A double whammy

Jun Hoong and Wendy ruled out of Canadian finale

By LIM TEIK HUAT

PETALING JAYA: Pandelela Rinong and Nur Dhabitah Sabri will be on double duty as injury woes hit the Malaysian squad heading into the final leg of the FINA Diving World Series in Windsor, Canada, this weekend.

Cheong Jun Hoong, who partnered Pandelela to win a silver at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics last year, is unavailable after failing to recover from a back injury.

Jun Hoong pulled out on the morning of competition in the third leg in Kazan, Russia, after complaining of spasms in her back.

Jun Hoong was due to partner Pandelela in the women's 10m platform synchro in the Windsor finale. Jun Hoong-Pandelela were the medallists in the opening two legs in China last month. They bagged the silver in Beijing and then a bronze in Guangzhou. Wendy Ng Yan Yee, a finalist in the 3m springboard individual in Rio, has also pulled out from the Canadian finale after suffering from a slipped disc in training a few days ago.

Wendy was slated to compete in the 3m springboard individual and partner Dhabitah in the 3m springboard synchro.

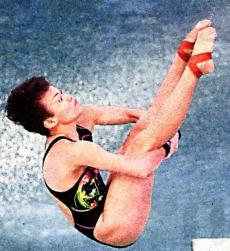
"I'm disappointed. The selection for the World Championships (in Budapest, Hungary, from July 14-22) is coming up soon, so I hope to recover and train hard again," said Wendy.

The 17-year-old Dhabitah will now partner Pandelela for both the 3m springboard and 10m platform synchros,

Both Dhabitah and Pandelela will also compete in the 10m platform individual.

It is unlikely Malaysia will field a replacement for Wendy in the 3m springboard individual.

Only the top 10 finishers at the Rio Olympics are eligible to compete in the series.





Big disappointment: Wendy Ng Yan Yee is down with slipped disc while Cheong Jun Hoong (inset) has yet to recover from a back injury.