



# SINGAPORE CHESS FEDERATION

Affiliated to -  
Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE)  
Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC)  
Sport Singapore (Sport SG)

## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Local Chess heroes flying the national flag high Singapore Chess Federation announces S\$180,000 donation from chess enthusiasts**

**Singapore, 31 March 2022** – The Singapore Chess Federation “SCF” is pleased to share the following recent success stories of its top athletes:

- International Master (IM) Tin Jingyao, and Woman Grandmaster (WGM) Gong Qianyun have been selected by the Singapore National Olympic Council to represent our country at the 31st South-East Asian Games (SEA) in Hanoi, Vietnam in May. Both IM Tin and WGM Gong will be competing in 3 individual events, the Classical, Rapid and Blitz time controls.
- IM Tin, a 21-year-old athlete, who co-shared the 1<sup>st</sup> placing at the Asian Individual Hybrid Chess Championship 2021, and qualified for the FIDE World Cup last year, will be making his debut at the 31<sup>st</sup> SEA Games. He is the top Singaporean player and will need to attain two more Grandmaster (GM) norms to become Singapore’s 5<sup>th</sup> Chess Grandmaster.
- WGM Gong, who works as a professional chess coach, will be defending the historic gold medal that she won at the 30th SEA Games in 2019. This was the Republic’s first and only gold medal ever won from a chess event at a major multi-sports event.
- On 27th February, a 14-year-old schoolboy Siddharth Jagadeesh achieved all the requirements to become Singapore’s 14th International Master. The student from International Community School is one of the Republic’s youngest players to do so in history - second only to former prodigy IM Jason Goh, who now serves on the SCF Executive Council as its treasurer and the head of the Selection Committee.

The SCF is encouraged by the successes of our local champions and will aim to build on their achievements by launching several initiatives such as a revamped National Training Program, a financial assistance scheme for overseas tournament participation, and organising more high-quality tournaments in Singapore.

The SCF would like to thank Mr. Zhu Su, CEO of Three Arrows Capital, Mr. Zhang Taiyang, Venture Partner of Alameda Research Ventures, and Mr. Zhang Changjie, CEO of Theme International Trading for donating a combined S\$180,000 to the SCF to support our cause, which SCF intends to match it with the One Team Singapore Fund (OTSF).

Dr. Hsu Li Yang, President of the SCF said, “We are deeply grateful for the generous support from reputable entrepreneurs and businessmen like Mr. Zhu Su, Mr. Zhang Taiyang and Mr. Zhang Changjie. These funds will allow us to better identify and develop existing and future talents, so that we will have our own Gaprindashvilis, Beth Harmons, and Carlsens.”

Chess enthusiast Mr. Zhu said, “I am pleased to have the opportunity to support chess in Singapore and I am excited to see the sport develop further here.”

Mr. Zhang Taiyang, who was enthused by the game of chess at a young age, shared, “I am impressed by the SCF’s plans to enhance its training infrastructure and I look forward to seeing more emerging young talents in the near future.”



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Mr. Zhang Changjie added, "Chess is very similar to trading as it involves making decisions based on risk-reward considerations and also the need for forward planning. Being part of the National Junior Squad 15-20 years ago has helped me in building and honing these skillsets."

"I hope that our support would help SCF in their goal to further the development of the chess scene in Singapore. In addition, I hope that some of these monies would help nurture the young chess players whose talents may have been restricted due to financial reasons."

Mr. Eric Chua, Parliamentary Secretary for Culture, Community and Youth & Social and Family Development remarked, "The game of chess brings about many positive outcomes – it improves our cognitive skills, it fosters interactions across communities and importantly, it teaches one how to win graciously and bounce back stronger after a loss. We are glad that more in the community are contributing to sport, and the government will support such contributions with dollar-for-dollar matching through the One Team Singapore Fund. I would like to thank the donors for supporting the Singapore Chess Federation. Your contributions will help groom our talents and encourage other organisations to consider giving back in their own ways to our community."

"With the extension of the OTSF for another five years, having corporates donating to SCF and match it with the OTSF will help SCF to build capabilities in their High-Performance System. It will also support and strengthen the athletes' pipelines and pathways in their journeys towards sporting excellence and contribute to their continued success on the international arena," said Dr. Su Chun Wei, Chief of the Singapore Sport Institute.

A press conference will be held to provide further information:

**Event:** Press Conference  
**Date:** 5th April 2022, Tuesday  
**Time:** 3pm  
**Venue:** Singapore Chess Federation  
51 Bishan Street 13  
#02-01A SIGC  
Singapore 579799

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## About Singapore Chess Federation

Founded in 1949, the Singapore Chess Federation's mission is to promote chess for all, and to nurture Singaporeans to realise their talents for both the Community and the Nation. To know more about the SCF, visit our website and social media accounts:

<https://www.singaporechess.org.sg/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/singaporechessfederation/>  
<https://www.instagram.com/sqchessfed/>

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