

27 February 2017

For Immediate Release

Asian Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships 2017
February 24 – March 5
Korat, Thailand

Day 3 (26 Feb 2017) – Maxine Wong delivers foil bronze in Korat

KORAT – Day 3 at the Asian Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships (AJCFC) 2017 saw the completion of the Cadet individual competition with the boys' Epee and girls' Foil taking centre stage.

While the boys found the going tough – Round of 32 for Elliot Han and Austin Lu, R64 for Jefferson Cheong, with Bron Sheum eliminated in the poules – the girls all reached the Direct Elimination stage, with Maxine Wong earning a bye into the Round of 32.

Rachel Lim, Tan Jia Lin and Denyse Chan safely negotiated the R64 to join Maxine. Denyse and Jia Lin fell at the R32 stage to Filipina and Japanese opponents respectively, while Rachel edged Australian Violet Hull 15-14, and Maxine came from 7-2 behind to beat China's Lin Xiaomei by the narrowest of margins, 11-10.

A possible quarter-final meeting between the two Singapore team-mates did not materialise when Rachel went down to Japan's Arisa Kano in R16. Meanwhile, Maxine fought back from the brink of elimination to take her match against Hong Kong's Lily Chow to sudden death before winning 14-13.

Against Arisa in the quarter-finals, Maxine led after the first two periods (3-2 and 6-5) before powering through for a 12-7 win. Victory was especially satisfying for the 16-year-old Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) student who three weeks ago lost a repechage to this very opponent in Paris at the CEP Challenge Marathon Foils 2017.

With at least a bronze secured, Maxine faced another Japanese opponent in Yuka Ueno in the semi-final, where the match was lost in the final minute of the third period after Yuka went on a five-point burst. The final score was 12-8 in favour of Yuka who went on to beat China's Zhu Yaling in the gold medal match.

Said Maxine's coach Slava Bobok: "I'm proud that Maxine wants more than just winning the bronze medal. She fenced well today."

For Maxine, who bettered her R16 result from last year, the bronze medal represents a step in the right direction.

"I'm glad I got to meet Ueno today, as she is the same age as me and we would likely be meeting each other more in future competitions," said Maxine.

"I have one more shot at the Cadet level in this competition and I hope to be able to do better next year."



Competition continues tomorrow (Monday 27 Feb) with Cadet Team competitions for Boys' Sabre and Foil, and Girls' Epee.

The AJCFC 2017 features more than 700 fencers from 27 Asian countries in both juniors and cadets events.

At the last edition of the AJCFC in Bahrain/Saudi Arabia, Singapore's Junior fencers returned with 1 silver and 4 bronzes, while the Cadets brought home 3 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals for one of Singapore's best historical showing.

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Fencing Singapore (formerly known as "Amateur Fencing Association of Singapore") was established in 1955 and is the national governing body for the sport of fencing. Currently, there are 5000 fencers in the fencing community. By actively participating in international competitions, organising international events and promoting the sport to more youths, Fencing Singapore aims to raise the profile of the sport and to achieve medals at the highest levels of global competition. More information about the sport can be found at <http://fencingsingapore.org.sg>