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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **ZHAN JIAN SUFFERS ELBOW INJURY AND WILL RETIRE FROM THE SINGAPORE TABLE TENNIS TEAM**

Singapore's National Team Member, Mr Zhan Jian has competed for Singapore in the men's team event at the 2012 London Olympics where our men's team finished Top 8, which was Singapore's best finish in the men's team event at the Olympics.

His other achievements include scoring 4 golds at the 2013 Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships and he also led Singapore to victory in the singles and team events at the SEA Games 2013. Zhan Jian has also reached a career high of world ranking No. 23 in December 2012.

At the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Zhan Jian won the singles, beating team-mate, Mr.Gao Ning 4 - 0 in the finals. He was also part of the Singaporean men's team that won gold. In the men's doubles, he and team-mate Mr.Yang Zi won the bronze medal.

However, Zhan Jian was unable to participate in the Asian Games 2014 and 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games 2015 due to his recurrent elbow injury. The doctor's diagnosed that there is maturation of the scar tissue with atrophy and weakened forearm flexors in his right elbow. During the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Zhan Jian played through the Commonwealth Games with painkillers and the pain got worse after he returned to Singapore. This injury has affected his training and Zhan Jian had been unable to compete in the ITTF world tours and other competitions since August 2014.

For this reason, Zhan Jian had been actively seeking treatment at the Singapore Sports Institute and Changi General Hospital (Sports Medicine) but there was no breakthrough improvement. The doctors had told him that his recovery requires a longer process and much more rest to aid in recovery.

Zhan Jian's last day of service will be on 31 August 2015. Ms Ellen Lee Geck Hoon PBM, Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC & President, STTA says "the Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) would like to take this opportunity to thank Zhan Jian for his dedication and commitment to excellence in table tennis that have brought about much glory to Singapore and enhanced the sport among younger Singaporeans who aspire to be like him Zhan Jian has shown great dedication and passion for his sport and is a true inspiration for all Singaporeans".

Notwithstanding his retirement, Zhan Jian wishes to continue to contribute to STTA in the future. Meanwhile, he will focus on his recovery and spend more time with his parents. "It has been a great sporting journey and I would like to thank Singapore for giving me so many opportunities. I would also like to thank STTA for nurturing and supporting me. Last but not least, special thanks to my fellow Singaporeans, teammates, coaches and fans whom have supported me throughout these years," says Zhan Jian.

