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For immediate release

Singaporean Duo Aloysius Gan and Yan Jia Yi Secure Historic Victory at Inaugural World Boccia Youth Championships



Above (left to right; top row to bottom row) Aloysius Gan's mother and competition partner, Eve Cher; father, Kagan Gan; Yan Jia Yi's competition partner, Chew Ziqun; Aloysius Gan; Yan Jia Yi
(Image credit: Singapore Disability Sports Council)

Singaporean boccia athletes Aloysius Gan and Yan Jia Yi have etched their names in history by capturing the championship title in the BC3 Pairs event at the inaugural World Boccia Youth Championships.

This follows resounding victories in their BC3 Individuals events, where Aloysius Gan emerged as the Champion in the BC3 Individuals (Male) category, and Yan Jia Yi claimed a well-deserved bronze medal in the BC3 Individuals (Female) category.

The highly anticipated World Boccia Youth Championships took place from 8th to 14th July in Povoia de Varzim, Portugal, featuring close to 50 aspiring youth athletes with disabilities from 12 nations. Aloysius and Jia Yi were accompanied by their competition partners, Eve Cher (who is also Aloysius' mother), and Chew Zi Qun.

This remarkable victory follows Aloysius's recent success at the ASEAN Para Games, where he secured a silver medal in the BC3 Individuals (Male) event. Reflecting on his achievements, Aloysius humbly stated, "I've chosen the right tactics and have been able to execute what I trained for in Singapore. After winning my first end, I had to maintain my composure and focus for the subsequent matches. I believe this is the key to winning the game."

Jia Yi also expressed her excitement and gratitude, saying, "I am thrilled to have performed well and won the bronze medal in the BC3 Individuals (Female) event. I would like to thank Zi Qun *jiejie* (big sister) for her support throughout this competition."

"We are incredibly proud of Aloysius and Jia Yi for their outstanding achievements," said Kelly Fan, Executive Director of the Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC). "They still have a long way to go, but this is a promising start. We were able to unearth their potential, thanks to a very supportive system at the Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore School, and Tiger Balm's longstanding support for the boccia team's training and competitions. We hope that more educational institutions and corporates will come forward to support our youths with disabilities, enabling them to realise their full potential through sport."

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Annex A – Results for TeamSG at the 2023 World Boccia Youth World Championships

Annex B – Classification

Link to Image (All pictures are to credit Singapore Disability Sports Council) - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZIWrh1RM9mlz4aM047XOnCc3GybjuHgE?usp=sharing>

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About Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC)

Established in 1973 by the then Ministry of Social Affairs, the Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC) is Singapore's national sports body for persons with disabilities. Committed to transforming the lives of individuals with disabilities through sports, the SDSC engages, develops, and promotes excellence among persons with disabilities.

In partnership with its members - an alliance of social service agencies, parasport and mainstream sport organizations - the SDSC drives Singapore's movement towards greater inclusivity. SDSC's efforts have produced inspiring success stories such as Aloysius Gan, Asian Youth Para Games medalist, and Yip Pin Xiu, Singapore's most decorated Paralympian.

More information at www.sdsc.org.sg

Annex A – Results for TeamSG at the 2023 World Boccia Youth World Championships

Athlete	Event	Score	Placement
Individual Games			
Aloysius Gan	BOCCIA – BC3 MALE INDIVIDUAL (Pool A Round 1)	ALOYSIUS GAN KAI HONG (SGP) VS LORICK MARCINIAK (FRA) SGP beat FRA 5 - 1	Champion, Gold Medal
	BOCCIA – BC3 MALE INDIVIDUAL (Pool A Round 2)	ALOYSIUS GAN KAI HONG (SGP) VS LUIS COSTA (POR) SGP beat POR 5 - 1 SGP received a bye in Round 3. Aloysius topped Pool A and moved on to the Semi Finals.	
	BOCCIA – BC3 MALE INDIVIDUAL (Finals)	ALOYSIUS GAN KAI HONG (SGP) VS LUCAS DUTRA FERNANDES (BRA) SGP beat BRA 11 - 0	
Yan Jia Yi	BOCCIA – BC3 FEMALE INDIVIDUAL (Pool A Round 1)	YAN JIA YI (SGP) VS HO YAN CHAN (HK) HK beat SGP 7 - 2	Bronze Medal
	BOCCIA – BC3 FEMALE INDIVIDUAL (Pool A Round 2)	YAN JIA YI (SGP) VS ALICE MOREIRA (POR) SGP beat POR 4 - 0	
	BOCCIA – BC3 FEMALE INDIVIDUAL (Pool A Round 3)	YAN JIA YI (SGP) VS DALMA UJPAL (HUN) SGP beat HUN 6 - 1	
	BOCCIA – BC3 FEMALE INDIVIDUAL (Semi Finals)	YAN JIA YI (SGP) VS DIMITRA PAPADOPOULOU (GRE) GRE beat SGP 3 - 2	
	BOCCIA – BC3 FEMALE INDIVIDUAL (Bronze Medal Match)	YAN JIA YI (SGP) VS HO YAN CHAN (HKG) SGP beat HKG 5 - 2	

Pairs Game																																																			
Aloysius Gan & Yan Jia Yi	BC3 Pairs (Round 1)	SGP vs BRA SGP beat BRA 7 - 1	Champion, Gold Medal																																																
	BC3 Pairs (Round 2)	SGP vs FRA FRA beat SGP 5 - 4																																																	
	BC3 Pairs (Round 3)	SGP vs CAN SGP beat CAN 7 - 1																																																	
	BC3 Pairs (Round 4)	SGP vs POR SGP beat POR 9 - 0 SGP received a bye for Round 5.																																																	
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Annex B – Classification

Please check <https://www.paralympic.org/boccia/classification> for in depth information on how para athletes are classified in boccia.