

29TH SEA GAMES
(AUGUST 19 - 30)

KUALA LUMPUR 2017

Not bad at all for synchronised swimmers

WHETHER or not synchronised swimming is contested in the Philippines in 2019, Malaysia can take a lot of positives from their athletes' performance at the Kuala Lumpur Games.

A haul of two golds and three silvers can only be described as impressive, considering that six of the team members only joined in early 2016.

Zylane Lee and Gan Zhen Yu are the only two members from the all-conquering side who swept all five golds at the 2011 Indonesia Games.

Four others – Gan Hua Wei, Fong Yan Nie, Lee Yiat Xin and Lee Yiat Lum – competed in Singapore two

years ago.

And the six newcomers are Wong Mei Teng, Liyana Nadirah Mohd Fairuz, Mandy Lim, Ong Ee Theng, Chai Jia Yue and Leong Jie Wen.

Of the lot, Hua Wei was the most outstanding as she clinched two golds.

Promoted to the senior squad following the retirement of key swimmers Katrina Ann Abdul Hadi and Tasha Jane Taher Ali, the 18-year-old Hua Wei justified coach Long Yan's faith in her.

She pulled off a surprise win over Debbie Soh and Miya Yong Hsing in the solo technical before teaming up with Zylane to pip the Singaporean duo to the duet free routine gold.

Zylane and Hua Wei had earlier settled for silver in the duet technical.

The 25-year-old Zylane also finished runner-up to Debbie in the solo free routine.

Malaysia's third silver came from the free routine team.

Zylane was pleased with the team's performance despite them being a "work in progress".

"The team have really come a long way since Tina (Katrina) and Tasha left us," said Zylane, who has been with the national team since she was 12.

"We literally had to start from scratch. But I'm kind of used to it because over the years I have com-



SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING
WHERE THE MEDALS WENT

	G	S	B	Ttl
SINGAPORE	3	2	2	7
MALAYSIA	2	3	0	5
INDONESIA	0	0	3	3

peted with so many different teammates.

"So it's not really a problem because we all share one common goal – to do well.

"I strongly believe the current team are moving in the right direction. They are all hardworking and willing to go further. I foresee greater things ahead for the team."



Top of the class: Gan Hua Wei clinched two golds for Malaysia.