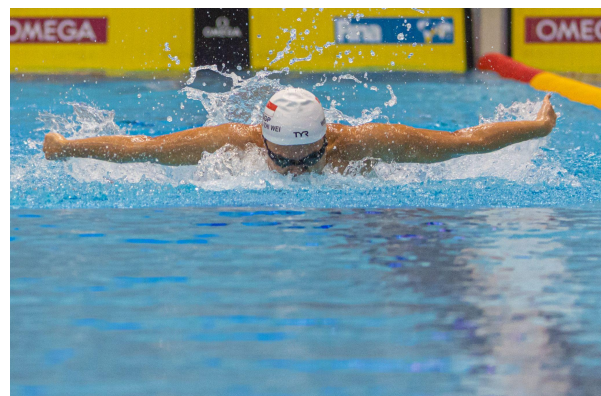


4 March 2023

For immediate release

4 National Records broken at the 2023 National Para Swimming Championships

- Up and coming para swimmers Colin Soon, Janelle Tong, Jareth Wong, and Wong Zhi Wei broke national records
- Toh Wei Soong emerged first in SDSC's first SKINS event, against 7 other former and current para swimmers



Special schools, swim clubs and para sport organisations throughout Singapore showed their strong desire to return to the National Para Swimming Championships 2023, with the end of the pandemic – as 67 para swimmers competed this year, nearly double that of 2022’s number of 34 para swimmers.

The 2023 National Para Swimming Championships saw 4 National Records being broken by up-and-coming para swimmers - Colin Soon (50m freestyle at 27.65), Janelle Tong (50m backstroke 53.37), Jareth Wong (100m freestyle at 1:13.49), Wong Zhi Wei (100m butterfly at 1:03.25).

In conjunction with its 50th anniversary, the Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC) also hosted its first SKINS event at the Championships, where outstanding alumni para swimmers were invited back to compete with current para swimmers, to inspire future generations of para swimmers to follow in their footsteps and defy their limits.

In this SDSC 50th Anniversary Para Swimming Challenge, alumni para swimmers Theresa Goh, James Leo, and Lieu Teck Hua competed against their currently active counterparts, such as Wong Zhi Wei, Toh Wei Soong, and Danielle Moi. The race took place during the multi-class point system, where swimmers’ timings would be scored depending on how close they were to the world records in their respective classes. The closer they were, the higher points they would score.

The SKINS was a tight race, with the strokes being selected by raffle – breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly, and freestyle- before the start of each round.

In the fourth and final race, Darren Chan and Toh Wei Soong went head-to-head using freestyle. Wei Soong eventually triumphed with 659 points, over Darren’s 475 points, and won the Challenge.

- Annex A** List of National Records Broken
- Annex B** Participating SKINS Event Swimmers
- Annex C** About the Multi-Class Point System (MCPS)

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For photos, please click [here](#)

All photos should be credited to ‘Singapore Disability Sports Council’.

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About Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC)

Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC) is the only organisation in Singapore that caters to sports for persons across all kinds of disabilities. It aims to help persons with disability lead full and independent lives through sports. Besides providing sporting opportunities for them to realise their potential, SDSC trains talents to represent Singapore and pursue excellence at regional and international competitions. More information at www.sdsc.org.sg

Annex A List National Records Broken

Name	Dist. / Stroke	Prev Timing	New Timing
Jareth Wong	100m freestyle	01:14.58	01:13.49
Wong Zhi Wei	100m butterfly	01:04.18	01:03.25
Colin Soon	50m freestyle	00:30.39	00:27.65
Janelle Tong	50m backstroke	01:00.47	00:53.37

Annex B Participating SKINS Event Swimmers

Name	Classification	Notes
James Leo Zhenhai	S9, SB8, SM9	Former
Lieu Teck Hua	S9, SB8, SM9	Former
Theresa Goh Rui Si	S5, SB4, SM5	Former
Danielle Moi Yan Ting	S14, SB14, SM14	Current
Darren Chan Wei Siang	S14, SB14, SM14	Current
Han Liang Chou	S14, SB14, SM14	Current
Sophie Soon	S12, SB12, SM12	Current
Toh Wei Soong	S7, SB6, SM7	Current
Wong Zhi Wei	S13, SB13, SM13	Current

Para Swimming Classification

S1 to S10 - Physical Impairment

S11 to S13 - Visual Impairment

S14 - Intellectual Impairment

The lower number indicates a greater degree of impairment.

The prefixes before the number stand for different styles.

“S” – freestyle, and backstroke

“SB” – breaststroke

“SM” – individual medley events

SKINS event explanation

A SKINS event is a quick-paced, exciting series of knockout races, where all 4 strokes will be used, and ends with the final two swimmers racing each other to the finish. A multi-class points system (MCPS) was used for this para SKINS event in order to ensure as much fairness as possible when determining the winners.

Annex C About the Multi-Class Point System (MCPS)

In multi-class para swimming events, para swimmers compete against one another, with each swimmer’s result being compared to the world record for their specific disability. The performance closest to the relevant record wins.

The winner of a multi-class event is not always the swimmer who touches the wall before others, but the one who posts the time closest to the World Record for their impairment classification category.