

29TH SEA GAMES
(AUGUST 19 - 30)

KUALA LUMPUR 2017

HOW WE FARED – SPORT BY SPORT



ARCHERY

MALAYSIA again won five golds, like they did at the 2015 Games in Singapore. Khairul Anuar Mohamed, Juwaidi Mazuki and Fatin Nurfatehah Mat Salleh failed to come good in the individual events, but they made up by helping Malaysia win the team event.

Unheralded Chu Duc Anh created history by beating Khairul in the men's recurve individual final to become the first Vietnamese champion in the event since archery was staged in 1977.

The Philippines were the biggest underachievers. Led by two-time women's compound individual gold medallist Amaya Amparo Cojuangco, the team managed just a silver and four bronzes.



ATHLETICS

VIETNAM emerged as the new kingpins with a 17-11-6 haul. They ended Thailand's domination in the last 15 editions. Thailand finished second overall (9-13-11) and Malaysia third (8-8-9).

Le Tu Chinh was the star for Vietnam, emerging as the fastest women in South-East Asia by winning the 100m, 200m and 4x100m.

Malaysia's Khairul Hafiz Jantan stole the limelight by winning the men's blue riband event.

A total of seven Games records were shattered – three by Malaysia, two by Vietnam and one each by Thailand and Indonesia.

Vietnam will pose a threat to the other teams at the Games in the Philippines in 2019.



BADMINTON

THAILAND, headed by high performance director Remy Mainaky, enjoyed their best-ever SEA Games outing by winning four out of the seven badminton gold medals.

Although they were without top singles shuttlers Ratchanok Intanon and Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk, they showed their prowess in the doubles event to take the men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles individual titles.

They also emerged as the women team champions.

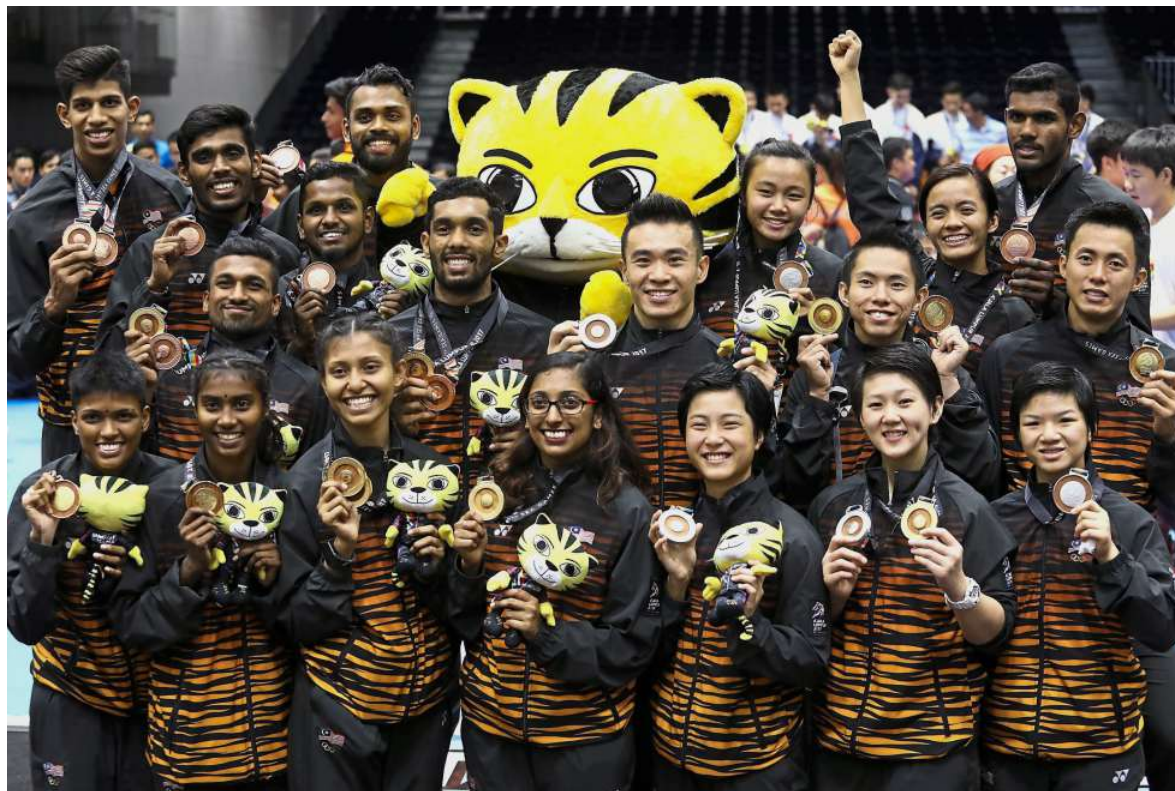
Thailand's only disappointment was in the women's singles. They had two top women singles shuttlers – Busanan Ongbamrungphan and Pornpawee Chochuwong – but both failed to live up to their expectations and allowed Malaysia to sneak from behind to make it a 1-2 finish through Goh Jin Wei and Soniia Cheah.

