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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Next Generation: 4 of the best talents will be promoted to the National Table Tennis Team.**

Singapore Teens: Goi Ruixuan (魏睿萱), 18, Wong Xinru (王歆茹), 18, Josh Chua Shao Han (蔡劭恒), 18 and Koen Pang Yew En (冯耀恩), 17 will be promoted to the National Team with effect from 1 January 2019.

Ellen Lee, JP, PBM said, ‘These youths have shown exceptional performance and the STTA will continue to give the best support to these athletes in pursuit of sporting excellence.’

She added, ‘Their achievements serve as a testament that our youth development programmes are bearing fruit and we are on the right path of grooming high potential talents into world-class athletes. We hope that this will begin the process of change that will eventually see more Singaporeans on the world stage.’

Former national player Gao Ning, 36 years old will also assume a new role as the men’s head coach starting from 1 January 2019. Gao will be closely involved in mentoring and training the younger generation of players from the national team and intermediate squad.

Koen Pang

Koen Pang is the youngest Singaporean to qualify and compete at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. Koen Pang together with Ethan Poh managed to defy all expectations and made it to the top four in the men’s doubles event on their Commonwealth Games debut.

Koen qualified for the Youth Olympics Games 2018 in Argentina in October 2018 and he finished Top 8 in the singles event.

His accolade of achievements include winning 4 gold medals in the junior categories (singles, doubles, mixed doubles and team) at the 24<sup>th</sup> South East Asian (SEA) Junior & Cadet Table Tennis Championships, Naga city, Philippines.

At the recent SEA Championships, Bali Indonesia, Koen scored 3 golds and 1 silver medal.

Goi Ruixuan

Goi Ruixuan qualified for the Youth Olympics Games 2018 in Argentina in October 2018. She finished Top 16 in the singles event.

She won the singles and mixed doubles gold medal at the SEA Championships, Bali Indonesia.

Her other wins include scoring 2 golds and 1 bronze at the 24<sup>th</sup> SEA Junior & Cadet Table Tennis Championships, Naga city, Philippines.

Ruixuan has put her studies on hold to train full time, hoping to get into the SEA Games squad.

### Wong Xinru

Wong scored 2 silvers and 2 bronzes at the SEA Championships and bagged another 2 golds, 1 silver and 1 bronze at the 24<sup>th</sup> SEA Junior & Cadet Table Tennis Championships.

She also finished with a team silver at the ITTF Serbia Junior & Cadet Open in 2018.

### Josh Chua

At the 24<sup>th</sup> SEA Junior & Cadet Table Tennis Championships, Josh finished with 1 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronzes.

He also finished with a singles bronze at the ITTF Canada Junior & Cadet Open and ITTF Serbia Junior & Cadet Open in 2018.

### **STTA Contact:**

Ms Laura Wong

MarCom & Events Manager

Singapore Table Tennis Association

Tel: 6354 1014

Hp: 9711 3543

Fax: 6353 9109

Email: [laura\\_wong@stta.org.sg](mailto:laura_wong@stta.org.sg)

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