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MEDIA RELEASE

Singapore Scores Double Wins at the 2018 Cook Islands Junior & Cadet Open - ITTF Junior Circuit, 4th to 7th June

Singapore paddler Koen Pang, 16 years old, won the singles and team crown at the tournament, which concluded today. Koen partnered LI Jonathan (NZL) and finished second in the doubles event.

In the singles quarterfinals, Koen beat XU Nathan (NZL) 4 - 0 (5, 1, 4, 5) and battled and won against VAHNISH Jacobo (PAN) in the semi-finals 4 - 1 (5, 9, 5, -6, 6). In the finals, Koen beat DEVOS Laurens BEL 4-2 (-11, 6, 1, -7, 9, 8) to win the crown.

Before his singles win, Koen partnered Panama VAHNISH Jacobo (PAN) in the Junior Boys' team event and beat DEVOS Laurens (BEL) / CATHCART Owen (IRL) 3-1 in the finals to bag the team gold at the start of the tournament.

For the doubles event, Koen (SGP)/ LI Jonathan (NZL) lost to CATHCART Owen IRL / DEVOS Laurens BEL 0-3 (-5,-2,-6) in the finals and finished in the second position.

Koen will commence play tomorrow in the two day Road to Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games – Oceania qualification tournament.

The "Road to Buenos Aires 2018 series" is a series of six (6) special competitions held immediately before or after the ITTF Junior Circuit competitions for athletes in the Youth Olympics Games (YOG) age category. The top ranked athletes in each gender per competition per day will qualify for YOG. And the Road to Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games – Oceania will be the last qualification stop.

Singapore paddler, Goi Rui Xuan, 17 years old, has already earned Singapore a berth in the Women's Singles event at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Argentina in October after winning the Road to Buenos Aires 2018 YOG Latin America qualification tournament in Asuncion, Paraguay in April 2017.

For more information and the detailed results on the 2018 Cook Islands Junior & Cadet Open - ITTF Junior Circuit, please refer to: <https://www.ittf.com/tournament/2853/Cook-Islands-junior-cadet-open-ittf-regular-junior-circuit/>

For more details on the YOG qualification system, please refer to: https://d3mjm6zw6cr45s.cloudfront.net/2018/04/Aug17_BA2018_Qual_System_TT_EN.pdf

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