, a four-time recipient of the Scholarship and a first-time high performance under-18 recipient, "Last year, the funds helped defray my competition fees and equipment expenses which were necessary for my SEA Games preparations. This year, I'm planning to replace my skating boots which are coming apart after 4.5 years, and hope to use the scholarship funds to cover the replacement."

## **Supporting the Singapore sport system**

Besides the impact to the recipients, podium achievements have also led to those in the Singapore sports fraternity lauding the Scholarship initiative. Said Mr Toh Boon Yi, Chief of Singapore Sports Institute, "The SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship has helped young deserving sports talents fulfil their sporting aspirations by defraying the cost of their sporting pursuits. It also supports high-performing athletes to pursue sporting excellence in their chosen sports.

"Sport Singapore and the Singapore Sport Institute (SSI) look forward to continue to partner with SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship to build a strong athlete pipeline and support mechanisms within an athlete centric environment that allows each athlete to fulfil their sporting aspirations, inspiring the Singapore Spirit and uniting the Nation.

"We envisage that the SOF-Peter Lim scholarship can continue to play a game-changing role as an integral part of our national High Performance System."

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**Enclosures:**

- Annex A – Fact sheet
- Annex B – List of high performance under-18 category recipients

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**About the Singapore Olympic Foundation–Peter Lim Scholarship**

The Singapore Olympic Foundation-Peter Lim Scholarship was established on 29 June 2010. The Scholarship aims to help promising young athletes to achieve their goals in sports excellence and support outstanding young athletes from financially challenged backgrounds. Previous beneficiaries of the SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship include Joseph Schooling (swimming), Shayna Ng (bowling), Martina Lindsay Veloso (shooting), Veronica Shanti Pereira (athletics) and Adam Swandi (football).

Olympians and international sport stars who have attended the ceremonies as special guests: Peter Kenyon, former chief executive of Manchester United Football Club and Chelsea Football Club (2011), Mr Mark Foster, former swimming Olympian and world champion (2012), Ms Danka Barteková, Olympian shooting bronze medallist (2013), Ms Logan Tom, Olympic volleyball medallist and Valencia Football Club footballers (2016), Mr Abhinav Bindra (2017), Mr Koji Murofushi and Mr Joseph Schooling (2018), and Mrs Libby Trickett (2019).

## Annex A – Fact sheet of the Singapore Olympic Foundation-Peter Lim Scholarship

<b>Year it started</b>	2011 (10th edition)
<b>Award categories and quantum</b>	Primary – \$1,000 Secondary – \$2,000 JC/IP/Tertiary – \$3,000 High performance under-18 – \$5,000
<b>Criteria</b>	<p><i>For the primary, secondary, JC/IP/Tertiary categories:</i></p> <p>Good performance at interschool (minimal zonal) or equivalent competition(s);</p> <p>Key considerations: Applicant's family income and sports performance</p> <p><i>For the high performance under-18 category:</i></p> <p>18 years old and below as at 31 December 2019, Commendable performance at regional/international competition(s);</p> <p>Key considerations: Applicant's sports performance and potential</p>
<b>No. of recipients in 2020</b>	Primary – 33 Secondary – 82 JC/IP/Tertiary – 121 High performance under-18 – 53
<b>Amount disbursed in 2020</b>	\$825,000
<b>No of scholarships from 2011-2020</b>	2,930
<b>Amount disbursed from 2011-2020</b>	\$8,009,000
<b>No. of sports featured in the scholarship from 2011-2020</b>	54
<b>No. of recipients who represented Singapore at the major Games</b>	13 at Olympic Games 77 at Asian Games 28 at Commonwealth Games 146 at SEA Games 35 at Youth Major Games

<p><b>Olympians who were SOF-Peter Lim scholarship recipients</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Athletics – Yeo Foo Ee Gary</li> <li>2. Badminton – Liang Xiaoyu</li> <li>3. Badminton – Wong Zi Liang Derek</li> <li>4. Canoeing – Lee Wei Ling Geraldine</li> <li>5. Rowing – Saiyidah Aisyah Binte Mohamed Rafa'ee</li> <li>6. Sailing – Cheng Xin Ru Colin</li> <li>7. Sailing – Ng Ling Kai Amanda</li> <li>8. Sailing – Yong Pei Lin Audrey</li> <li>9. Shooting – Ser Xiang Wei Jasmine</li> <li>10. Swimming – Joseph Isaac Schooling</li> <li>11. Swimming – Ong Chui Bin Mylene</li> <li>12. Swimming – Quah Zheng Wen</li> <li>13. Swimming – Tao Li</li> </ol>
<p><b>Other benefits for recipients</b></p>	<p>Recipients will benefit from a partnership with Thomson Medical to access sports medical services at Thomson Wellth's Musculoskeletal Clinic. They will have quicker access to sports medical care and treatment that will help relieve pain, accelerate healing and prevent the recurrences of sports injuries.</p> <p>On top of this, recipients will receive an exclusive lifetime membership to Thomson Medical's Celebrating Life Loyalty Programme, granting them access to a comprehensive range of health and wellness services from Thomson Medical Group for life.</p>