Indonesia, weakened by the absence of reigning mixed doubles world champions Tontowi Ahmad-Lilyana Natsir and their top men doubles players, still did well to win two gold medals in the men's singles through Jonatan Christie and team gold.



BASKETBALL

THE Philippines still proved unbeatable as they swatted away all comers for their 17th gold in men's basketball. The talent-laden squad brought the sellout crowd to their feet by parading Fil-German Christian Standhardinger. Heart-throb Kobe Paras was also a fan favourite with several highlight dunks. In the women's event, Malaysia flexed



Packing a punch: The karate team ended the Games with a seven-gold haul.

their muscles to claim their 11th gold. It was an impressive team effort as they held firm defensively against the likes of Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines.



BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER

SINGAPORE secured an unprecedented hattrick, winning three golds in all the three disciplines – billiards, pool and snooker. While Peter Gilchrist's fifth successive win in the billiards singles came as no surprise, Chan Keng Kwang-Tey Choon Kiat and Toh Lian Han-Aloysius Yapp upset the form books to win the snooker and pool doubles respectively. Powerhouse Malaysia and Thailand surprisingly failed to live up to their billing.



BOWLING

MALAYSIA, powered by Rafiq Ismail and Shalin Zulkifli, tore their rivals apart to retain their overall crown with a record-equalling seven-gold haul. Holloway Cheah's charges have now ruled the SEA Games for seven of the last eight editions since the 1997 Jakarta Games. The only disappointment for the home side was the failure to defend the men's team title. Singapore were the next best performers with a two-gold haul.



BOXING

THAILAND are the powerhouse. They qualified for five of the six finals but could only win two golds (2-3-1). They pipped the Philippines, who had a 2-1-2 tally. The national pugilists had a good outing with Muhd Fuad Redzuan (light-fly) winning Malaysia's first gold medal in eight years. Adli Hafidz picked up the silver in the light-heavyweight class while Indran Rama Krishnan earned a bronze in the middleweight.



CRICKET

CRICKET made its debut in the SEA Games and the national cricketers delivered a gold, silver and bronze at the Kinrara Oval in Puchong.

The men's team delivered the

gold in the 50 overs event but could only clinch the silver in the T-20.

The women's team failed to make the final of T20 and ended up with a bronze medal.



CYCLING

IT remains to be seen whether track cycling will be contested at the Philippines SEA Games in 2019.

The Philippines only managed one bronze at the Kuala Lumpur Games and that came from the men's BMX cross cycling.

If track cycling is dropped, it will be a major loss to Malaysia as a significant gold medal contributor. At the Kuala Lumpur Games, Malaysia won 13 golds out of 20 events to emerge runaway overall champions.



DIVING

THE Philippines, the next hosts in 2019, are not expected to expand the diving programme as they don't have capable divers.

And they are likely to stage only the eight Olympic events compared to the 13 contested at the Kuala Lumpur Games.

Still, Malaysia should have no problems achieving a clean sweep as they have already established themselves as a powerhouse in South-East Asia.



