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**19 February 2016**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **KEPPEL-STTA AWARDS - CELEBRATING TABLE TENNIS ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2015**

The Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) celebrated the sporting achievements of its national paddlers in 2015 at Qian Xi (Farrer Park) Restaurant, Civil Service Club, 60 Tessensohn Road, Singapore 217664 on 19 February 2016.

Keppel has been the proud sponsor of the Keppel-STTA Awards since 2013. The annual cash awards, presented at the awards night ceremony, amount to \$33,000.

“Our national paddlers fly the Singapore flag high and Keppel is proud to support the STTA team as it inspires us with its tenacity and determination to excel. The achievements of the players ignite national pride, and we wish them every success in their continued pursuit of sporting excellence,” said Mr Loh Chin Hua, CEO of Keppel Corporation.

“This is the sixth edition of our awards ceremony, an annual celebration of our sporting achievements made by our athletes and coaches. We are grateful to Keppel Corporation for being our major sponsor of all the cash awards since 2013. The sponsorship from Keppel is critical and we thank Keppel for spurring our paddlers to reach for greater heights. In the meantime, our athletes and coaches’ will continue to strive for excellence and to bring glory to Singapore” said Ms Ellen Lee Geck Hoon, PBM & President, STTA.

Ms Lee added, “We are now exactly 166 days away from the Rio Olympics in August this year. We are filled with much excitement and anticipation and we are looking forward to the world’s greatest sporting event. Hence, we would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all Singaporeans to come forward to lend their support and cheer our Team Singapore Paddlers to the Olympics.

#### **The Keppel-STTA Awards comprise:**

- Best Sportsman of the Year 2015
- Best Sportswoman of the Year 2015
- Outstanding Coach of the Year 2015
- Supportive Coach of the Year 2015
- Team of the Year 2015
- Young Player of the Year 2015
- Young Achiever of the Year 2015
- Special Awards of the Year 2015 (5 awards)
- Commendation Awards (2 awards)

(Refer to Appendix A for details on the Keppel-STTA Awards and award recipients)

### **About STTA**

Singapore Table Tennis Association (STTA) is a National Sports Association affiliated to the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC) and Singapore Sports Council (SSC). Our mission is to develop world class table tennis players by identifying, nurturing and motivating aspiring table-tennis talents to become the best that they could be. STTA is also committed to promoting table tennis vigorously by building a significant number of table tennis players to help make a vibrant sporting Singapore. Our vision is to make table tennis the most popular game in Singapore.

For more information, visit [www.stta.org.sg](http://www.stta.org.sg).

### **About Keppel Corporation**

With a global footprint in over 30 countries, Keppel Corporation leverages its international network, resources and talents to grow its key businesses. It aims to be a global company at the forefront of its chosen industries, shaping the future for the benefit of all its stakeholders – Sustaining Growth, Empowering Lives and Nurturing Communities.

The Keppel Group of Companies includes Keppel Offshore & Marine, Keppel Infrastructure, Keppel Telecommunications & Transportation (Keppel T&T) and Keppel Land, among others.

Keppel Offshore & Marine is the leader in offshore rig design, construction and repair, ship repair and conversion and specialised shipbuilding. Its Near Market, Near Customer strategy is bolstered by a global network of 20 yards and offices in the Asia Pacific, Gulf of Mexico, Brazil, the Caspian Sea, Middle East and the North Sea regions.

Keppel Land contributes to changing cityscapes across Asia as a choice developer with a sterling portfolio of award-winning residential developments, integrated townships and investment-grade commercial properties. Reputed for its quality and innovation hallmark, Keppel Land is committed to develop properties that harmonise with the urban and natural landscape for desirable live-work-play environments and with enduring value for the community.

Keppel Infrastructure will drive the Group's strategy to invest in, own and operate competitive energy and related infrastructure. Keppel Infrastructure, while tapping the expertise and technology of its engineering business, will grow its power and gas, environmental and energy efficiency businesses. Keppel T&T is a leading service provider in the Asia-Pacific and Europe with businesses in logistics and data centres.

Keppel T&T is a leading service provider in the Asia-Pacific and Europe with businesses in logistics and data centres. Its logistics division offers one-stop, integrated logistics solutions to help clients manage their entire supply chain, while the data centre division owns, acquires, develops and manages high-availability data centre facilities.

For more information, visit [www.keppcorp.com](http://www.keppcorp.com).

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## **Appendix A – Keppel-STTA Awards and Award Recipients**

### **Keppel –STTA Sportsman of the Year 2015**

Gao Ning is Singapore's best male player with a world ranking of 21 as of February 2016.

At the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, the veteran paddler bagged 3 golds in the singles, doubles and team events. Gao displayed exceptional play during the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games to deliver the 3 gold medals for Singapore.

Gao is one of the most consistent players in the Singapore team. He is a player that performs his best at every game, constantly pushing himself to grow and improve. His hard work and commitment are indeed impressive.

Gao is truly deserving of this prestigious award!

