FEBRUARY 2020

SILAT UNCUT

VOL. 16

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY SG SILAT



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

A little throwback!



Back in January, one of our affiliates, *Silat Harimau Minangkabau Singapura*, were invited to a competition in Johor Bahru. A total of 20 athletes were sent to participate in the competition and they managed to clinch the 2nd runner up position. They brought home a total of 7 bronze medals, 4 silver medals and 6 gold medals. Congratulations to the team! May we receive more good news like this in the months to come.





3rd Far East Pencak Silat Championship

We start of the month with the first competition of the year! The 3rd Far East Pencak Silat Championship, organised by Grasio association Singapore and sanctioned by the Singapore Silat Federation was held at Far East Plaza on 1st and 2nd of February. There were a total of 250 participants that took part in the competition, ranging from ages 6 - 35.

Despite being small, the younger ones could really pack a punch and showed they have a lot of potential to be elite athletes when they are older. All in all, the event went smoothly and it concluded on a high note.





*All photos are courtesy of Mohammed Haniff Zainol. More photos availlable on his flickr page.



















PERSILAT Meeting





On the 8th of February, another meeting was held in Padepokan, Jakarta, Indonesia. This marked their third meeting to discuss and tryout new scoring systems, understanding new rules through a short practical session, and reviewing documents such as the rules of the game, the organisation's constitution written and many more. They also had a review of the corporate merchandises and equipments that will be used for future courses and competitions. We are anxiously waiting for the release of all the new changes that will push silat into a new era!









Thank You, Dearest Interns!







For the last 6 months, our interns have worked tirelessly; helping with projects, doing presentations, helping out during competitions and much more. They have poured their heart and soul out for the federation for the last six months and this chapter of their lives have come to a close. For all the great work that you have done, the we thank you for your service. We hope to see you around during other events!

Fighting on the Front Line





In January, the Novel Coronavirus, also known as Covid-19, struck the whole world. As many have been affected, our front-liners have sacrificed a lot to fight the virus.

On 18th February, DPM Heng Swee Keat some TEAMSG athletes went down to visit the SCDF Team at Kallang. Hazim to be a representative of TeamSG to give away a box of Ice cream as an appreciation for their hardwork. The athletes also gave out Nila plushies. We hope you enjoy the goodies and keep fighting hard front-liners!

JJIF Jiujitsu Presentation





On 15th February, Jiu Jitsu Association Singapore held a seminar for the Singapore Silat Federation. They did a demonstration and explained how the sport is played. WAKO Singapore athletes were also present to learn more about the sport. They demonstrated on 4 main categories of Jiu Jitsu namely: Fighting system and Full Contact which are the combat categories; and duo show and duo mix which are the performance categories. There was also a tryout session that the athletes and parents participated in. It was a great workout session on a saturday afternoon! We hope to be involved more collaborations in the future!





















Siti Khadijah: It's your destiny!





She was pointed out by Dr Sheik Alau'ddin as one of the potential athletes to bring back a gold medal for the 3rd World Junior 2016 at a young age of 14. She was strong, and had skills that were difficult to achieve at that age. She had a positive mindset that has helped her to overcome adversities in and out of the arena.

Siti Khadijah is a diligent person, managing school and her life now as an athlete under the SpexScholarship scheme. Very few athletes are able to play in 2 or more categories but she is an exception. She is able to fight and is also able to perform through the artistic double category. Read on to find out more about her!

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Qn: How did you first get involved with Silat?

It was when my biological dad brought me and my sister to a mosque for a silat trial. He found out about the session through word of mouth. Before joining I was a dancer. Dancing didn't take me far after getting rejected from SOTA because I was told to be too stiff and aggressive. I moved on looking forward to try out something new that's out of my comfort zone.

I have no martial arts background but when i was told to make my first kick, I fell in love with it and naturally, my body line flowed along. Since then, I looked forward to every training. I was hungry & determined to excel in this sport.





I was my best self, gave my all & won quarters and everything else fell in place.

Qn: What are your top three proudest moments?

This is in no order of merit, but the most memorable one would be the friendly match we had with the Johor Team in 2014. That was my first "official" fight and my first win. The thrills of winning made me want more. The second would be in the National Pencak Silat Championship on 2014 when I clinched the goal medal for my team in the artistic double category. Lastly, it would be the most recent Asian Games in 2019. It was my first major games and I was least expected to bring back a medal because I was not as experience as most of my teammates. However, I was my best self, giving my all in the ring and I won.







Qn: What would you say your biggest motivation is?

My biggest motivation is to fulfil my wills and says - that's to go far in this arena & to never say "I quit". I always have an end goal in mind, train hard for it and pick up as much knowledge & opportunity to be the best version of myself. I want to be able to give back to my family for their continuous support and having faith in me from the very beginning.

Qn: If you were given the chance to do another sport, what would it be and why?

I would take up polo because I love horses and the sport is unique.
But if given the chance for me to trade my sportsman badge, I'll take up Ballet.
I know it's a big jump and the difference is unthinkable but ballet was my root and I think it would be nice to follow in my mother's footsteps.

