Singapore Swimming at CWG 2026: Gan Ching Hweeâ??s Glasgow Breakthrough

Description

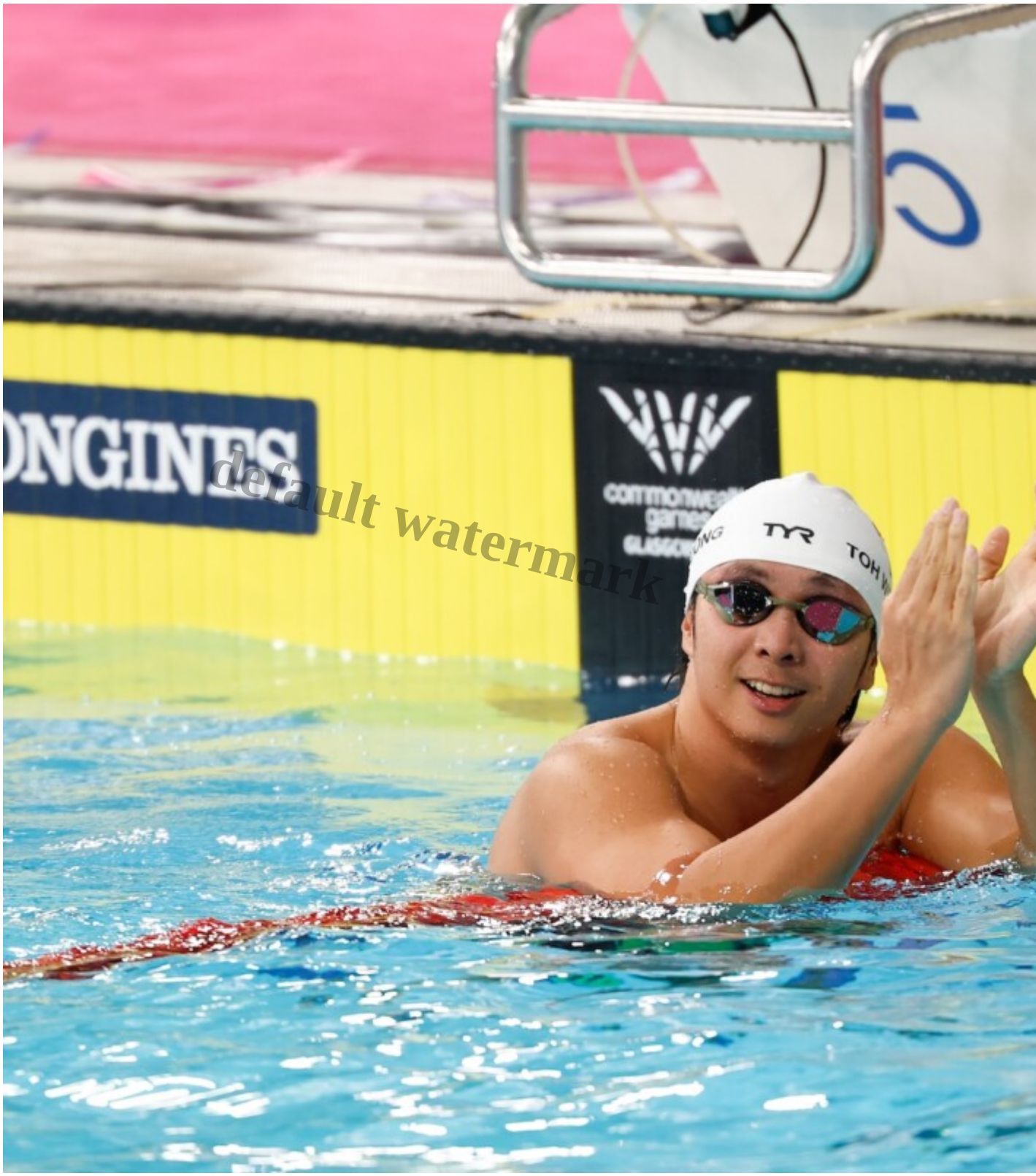
default watermark

The story of **Singapore swimming at the Commonwealth Games 2026** in Glasgow is, in many ways, the story of Gan Ching Hwee. The 23-year-old national record holder carried Singaporeâ??s flag at the closing ceremony â?? a fitting honour for a swimmer whose performances across the aquatics programme left an impression that will be felt long after the Games have ended.

