For Immediate Release

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Singapore para swimmers faced tough fight at Sheffield World Series but managed to secure a bronze and 2 national records

- Yip Pin Xiu won a bronze in the Women's Multiclass 50m Backstroke
- Colin Soon and Wong Zhi Wei broke 3 National Records in total
- Toh Wei Soong made finals in 5 out of 8 events



From left to right: Maria Carolina Gomes Santiago, Brazil; Tomomi Ishiura, Japan; Yip Pin Xiu, Singapore (Photo credit: SDSC/Morgan Harlow)

The third leg of the 2023 World Para Swimming World Series saw some of the toughest duels in the pool, as 311 athletes from 36 countries - a number of whom were Paralympians and Paralympic medalists - closed in on the final few competitions before the Manchester 2023 World Championships. Team Singapore para swimmers - Colin Soon, Toh Wei Soong, Yip Pin Xiu and Wong Zhi Wei - put up a strong fight, and managed to close the edition with a bronze from Yip in the Women's Multiclass 50m Backstroke event.

While the rest of the team did not manage to clinch medals, Toh Wei Soong (S7) made finals on 5 out of 8 events, and missed out the podium narrowly in the 50m Fly, behind Brazilians Samuel Da Silva De Oliveira and Gabriel Geraldo dos Santos Araujo, S5 world champion and S2 Paralympic medalist respectively. Both Colin Soon and Wong Zhi Wei are also returning home with a tally of 3 national records.

The Sheffield leg took place at the Ponds Forge International Swimming Centre from 17 to 19 March 2023.

"The atmosphere at this World Para Series was really good and electrifying," said Pin Xiu. "I felt a small kind of pressure, but it was because I wanted to do better than I did at the Melbourne stop, so it wasn't in a bad way. I met my personal targets. My timings were faster than they were in Melbourne, so my coach, team, and myself were really happy with that. It looks like we are on the right track leading up towards the World Championships in Manchester in July. I'm really excited about that, and having good timings were the cherries on top of the cake!"

The Series will next land in Indianapolis, USA, before coming to Singapore at the end of April 2023.

Annex A - Team Singapore Results
Annex B - About Classification
Annex C - About Multi-Class Point System

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Annex A: Team SG Results

Yip Pin Xiu (S2)	Women's 100m Free	(Heats) 2:17.07 (614 pts)	Did not advance
	Women's 100m Back	(Heats) 2:17.41 (908 pts)	4th out of 108 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 2:19.20 (873 pts)	6th out of 30
	Women's 50m Back	(Heats) 1:05.05 (867 pts)	3rd out of 38 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 1:03.40 (937 pts)	3rd out of 20 (Bronze)
Toh Wei Soong (S7, SB6, SM7)	Men's 100m Free	(Heats) 1:04.57 (816 pts)	Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 1:04.81 (807 pts)	13th out of 30
	Men's 100m Back	(Heats) 1:20.26 (611 pts)	Did not advance
	Men's 50m Back	(Heats) 36.53 (708 pts)	10th out of 45 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 37.03 (679 pts)	10th out of 20
	Men's 50m Fly	(Heats) 31.38 (787 pts)	12th out of 45 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 30.87 (827 pts)	5th out of 20
	Men's 400m Free	(Heats) 5:15.03 (669 pts)	31st out of 77 Did not advance
	Men's 200m Free	(Heats) 2:27.88 (726 pts)	18th out of 72 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 2:25.22 (769 pts)	11th out of 29
	Men's 50m Free	(Heats) 29.55 (785 pts)	14th out of 111 Advanced to finals
M		(Finals) 29.42 (769 pts)	16th out of 30
	Men's 100m Fly	(Heats) 1:14.72 (717 pts)	23rd out of 92 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 1:14.87 (713 pts)	22nd out of 30
Wong Zhi Wei (S13, SB13, SM13)	Men's 100m Free	(Heats) 1:01.02 (571 pts)	Did not advance
	Men's 100m Breast	(Heats) 1:19.01 (506 pts)	Did not advance
	Men's 50m Fly	(Heats) 29.18 (594 pts)	21st out of 45 Advanced to finals Personal Best National Record
		(Finals) 29.25 (589 pts)	17th out of 20

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	Men's 400m Free	(Heats) 4:58.64 (507 pts)	48th out of 77 Did not advance
	Men's 50m Free	(Heats) 28.14 (561 pts)	55th out of 111 Did not advance
	Men's 100m Fly	(Heats) 1:05.04 (563 pts)	46th out of 92 Did not advance
Colin Soon (S12, SB12, SM12)	Men's 100m Free	(Heats) 1:00.66 (655 pts)	Did not advance Personal Best National Record
	Men's 100m Back	(Heats) 1:12.33 (571 pts)	Did not advance
	Men's 100m Breast	(Heats) 1:13.40 (665 pts)	24th out of 110 Advanced to finals
		(Finals) 1:13.83 (663 pts)	22nd out of 30
	Men's 200m IM	(Heats) DQ	
	Men's 50m Fly	(Heats) 31.78 (500 pts)	27th out of 45 Did not advance
	Men's 400m Free	(Heats) 4:53.34 (589 pts)	41st out of 77 Did not advance Personal Best National Record
	Men's 50m Free	(Heats) 27.91 (558 pts)	56th out of 111 Did not advance

Official results can be found at this <u>link</u>.

Annex B: Para Swimming Classifications

S1 to S10 - Physical Impairment S11 to S13 - Visual Impairment S14 - Intellectual Impairment

The lower number indicates a greater degree of impairment.

Please check https://www.paralympic.org/swimming/classification for in-depth information on para swimming classifications.

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.