Qn: Last but not least, if you could tell your younger self something what would be?

"Have faith and be patient". It is important to enjoy and embrace your journey because you can't run away from your own destiny.



My Ayah (father) always reminded me that to live, you must have a purpose. I believe, my purpose is to serve, fight well & give back.



Who knew the sharp edged fighter had a classical dancer background? Do our other athletes have similar stories where they pursued other passions that were unexpected? Let's find out in the next issue.

Thank you Siti Khadijah for taking time out of your busy schedule to answer some thought-provoking questions. We hope you continue to be diligent and inspire those that come after you. She is proof that what is yours is meant to be "because you can't run away from your own destiny".





One Warrior Series

On 19th February, another edition of the One Warrior Series took place. Our athletes and coach were there to support the event.

Up till now, there have been many one warrior event that our athletes and coaches have tireslessly supported. Let's continue this unwavering support and hopefully there can be other collaborations with them as well!





Congratulations Dr Sheik!



True leaders lead by example. Dr Sheik as always emphasised the importance of excelling in silat and academically to our athletes. He also encourages and supports staff who are keen in pursuing higher education. As of 23rd February, Dr Sheik has received his second doctorate, this time in business administration (DBA).

In 2019, Dr Sheik flew back and forth from Kuala Lumpur amidst his overseas and local schedules, competitions in Singapore and overseeing the progress of the organisation and all the athletes. He is able to manage his work, studies and family. This trait of his is not something new; proven to be true back when he built the federation with his own two hands 20 years ago.

Dr Sheik always aspires for greatness in everything he does. He never allows himself to settle for less. He has put his heart and soul into everything he does, He has become an icon of hard work and success with everything that he has achieved in his career. We hope that this motivates all athletes, friends and associates to strive for more and to keep dreaming and achieving! Once again, congratulations Dr Sheik!







Covid-19 Response Plan



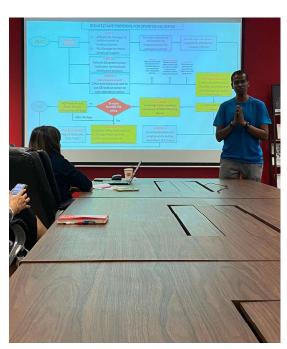
As of Wednesday (26 Feb) morning, 4 more patients have been discharged and made full recovery. Singapore has managed to contain the spread of the virus to a minimum in the country. In contrast, the spread of the virus globally has seen a stark increase especially in countries outside of China.

On the 26th of February, SportSG conducted a session with the affiliated national sports agencies (NSA) in Singapore, briefing them of the response plan towards the situation of the Covid-19. This was done to remind and inform the NSAs of the necessary steps to take before and after training, capping the number of attendees at any event done and more.

Singapore's response has been singled out for praise by WHO chief Dr Tedros Adhanom and Harvard don Professor Marc Lipsitch. Right now, at an individual level, we must practice good personal hygiene and limit any social contact. Good personal hygiene not only consists of closing your mouth when you cough or others, but also being responsible by wearing a mask, visiting the doctor and staying home when you are unwell.

Thank you SportSG for conducting the session. Let's all practice good hygiene and protect one another from the virus!







Singapore Sports Legend



It is definitely not the first time Dr Sheik is called to do an interview about the highlights in his sporting career. This time round, he was interviewed for a talkshow focused on Singaporean sports legends. Dr Sheik never shies away from the camera and is always ready to talk to the press or be part of interviews like these, all in the name of pushing the sport to the next level. The interview was conducted in his office at Heartbeat@Bedok and also the OCBC arena hall 4 alongside the athletes - getting an outlook of what it's like to be coached by him. Keep an eye out for the episode once it drops!







The Sheik Family



credits to the original photographer

A family of 8. A family of Champions. Any avid sports fan would know of this family. The Sheik family - Dr Sheik and his wife, Mdm Saadiah (centre); their daughters Nur Shafiqa (right) and Nur Shaqira (left) and their sons Sheik Ferdous, Sheik Ashiddiq, Sheik Fayz and Sheik Farhan (right to left).

Many would know of Sheik Farhan and Sheik Ferdous' for their achievements in the recent years. However, this family is bigger than that. Their two elder children, Nur Shafiqa and Sheik Ashiddiq are have created a path of their own, one as a flight attendant with Singapore Airlines and the other majoring in physiology. Nur Shaqira and Sheik Fayz are currently studying in the Singapore Sports School, and it is clear where their end goal lies.

As a father, Dr Sheik sets out goals for them, wanting them to build their own legacy as champions but he also listens to their needs and wants. Mdm Sa'adiah on the other hand, is the nurturing one, providing support and a shoulder to cry on when the going gets tough.



"Fall down seven times, stand up eight" - a qoute that is more than enough to describe the values of this family. They would never allow themselves to slump and give up hope if things do not work out. This is a family of pure hard workers, proving everyday that small motivations and consistency in your daily life could amount to significant success.

Nothing comes easy for this family - beaten down time and time again by people who envy their success. But as the going gets tough, the tough get going.