### **Keppel –STTA Sportswoman of the Year 2015**

In 2015, world No. 8 Feng Tianwei was the Asian Cup Singles Champion and scored the bronze medal in the singles event at the Asian Championships and doubles event in the World Championships.

Tianwei made history at the Asian Cup where she upset the top seed, Liu Shiwen (CHN) in the Indian city of Jaipur, in a particularly noteworthy win. This is Feng's first-ever Asian Cup gold, breaking China's streak of eight consecutive golds in the Women's Singles category.

At the Asian Championships 2015, Feng was also the only non-Chinese player to make it through to the last four, and ended the campaign with a bronze medal.

Feng, together with compatriot Yu Mengyu, scored the doubles bronze in the World Championships 2015.

### **Keppel –STTA Outstanding Coach of the Year 2015**

Jin Junhong truly deserves recognition for her hard work and commitment.

Under her charge, the national paddlers displayed a high level of performance at the Asian Cup, Asian Championships World Championships and SEA Games.

Feng Tianwei captured the crown at the Asian Cup and a bronze medal at the Asian Championships. It was no easy feat competing against some of the world's best paddlers at the Asian Cup and Asian Championships.

At the World Table Tennis Championships 2015, Singapore's female duo Feng and Yu team achieved a bronze medal for Singapore.

At the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, Singapore's women paddlers scored gold in the team and doubles event.

### **Keppel –STTA Supportive Coach of the Year 2015**

Coach Liu is known as hardworking and dedicated to his craft, with a special talent in grooming young players. Under his charge, Lin Ye achieved the U21 World Tour Grand Finals Singles, Champion.

Our younger local-born talents—Pearlyn Koh, Zhang Wanling, Yee Heng Hwee, Clarence Chew and Pang Xuejie—together with the Singaporeans—Yang Zi, Chen Feng, Li Hu, Lin Ye and Zhou Yihan—won 4 golds and 4 bronzes at the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2015.

This is an amazing feat by our younger generation of players. We are very proud of their achievements as they are making good progress and heading in the right direction.

### **Keppel –STTA Team of the Year 2015**

The men's team has achieved the most notable performance in 2015 based on their performance at the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games 2015.

Gao Ning, Li Hu, Yang Zi, Clarence Chew and Chen Feng displayed great fighting spirit and scored 3 golds in the singles, doubles and team events.

The men's team beat Vietnam 3–1 to win the team gold at the SEA games. Despite the first match getting off to a rocky start for Singapore, Singapore's Gao Ning and Clarence Chew eventually defeated Nguyen Ann Tu and Dinh Quang Linh 3-0 in their respective games to push Singapore towards a win.

### **Keppel –STTA Young Player of the Year 2015**

**Lin Ye** won the ITTF World Tour Grand Finals Under-21 women's title. Lin Ye also won the 2013 edition which was staged in Dubai in January 2014. This means that Lin is the first player in the competition's 19-year history to retain her title.

Lin also won the Under 21 Champion ITTF World Tour, Czech Open.

### **Keppel –STTA Young Achiever of the Year 2015**

**Clarence Chew** is the youngest member in the Singapore men's team. Despite his young age, the local-born paddler has proven himself by achieving two bronzes in the singles and double events and contributed to the team gold at the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games.

In the team finals, Clarence gave Singapore a 2-1 lead against Vietnam by winning the third match, beating Dinh Quang Linh 3-0 (11-7, 11-4, 11-7).

### **Keppel – STTA Special Award of the Year 2015**

The Special Award of the year acknowledges the athletes' win against tough opponents and their exceptional performances.

STTA presents the 5 special awards, as follow:

<b>Awardees</b>	<b>Achievements</b>
<b>Lin Ye</b>	Lin Ye/ Zhou Yihan won Ding Ning/Liu Shiwen in ITTF World Tour, Japan Open (Women's Doubles)
<b>Zhou Yihan</b>	Lin Ye/ Zhou Yihan won Ding Ning/Liu Shiwen in ITTF World Tour, Japan Open (Women's Doubles)
<b>Feng Tianwei</b>	Feng Tianwei won Liu Shiwen in Asian Championships, Zhu Yuling and Liu Shiwen in Asian Cup (Women's Singles)  Feng Tianwei/ Yu Menggyu won Li Xiaoxia/Liu Shiwen in ITTF World Tour, Polish Open (Women's Doubles)
<b>Yu Mengyu</b>	Feng Tianwei/ Yu Menggyu won Li Xiaoxia/Liu Shiwen in ITTF World Tour , Polish Open (Women's Doubles)  Yu Menyü/ Yang Zi won Fang Bo/ Chen Meng at Asian Championships (Mixed Doubles)
<b>Yang Zi</b>	Yu Menyü/ Yang Zi won Fang Bo/ Chen Meng at Asian Championships (Mixed Doubles)

**Keppel – STTA Commendation Award 2015**

Wang Xiang and Hao Anlin, Deputy Coaches of the men's and women's teams, have distinguished themselves through commendable performances and conduct, competence and devotion to additional duties during the 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games.

The commendation awards are a means of recognising their merit and service to Singapore.