



26 June 2010

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED TILL AFTER DELIVERY ON 26 JUNE 2010 (10am)

Singapore, 26 June 2010 – Returning from their triumphant win at the Liebherr 2010 World Team Table Tennis Championships in Moscow, Russia from 23 – 30 May 2010, Team Singapore's Women's Table Tennis Team appeared at a Victory Parade on Saturday, 26 June 2010 organised by the Singapore Table Tennis Association and the Singapore Sports Council to congratulate and honour their historic win.

Led by Captain Feng Tian Wei, the Team Singapore paddlers cruised in an open-top Hippo Bus to receive congratulatory wishes from their supporters. The event started at 10.00am at Khatib Plaza, Yishun, which was graced by Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean who was the Guest-of-Honour.

At the start of the Parade, Er. Lee Bee Wah, Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC and President of Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA), presented a cheque to the Team Singapore athletes to commend them for their perseverance and performance, and to congratulate them for being the pride of Singapore.

The Victory Parade started from Khatib Plaza in Yishun and made pit stops at The National Library at Victoria Street and Velocity @ Novena Square, before driving through Orchard Road and ending at STTA Headquarters at Toa Payoh.

Joining their captain in the parade were Team Singapore paddlers Sun Beibei, Wang Yuegu, Li Jiawei, and Yu Mengyu, who got up close and personal with their fans, autographing and giving away exclusively-designed posters.

Members of the public who brought on their own table tennis bats to the National Library, were also allowed a once-in-a-lifetime chance to play a game of table tennis with the newly crowned world champions.

"Words cannot accurately convey the joy and pride we have in the women's table tennis team," said Er. Lee Bee Wah.

"The Team Singapore paddlers who are now world champions are the pride of a nation and we thank everyone who turned up for the Victory Parade to honour the paddlers.

"The show of public support for the paddlers will only spur them on to wanting to achieve more for Singapore."

The STTA also announced their newly formed partnership with NETS; 5 custom designed FLASHpay cards bearing the images of the 5 Team Singapore paddlers were revealed today."

Stop 1

Time: 10.00am

Venue: Khatib Plaza, opposite Blk 841 at Yishun St 81 (beside Sheng Shiong Supermarket)



Stop 2

Time: 12.00nn

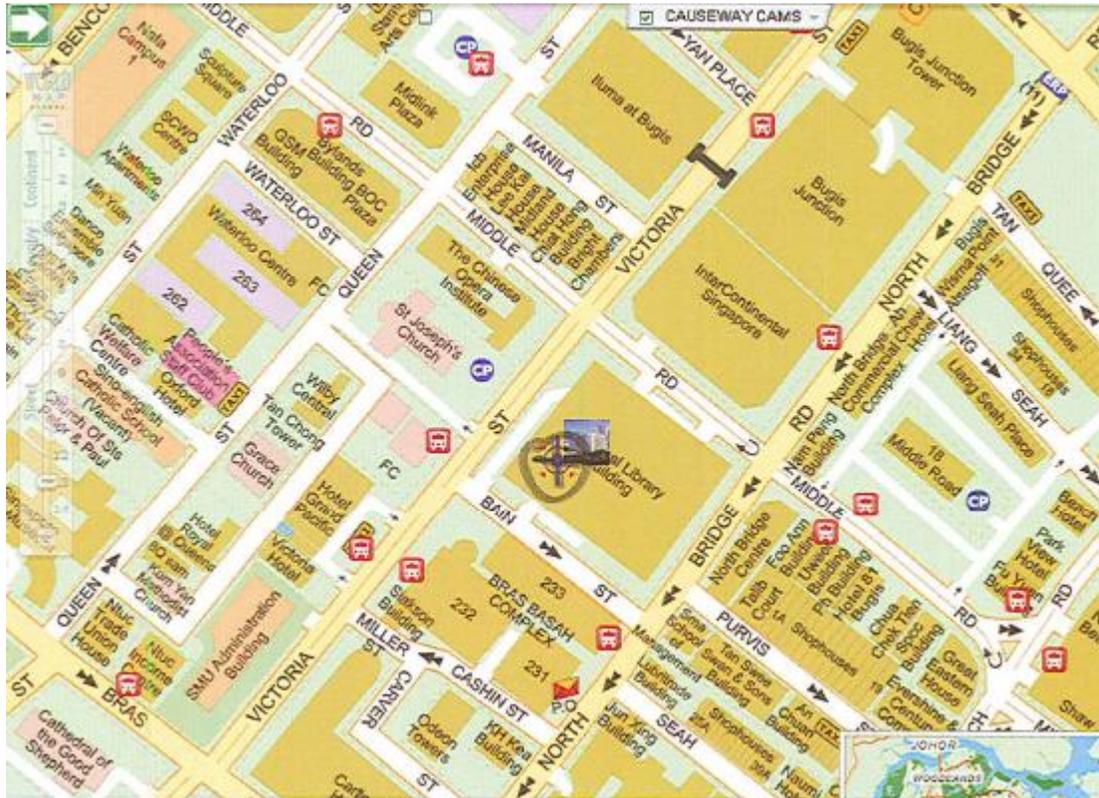
Venue: National Library Board, Library's Plaza, 100 Victoria Street



Stop 3

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Velocity @ Novena Square (Atrium, Level 1)



SINGAPORE TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION SPORTS FUND

The Singapore Table Tennis National Women's Team made history by upsetting defending champion China at the World Team Table Tennis Championships on 30th May 2010.

Feng Tianwei anchored Singapore's women's team and outclassed world No. 4 Ding Ning in the first singles, and then came back to clinch the winning point 3-2 against world No. 1 Liu Shiwen. Tianwei was able to build on the success of the 13th ranked Wang Yuegu who earlier outplayed Liu Shiwen in the second singles.

This victory is as sweet, if not sweeter than the Olympics silver medal the girls won at the Beijing 2008 as it ended the Chinese women's stranglehold on the competition.

As this world championship is not rewarded by Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC) under the Multi-Million Dollar Awards Programme (MAP) award, the Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) would like to reward the women for the win by setting up a fund which will be known as the STTA Sports Fund.

The sports fund will provide them in terms of scholarship assistance, financial, medical and social support and prepare them for their lives after their careers in table tennis end.

It is important to provide our National paddlers with the post sports career support and resources so that the athletes can compete without worries and succeed in their athletic career full-time. This sports fund will create many opportunities for our athletes beyond their sporting careers. The fund will also act as a protection for their livelihood upon retiring from their sporting careers.

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