Search for CNA | On The Red Dot | S8 E26: Runs in the family - Rivalry among silat siblings on youtube for a more comprehensive interview with the whole family.









Silat in the World: Silat Goes Global

Silat Goes Global - an initiative aimed to promote silat to other countries outside of Southeast Asia.Beijing, China. 26th to 28th February 2006. It started off with as a test mission — to see if they could penetrate into the sports scene in China and set up a silat federation there. The mission was also aimed such that there would be a chance for silat athletes to participate in the 2010 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.



Through that trip, Dr. Sheik and his team learnt a lot about setting up federations and the connections with the different stakeholders. It definitely was not easy as there had to be proper planning in place and finances had to be sorted out first before they set-up a center in the country. Despite the challenges, he saw all these trips as an opportunity to spread the sports further the borders of Southeast Asia. And thus, began his journey.

Their very first mission under the tag "Silat Goes Global", after visiting China was to the Middle East and African countries, from 3rd – 27th May 2007. The specific countries they visited are Kuwait, Egypt, Morocco, Qatar, Mauritius, UAE, and Iran.





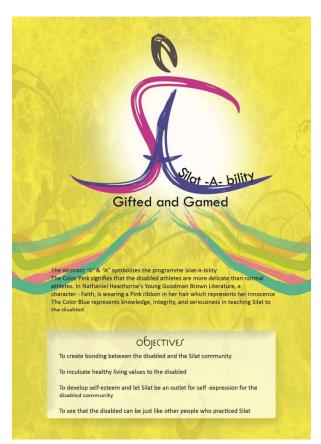
Program Logos

The Singapore Silat Federation houses many exceptional athletes, varying in age. Under the leadership of Dr Sheik, many new programs were established and there was more emphasis for all the athletes to excel in their studies and in the sport. Dr Sheik also emphasised the importance of family - the roles parents and children play.

Dr Sheik is an icon, known for his ability to juggle many different things at one time, and still present the best quality of work. He aims to ensure that all his subordinates and athletes achieve the same, if not more.

The three program logos that are shared below depict values - integration and excellience - that the Singapore Silat Federation would uphold. It is evident in our athletes and in the events we organise and participate in.

Even though these programs may not be actively promoted anymore, the concepts and values behind the objectives of the program are still being practiced and emphasised greatly. Read on to find out more!



Silat-A-bility was created to integrate the disabled community and the already existing Silat community. The oink in the logo represents innocence in a person and the blue represents the commitment to teaching silat to the disabled.

Silat-A-bility set out to meet certain objectives such as, to inculcate a healthy living values to the disabled community; empower the disbaled community to build a sense of self-esteem and for them to use silat as a form of self-expression.



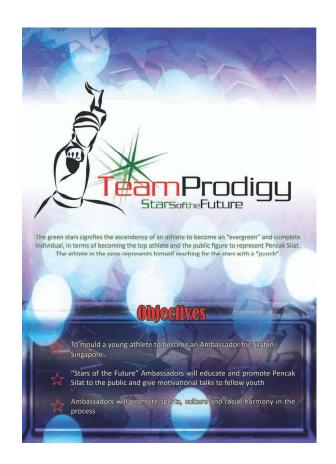


Team Aspire is written in the colour red as a representation of brotherhood and equality. The lion is a symbol of power and pride, the most powerful and admirable athletes and also the strength to power on.

Team Aspire was formed to set a standard of quality athletes to be ready and willing to compete at any time. It was envisioned to be a base for *elite* athletes and produce champions. Team Aspire was also set to ensure the athletes excel in the sport and academically.

Team Prodigy are also known as Stars of the Future. In the logo, the green stars resembles the power the athlete has to become an "evergreen" and complete individual and becoming the top athlete representing Pencak Silat.

Team Prodigy was set out to mould a young athlete to become an Ambassador in Singapore. As Ambassadors they will educate and promote the sport to all ages and uphold racial harmony in the process.



SGSILAT

News Update & Upcoming events

World Junior Postponement

Due to the risks of the Covid-19 this past month, the World Junior Pencak Silat Championship 2020 will be postponed. Instead of April, the competition will be held from the 24th of June to the 29th of June.



We are excited to welcome all delegates in June for this inaugural competition. Keep and eye out on all of our social media pages for more updates and to see our athlete's progress! For queries, you may contact us at wjpsc2020@persisi.org. See you there!

1st international Workshop

In march, the first ever international workshop will be done with all the presidents, coaches and wasit-juri of all the silat federations worldwide. The objectives are to inform and update them on the changes and some newly written rules and regulations that will follow the organisation. There will also be a practical session for them to gainfully understand the changes. To all the stakeholders involved, keep an eye out for more information on this workshop nearing the dates!

Venue of workshop: Padepokan, Jakarta, Indonesia Date of workshop: 30th March to 3rd April

Alumni, National syllabus & Grading

Interesting things await in the next month! There are plans for an initiative for silat alumni and standardise national syllabus and grading for all silat practitioners and athletes. Keep and eye out for next month's issue for updates and progress towards this new creation!











