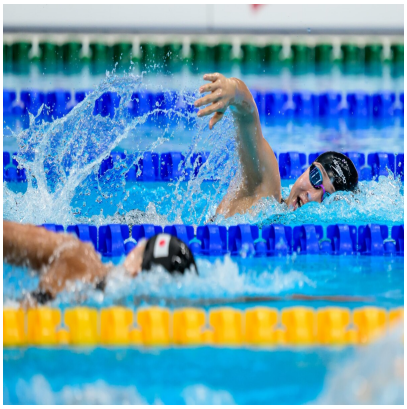

Six Singapore swimmers head to the short-course World Championships in Beijing, with Gan Ching Hwee and Teong Tzen Wei on wild cards

Description

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Six Singapore swimmers are entered for the World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m) in Beijing, which open on Tuesday, 1 December, at the Beijing National Aquatics Center, the Water Cube. Gan Ching Hwee and Teong Tzen Wei go as two of the 34 wild cards that World Aquatics confirmed on 10 November, and Russel Pang, Mikayla Tan and Tedd Chan, all born in 2009 or 2010, join them with Mikkel Lee.



Gan Ching Hwee in the womenâ??s 800m freestyle final at the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games on 25 September 2026, where she took silver. Photo: SpexSG / Andy Chua

The six-day short-course meet ends on Sunday, 6 December. Beijing keeps the same time as Singapore, so heats start at 10am and the evening sessions at 7pm, with the final evening on 6

December brought forward to 6pm.

Who swims what

World Aquaticsâ?? entry list has Gan in the womenâ??s 400m, 800m and 1500m freestyle, and Pang, 16, in the menâ??s 400m, 800m and 1500m freestyle. Tan, also 16, is down for the 50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke and the 200m individual medley.

Chan, who turned 17 on 12 November, is entered in the 50m backstroke and the 100m individual medley. Lee has the 50m and 100m freestyle and the 50m butterfly, and Teong swims only the 50m butterfly.

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Teong Tzen Wei after the menâ??s 50m butterfly at the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games on 24 September 2026, where he was fifth. Photo: SpexSG / Andy Chua

How the wild cards were won

World Aquatics brought in the Wild Card Programme at this yearâ??s three-stop Swimming World Cup. A swimmer earned a place by finishing in the top three of an individual final with a World Aquatics A qualifying time, while racing at no fewer than two of the stops. The places sit on top of each federationâ??s usual entries, with up to three extra swimmers per country. Two of the 34 places went to Singaporeans.

The times they bring to Beijing

Gan is inside the A standard in all three of her events on Singapore Aquaticsâ?? qualifying list as of 2 November: 4:01.94 for the 400m freestyle at World Cup Stop 1, against 4:06.27, then 8:13.18 for the 800m and 15:38.41 for the 1500m, both at Stop 3.

Teongâ??s 21.96s in the 50m butterfly at Stop 2 is inside the A standard of 22.43s. Pang swam 3:49.28 for the 400m and 7:54.40 for the 800m at the SNSC short-course meet, both just under the B standards of 3:49.96 and 7:58.57.

Chanâ??s 24.97s in the 50m backstroke came in the heats at the Asian Games in September, in a 50m pool, and lowered the national record of 25.13s. His 54.17s for the 100m individual medley, from the SCM Invitational, is under the B mark of 54.83s. Under Singapore Aquaticsâ?? rules, a B time counts only for swimmers aged 18 or under on 31 December 2026.

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Tedd Chan in the menâ??s 50m backstroke at the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games on 21 September 2026, the day he set a national record of 24.97s in the heats. Photo: SpexSG / Andy Chua

Singaporeâ??s days in the pool

The menâ??s 1500m freestyle, a timed final, is on the opening day, along with the womenâ??s 400m freestyle, the menâ??s 50m butterfly heats, where Lee and Teong both race, and the womenâ??s 200m individual medley. The womenâ??s 800m freestyle and the menâ??s 100m freestyle follow on 2 December, with the womenâ??s 100m breaststroke heats.

On 3 December come the menâ??s 50m backstroke, 100m individual medley and 400m freestyle heats. The womenâ??s 200m breaststroke and the womenâ??s 1500m freestyle timed final are on 4 December.

The menâ??s 50m freestyle, the womenâ??s 50m breaststroke and the menâ??s 800m freestyle timed final fill 5 December, with the 50m finals on the closing day.

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Victoria Lim, Megan Yo, Julia Yeo and Mikayla Tan (from left) after setting a national under-17 record in the womenâ??s 4x100m medley relay at the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games on 25 September 2026. Photo: SpexSG / Andy Chua

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