

PRESS RELEASE

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ATTENTION EDITORS: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19TH ASIAN GAMES HANGZHOU 2022

It is with disappointment and regret that the Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) announces that Malaysia will not be sending a team to compete in the Asian Games 2022 golf competition, to be held from 28 September to 1 October 2023 in the West Lake International Golf Course, Hangzhou, China.

This decision, confirmed by the Asian Games selection committee, consisting of officials of the Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) and the Kementerian Belia dan Sukan (KBS), stipulates that Malaysia will only send players ranked in the top 8 in Asia. This edition, participating countries can field either amateur or professional players or a combination of both.

We acknowledge the exceptional performances of our top golfers: Malcolm Ting, the current best-ranked Malaysian amateur golfer in Asia, standing proudly at 27th place, Jeneath Wong, whose achievements have placed her at 18th, both based on World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR), Gavin Green, ranked 14th in Asia based on the World Golf Ranking as well as Natasha Andrea Oon ranked 173rd in Asia based on the Rolex Ladies Ranking. Their relentless efforts, significant accomplishments, and steadfast dedication have indeed epitomized the strength, vitality, and limitless potential of Malaysian golf.

Yet, even with this high standing and their remarkable contributions to the sport, the stringent selection criteria mean that our nation will not be represented in the forthcoming competition.

The MGA cannot help, but express our heartaches over this development, particularly in light of our nation's golfing triumphs, having won gold medals in both the 2022 and 2023 SEA Games. These remarkable achievements bear testaments to the tireless commitment, extraordinary talent, and undying passion of our golfers.

The current selection criteria for the Asian Games do not resonate with our shared belief in the spirit of competition, inclusion, and progress that sports should promote. The MGA remains committed to fostering, nurturing, and celebrating our golfing talents and will continue to advocate for opportunities that recognize and honor their dedication and success.

We stand with our athletes, our supporters, and the entire Malaysian golfing community during this trying time. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence, knowing that the journey of a champion is not determined solely by the competitions they partake in, but by the resilience and fortitude they embody.

****END OF STATEMENT****

-----**Released by the Malaysian Golf Association. For more details, please contact Nadia Qistina at nadia@mgaonline.com.my**-----