## Annex B – List of High Performance Under-18 category recipients

No	Name	School	Sport
1	Hannah Chiang Yi Min	Eunoia Junior College	Artistic Swimming
2	Petra Chiang Yi Xian	National Junior College	Artistic Swimming
3	Posh Soh Yu Tong	Singapore Polytechnic	Artistic Swimming
4	Sng Kai Lin, Ariel	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Artistic Swimming
5	Soh Yue Tong Royce	Methodist Girls' School	Artistic Swimming
6	Teo Mou Wen	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)	Artistic Swimming
7	Brandon Norton	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Athletics
8	Elizabeth-Ann Tan Shee Ru	Hwa Chong Institution	Athletics
9	Lim Zhi Rui Bernice	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Badminton
10	Megan Lee Xinyi	Singapore Sports School	Badminton
11	Wong Jia Hao Howin	Republic Polytechnic	Badminton
12	Quek Lu Yi	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Bowling
13	Tay Kai Lin, Arianne	Methodist Girls' School	Bowling
14	Teo Jun Hao Xavier	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Bowling
15	Daniella Barbara Lawther	Temasek Polytechnic	Canoeing
16	Teo Zhan Rong	Hwa Chong Institution	Canoeing
17	Elizabeth Liau Le Min	Victoria Junior College	Cycling
18	Mas Ridzwan Bin Mohamad Ali	ITE College Central	Cycling
19	Simon Lee Renjie	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Fencing
20	Tan Kai Li Christine	National Junior College	Fencing
21	Sim Boon Pin, Robin	ITE College Central	Gymnastics (Artistic)
22	Tamara Anika Ong	Methodist Ladies' College	Gymnastics (Artistic)
23	Chew Leah	Republic Polytechnic	Gymnastics (Rhythmic)
24	Matthew Hamnett	Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)	Ice Hockey
25	Sng Yie Ken Pagiel	Singapore Sports School	Ice Skating
26	Xu JingFeng	Republic Polytechnic	Ice Skating
27	Zen Koh Sheng Sian	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Ice Skating
28	Noah Lim Tian Run	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)	Jujitsu
29	Jonathan Lio	Raffles Institution	Sailing
30	Marsha Binte Shahrin	Pending Posting	Sailing
31	Natanya Huiyi Tan	St. Joseph's Institution International	Shooting
32	Teo Jia En	Singapore Sports School	Shooting
33	Mohammad Huzaifah Bin Mohammad Noorham	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Softball

34	Ong Jun Heng Aloysius	Hwa Chong Institution	Softball
35	Tan Jean Wen, Bowie	Anglo-Chinese Junior College	Softball
36	Goh Wen Bin Luke	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Sport Climbing
37	Ashley Lim Yi-Xuan	Methodist Girls' School	Swimming
38	Elena Lee Lee Na Pedersen	Millfield School	Swimming
39	Ong Jung Yi	Pending Posting	Swimming
40	Goi Rui Xuan	Not schooling	Table Tennis
41	Josh Chua Shao Han	Raffles Institution	Table Tennis
42	Pang Yew En Koen	Not schooling	Table Tennis
43	Quek Yong Izaac	Singapore Sports School	Table Tennis
44	Wong Xin Ru	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Table Tennis
45	Herlene Natasha Yu ZhiHui	Curtin Singapore	Triathlon
46	Luke Chua Li Rong	Temasek Polytechnic	Triathlon
47	Goh Wen Zhe	Singapore Sports School	Water Polo
48	Michelle Tan Ting Yee	Singapore Sports School	Water Polo
49	See Tien Ee Jayden	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)	Water Polo
50	Tang Yee Heng	Hwa Chong Institution	Water Polo
51	Caleb Ng Bin Rong	Pei Hwa Presbyterian Primary School	Wushu
52	Jolie Goh	Singapore Sports School	Wushu
53	Koh Li Yun Nessya	Raffles Girls' Primary School	Wushu