



4th July 2012

MEDIA RELEASE

STTA FUND RAISING GOLF TOURNAMENT 2012 ON 4TH JULY 2012 AT TANAH MERAH COUNTRY CLUB

We are pleased to announce that through the support of many private corporations and individuals, the STTA Fundraising Golf Tournament 2012 has raised over \$270,000.

The funds raised from the fund raising golf event will go towards STTA youth development programmes and its operating costs. The emphasis on youth development at the STTA has never been greater and a key goal for STTA is to identify and groom talented athletes from a very young age.

In 2009, the STTA collaborated with People's Community Foundation Kindergartens to introduce table tennis to the Kindergarten 1 & 2 children. Currently, the STTA-PCF table tennis programme has expanded to over 20 constituencies and it is able to monitor over 1,000 promising children and groom them. The STTA would like to extend this pre-school table tennis to all 87 constituencies if we can have enough support as part of STTA's outreach programme to children to get them exposed to the sport of table tennis from a young age.

As part of structured elite system, talented and promising players from the pre-school programmes are sent to the association's zone training centres at Bishan, Tampines, Toa Payoh, Yishun, Clementi, Jurong West and Bedok Reservoir - Punggol (Hougang) zone training centres for intensive training. These zone training centres are instrumental in strengthening the process of discovering and nurturing young and potential players in a more structured and sustainable manner.

From these zone training centres, the more promising ones will be directed to the Youth Development Squad. This is where the youth paddlers will be groomed for the National Youth Team and eventually, the National Team.

With the seeds for the growth of young talent planted, we believe our programmes will start to see results in the next 10 to 15 years. And we hope these young talents are able to represent Singapore in the Olympic Games and World Championships within the next 15 to 20 years.

The fund raising golf event also offers unique golf trophies, prizes, lucky draws, sponsored clubs for novelty lines and pins, and S\$100,000 cash prize for the Hole In One prize. **And the fund raising golf dinner was graced by Mr Chan Chun Sing Acting Minister for Community Development, Youth & Sports & Minister of State, Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts**

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