Gan Ching Hwee: Record-Breaker and Flag Bearer

Ganâ??s week in Glasgow was nothing short of remarkable. In the 400m freestyle, she shattered her own national record with a time of 4:09.34, a performance that placed her fourth in the final â?? Singaporeâ??s best result in that event at any Commonwealth Games. The time is significant: it puts Gan within striking distance of the leading Asian performers in the discipline and underlines her credentials as one of the regionâ??s most exciting long-distance swimmers.

The records did not stop there. Gan also finished sixth in the 800m freestyle in 8:33.65, and came fourth in the 1500m freestyle in 16:06 â?? another exceptional showing in an event requiring extraordinary endurance, race intelligence, and mental resilience. Across three finals in the space of a week, she delivered consistently at the highest level of the Games. That is the hallmark of a truly elite athlete.



Singaporeâ??s swimmers delivered outstanding performances at the CWG 2026 Glasgow aquatics centre (Image: ActiveSG Circle / Sport Singapore)

It is no surprise that Gan was chosen as Singaporeâ??s flag bearer for the closing ceremony â?? a recognition not just of her athletic achievement but of the spirit she brought to the Singapore contingent

throughout their time in Glasgow. It was a moment that resonated deeply with Singapore sports fans watching at home, a quiet but powerful statement about the rising quality of the national swimming programme.

A Team Effort in the Pool

While Gan Ching Hwee was the headline performer, Singaporeâ??s broader showing in the aquatics arena offered genuine reasons for optimism. The relay squads have continued to develop, and the depth within the national swimming programme â?? supported by Sport Singaporeâ??s investment through the spexScholarship system â?? is beginning to produce results on the international stage.

default watermark

Team Singaporeâ??s swimming contingent in action at the CWG 2026 Glasgow aquatics programme (Image: ActiveSG Circle / Sport Singapore)

The Glasgow performances build meaningfully on the ground covered at the Team Singapore CWG 2026 wrap-up, which highlighted Singaporeâ??s strongest Commonwealth Games showing in years across multiple sports. Swimming was one of the standout disciplines throughout the fortnight, and the

performances of Gan and her teammates suggest a generation of athletes ready to compete at the highest levels of regional and global competition.

The SwimSG high-performance programme has invested heavily in both development pathways and elite coaching in recent years. Long-distance freestyle, in particular, has emerged as an area of genuine competitive strength â?? an encouraging sign for a programme historically associated with sprinting and relay events.

The Asian Games in Sight: What Comes Next

For Gan Ching Hwee and the Singapore swimming squad, Glasgow is not the destination â?? it is a springboard. The Asian Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya opens on 19 September, and Singaporeâ??s swimmers will be among the most closely watched athletes in the squad. The competition at Asian Games level is considerably more demanding: Japan, China, and Australia bring depth and experience that the Commonwealth Games field cannot match.

default watermark

But based on what Gan showed in Glasgow, she is ready for that challenge. Her 400m national record of 4:09.34 is a credible mark at Asian level, and with the momentum of a breakthrough Commonwealth Games behind her, she enters the Aichi-Nagoya cycle in the best form of her career. The key will be recovery, preparation, and maintaining the mental sharpness that distinguished her performances at the CWG.

Singapore swimming has rarely had a more exciting prospect to follow heading into a major multi-sport event. If the Asian Games provide another platform for Gan and her teammates to shine, the sportâ??s profile in Singapore is set to grow further still â?? and the national records may not stop at Glasgow.

Keep up with all the latest Team Singapore news and results at the Little Big Red Dot Sports section.

Date Created
11/08/2026
Author
jadeyeo