

# Injured Pandelega, Jun Hoong may skip World Championships

**THE** participation of Olympians Pandelega Rinong, Cheong Jun Hoong and Wendy Ng in the World Championships in Budapest on July 14-22 is in jeopardy as they are down with recurring injuries.

If the trio compete and aggravate their injuries in the world meet, Malaysia could face serious problems in the Kuala Lumpur Sea Games on Aug 19-30.

Pandelega injured her right shoulder again in the final leg of the Diving World Series in Windsor, Canada in April and she is currently going through the re-

covery process.

Jun Hoong and Wendy are also undergoing rehabilitation for back problems.

If the trio decide not to compete in the World Championships, then Malaysia will not have any hope of returning with a medal.

Pandelega-Jun Hoong won the women's 10m platform synchro silver medal at the Rio Olympics and the pair should be serious contenders for the podium in Budapest.

Wendy also had a decent outing in Rio where she reached the

women's 3m springboard final. The diver will be looking forward to repeat her form in the world meet.

Jun Hoong also has a realistic chance to fight for a medal with Dhabitah in the women's 3m springboard synchro event where they finished fifth in Rio last year.

National coach Yang Zhuliang's option is Leong Mun Yee for the world meet if Pandelega and Jun Hoong are ruled out.

He said for now all eight divers under the Podium Programme, including Nur Dhabitah Sabri,

*Pandelega Rinong*



Ooi Tze Liang, Chew Yiwei and Ahmad Amsyar Azman, have been registered for the world meet.

"Pandelega has been entered for the women's 10m platform individual and synchro with Jun Hoong.

"I am relieved that Pandelega does not need surgery. Her shoulder is much better now but we still need to monitor it.

"Mun Yee will be on standby for the 10m platform synchro event,"

said Zhuliang yesterday.

Mun Yee is tentatively planned for the team event but Zhuliang can draw on her experience as she was Pandelega's partner previously.

Mun Yee bagged two bronze with Pandelega in the Rome (2009) and Barcelona (2013) world meet editions.

At the Kazan edition two years ago, Pandelega delivered a bronze in the women's 10m platform individual event. **Ajitpal Singh**