EQUESTRIAN

THE Philippines prevented a clean sweep by hosts Malaysia by winning the show jumping individual gold through Colin John Syquia. And expect the Filipinos to come charging back when they host the 2019 SEA Games. Malaysia rode to glory by sweeping five golds through Quzandria Nur Mahamad Fathil (individual dressage); Edric Lee, Qabil Ambak, Quzandria, Quek Sue Yian (team dressage); Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin (individual endurance); Azizatul Asma Abdullah, Mohd Adhwa Embong, Mohd Fuad Hashim, Mohd Bulkhari Rozali, Mohd Yusran Yusuf (team endurance); and Qabil, Sharmini, Neelan Jonathan Ratnasingham and Pra-

veen Nair Mathavan (team jumping).

Malaysia also won five golds at the 2001 Kuala Lumpur Games.



FENCING

VIETNAM are the No. 1 in fencing. Their three Olympians – Nguyen Tien Nhat (men's epee), Vu Thanh An (men's sabre) and Nguyen Thi Nhu Hoa (women's epee) – all struck gold in Kuala Lumpur. But Singapore have a lot of potential as their gold medallists – Amita Berthier (women's foil) and Lau Ywen (women's sabre) – are only in their teens. Malaysia, on the other hand, need to expose their fencers in order to catch up with their rivals.



FOOTBALL

MALAYSIA fell at the last hurdle to reigning champions Thailand through an unfortunate own goal by goalkeeper Haziq Nadli. Indonesia beat Myanmar 3-1 in the bronze medal playoff.

In contrast, the Malaysian women's team had a disastrous outing. They lost all their four matches to finish last in the five-team round-robin competition. Vietnam pipped Thailand to the gold on a better goal difference after both teams ended with 10 points each. Myanmar won the bronze with six points.



FUTSAL

MALAYSIA surpassed the bronze medal target by winning the men's silver in the five-team round-robin competition.

World Cuppers Thailand were in a class of their own as they claimed their fourth consecutive gold. Vietnam picked up the bronze.

The Malaysian women failed to defend the bronze as they could only finish fourth. Thailand won the gold, Vietnam the silver and Indonesia the bronze.



GOLF

THAI Athaya Thitikul gave the regional fans a glimpse of her immense potential when she marked her debut

with a double. Athaya, already a winner of a professional event at 14, won the individual title with a 14-under 199. Her total was four shots better than compatriot Kosuke Hamamoto, the men's champion. It was also a tournament to cherish for Singapore as their men ended a 28-year gold drought when Gregory Foo, Joshua Shou, Marc Ong and Joshua Ho stunned Thailand to win the men's team title.



HOCKEY

FAILING to win the women's indoor hockey gold was a big blow to the Malaysia Hockey Confederation (MHC).

Indonesia emerged champions to deny Malaysia a clean sweep of all four golds. Malaysia could only manage a bronze after disappointing defeats to Thailand (3-0) and Indonesia (2-0). The loss is a wake-up call to the MHC to also focus on indoor hockey.



ICE SKATING

FIGURE skating and short track speed skating were contested in the SEA Games for the first time. And Malaysia were heads and shoulders above the rest. Julian Yee gave the hosts a flying start by winning the men's figure skating before speed skaters Anja Chong and Co chipped in four golds for Malaysia to become overall champions with five golds and four bronzes.



JUDO

INDONESIA and the Philippines dominated the sport by winning two golds each. Thailand and Vietnam bagged one apiece. Six golds were offered and Malaysia could only manage a silver and three bronzes. For the record, Malaysia last won a gold 36 years ago.



KARATE

THE three-way battle continued at the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games with Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia sharing the spoils. Malaysia maintained their supremacy by winning seven golds. Malaysia were also the overall champions with seven golds at the 2013 Myanmar Games. Karate was not contested at the 2015 Singapore Games. At the 2011 Indonesia Games, the hosts swept 10 golds. There is a tendency for the hosts to win more gold when they stage the Games. Fortunately at the KL Games, there were fewer complaints on biased judging compared to previous editions.



LAWN BOWLS

MALAYSIA are the overwhelming favourites in lawn bowls and surpassed the four-gold target. The Malaysia Lawn Bowls Federation (MLBF) have a seasoned pool of players, including four former world champions in their ranks.

It was no surprise to see them qualify for all eight finals. They almost made a clean sweep with a haul of 7-1-0.

The only setback was in the men's fours event when they lost the quartet from the Philippines in the final. The Filipinos are among the strong contenders having entered four finals.