

PRESS RELEASE

Singapore Swimming Association Appoints Gary Tan as Head Coach, National Training Centre

SINGAPORE, 4 NOVEMBER 2016 - The Singapore Swimming Association (SSA) today officially unveiled Gary Tan as the Head Coach of the National Training Centre (NTC), formally appointing the former two-time Olympian to take charge of Singapore's elite swimming squad.

As NTC Head Coach, Tan's most immediate responsibility is to oversee the training and preparation of the NTC swimmers with a focus on the upcoming 29th Southeast Asian Games 2017 in Malaysia.

Tan's appointment will bring about continuity and stability for the NTC, which has seen unparalleled success in the past two years, said SSA President Lee Kok Choy.

"Gary has had a tremendous learning experience assisting Sergio Lopez to start up and build SSA's National Training Centre which has been instrumental to Singapore's swimming successes in 2015 and 2016. He is now ready to helm the NTC and bring the elite swimmers training there to greater heights."

For Tan, the appointment is a fulfilment of a personal goal and vision to help coach and mentor the next Olympic medalists for Singapore.

Said Tan, "As a former Olympian, I retired from the sport feeling like I still had more to give to swimming, and in 2008, I found coaching. This appointment today is a continuation of my dream as an athlete but in the capacity of the Head Coach of the National Training Centre, where I truly believe we will see the next Olympic medalists emerge. I am honoured by the vote of confidence from the Executive Committee of SSA and thankful for the support of the many talented coaches and high performance professionals I've had the privilege to work with in my career."

In his new appointment Tan will continue to be supported by a strong high performance team including Sonya Porter, SSA's Technical Director for Swimming. As the Technical Director, Porter will continue to develop the Long Term Athlete Development Pathway and work with Singapore Sports Institute, National Youth Sports Institute, and affiliate clubs on coaches' development and enhancement of the swimming eco-system.

Added Tan, "It has been a steep learning curve over the past two years and I look forward to continued learning and growth as we build the coaching capabilities in SSA. There are still many areas to strengthen in the coaching structure, and I am still learning to be a better coach for our swimmers. I believe Singapore will see greater things to come from our national swimmers, and I'm excited to be a part of this journey."

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ABOUT SINGAPORE SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

The Singapore Swimming Association (SSA) is the National Sports Association governing aquatic sports in Singapore. These include five key disciplines – diving, open water swimming, swimming, synchronised swimming and water polo. As the national governing body, SSA spearheads its vision of developing the Republic to become a leader in aquatic sports – regionally as well as globally. Closer to home, SSA collaborates with various affiliate clubs and stakeholders, to proactively nurture a greater depth of local talent through various outreach efforts and programmes.

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