

Singapore Youth Olympic Games medals: gold, silver and bronze from Dakar

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The **Singapore Youth Olympic Games medals** from Dakar 2026 came in a golden-silver-bronze set: wushu gold for Ng Zhe Nin, table tennis silver for Loy Ming Ying and a historic fencing bronze for Ashton Auw. Two weeks after the Games closed on 13 November, the story is worth telling in full.



Ng Zhe Nin performing at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games. Photo: OIS/Remi Vallat.
Source: ActiveSG Circle (Sport Singapore) official website

Singapore Youth Olympic Games medals: the full Dakar tally

Singapore sent a small team to Senegal and came home with three medals: one gold, one silver and one bronze. Dakar 2026 was the first time an Olympic sporting event was held in Africa, with more than 2,600 athletes taking part. Here is how each medal was won, and why one more performance deserves a mention too.

Gold: Ng Zhe Nin, wushu

The first medal was the best one. Ng Zhe Nin, 16 and the reigning junior world champion in girlsâ?? youth taijiquan, won the womenâ??s taijiquan combined event on 3 November. She went into the final as the top-ranked finisher from the preliminaries, led after the taijishan routine with 9.353, and sealed gold with a taijiquan score of 9.360 for a total of 18.713.

Wushu was making its first appearance at the Youth Olympic Games. â??Very relieved that all my endless training hours paid off,â?• Ng said. She also had a secret weapon on the trip: team manager Vera Tan, a three-time world champion who acted as coach, friend and, in Tanâ??s words, â??like her motherâ?•. Ng calmed her nerves by laughing them out, a trick she discovered through an Instagram reel.

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Loy Ming Ying at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games. Photo: OIS/Nic Bothma. Source: ActiveSG Circle (Sport Singapore) official website

Silver: Loy Ming Ying, table tennis

Loy Ming Yingâ??s run was the most dramatic. The tenth seed, 16, beat Indiaâ??s Syndrela Das 4-0 in the last 16 on 3 November and later took out European youth champion Nina Guo Zheng of France. In the semi-finals on 5 November she beat second seed Su Tsz Tung of Hong Kong 4-2, a result she had â??never imaginedâ?•. We reported on her earlier nerves in our Loy Ming Ying semi-final report.

The final went to Chen Minhsin of Chinese Taipei, 4-2 (11-5, 10-12, 8-11, 13-11, 7-11, 10-12). â??Iâ??m sad that I lost the final match but Iâ??m still happy that I got a silver medal,â?• Loy said. She had taken a gap year to prepare, and the medal showed it had paid off.

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Daryen Ko before the men's 400m hurdles at the Youth Olympic Games. Photo: OIS/Kieran Cleeves. Source: ActiveSG Circle (Sport Singapore) official website

Bronze: Ashton Auw, fencing

Ashton Auw ended the Games with Singaporeâ??s first fencing medal at the Youth Olympic Games. The 17-year-old world No. 22 was top seed after an undefeated pool stage, beat Hayder Al-Asadi of Iraq 15-11 in the quarter-finals, then lost a close semi-final 13-15 to world No. 2 Aibar Kaiym of Kazakhstan. In the bronze-medal bout he beat world No. 6 Giorgi Urushadze of Georgia 15-10.

â??I really hope that this is just a stepping stone and that future Singaporean fencers can do better than me,â?• he said, after falling to his knees and roaring with the winning point.

A record to remember: Daryen Ko in the 400m hurdles

Not every highlight came with a medal. Daryen Ko, 17, set a national Under-18 record of 52.16 seconds in the menâ??s 400m hurdles final on 10 November, finishing sixth. His semi-final time had been 52.87, and his previous U18 best was 52.75. â??Truth be told, I was scared,â?• he said afterwards. â??Channeling that into faith and belief into what it could be â?? thatâ??s what did it for me today.â?•

What the Dakar results mean for Singapore sport

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Three medals from a compact squad is a strong return, and it came from three different sports, which says something about the depth of the pipeline. Both Loy and Auw are Singapore Sports School students who took time away from the classroom to train and compete, Loy with a gap year and Auw with a leave of absence. Archer Tabitha Yeo also finished fourth in Dakar, just off the podium, a reminder of how close the margins were for a small squad.

The squad was named in the build-up, as we covered in our Team Singapore flag bearers report. The next goal for these teenagers is the senior stage, and their results suggest Singapore will have new faces to cheer for at the next multi-sport Games.

Keep up with every result, from the Youth Olympic Games to the Singapore Premier League, in the LBRD Sports section.

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