MEDIA RELEASE

Youths To Enhance knowledge In Sports Careers At Singapore Sports Conference

Singapore, 29 February 2008 – Starting 8 March 2008, some 600 youths from various tertiary institutions in Singapore will get the opportunity to learn more about establishing a career in sports at the Singapore Sports Conference, jointly organised by the Singapore Sports Council (SSC) and Republic Polytechnic (RP). The event, themed “Youth & Sports: Charting the Road Ahead” will be held for the second time running on 8 and 9 March 2008 at the Republic Polytechnic.

Formerly known as the Young Sports Leaders Seminar (YSLS), the Singapore Sports Conference aims to enhance tertiary students’ knowledge in various areas of sports such as sports marketing and event management so as to excite them about the myriad of job opportunities available in the sports industry today.

“Today’s sports scene in Singapore is vibrant and dynamic, and this presents tremendous opportunities for those who want to carve a career in sports. Therefore, the Singapore Sports Conference will not only engage youths who already have their sights on establishing a career in sports, but also reach out to others by highlighting the various exciting career paths that are available in the industry. With Singapore fast becoming the venue of choice for international events such as Formula One and most recently the Youth Olympic Games, there is a need to establish a ready pool of talent to ride the growth of Singapore Sports,” said Mr Oon Jin Teik, Chief Executive Officer, SSC.

What's on

The conference will feature two overseas speakers, Professor Robert M. Malina from the United States of America and Mr Teemu Japisson from Finland. Professor Malina will speak on global trends and issues in youth sports while Mr Japisson will speak on how children’s sports can be developed (For more details on the keynote addresses, please refer to Annex C).

In addition, the young participants can look forward to a series of workshops covering four areas of sports - Sports Management, Sports Science, Sports Pedagogy, and Outdoor and Adventure Sports (For more details on the workshops, please refer to Annex D). Conducted by familiar faces in the sports fraternity, these workshops will expose youths to the different sports areas and give them a greater insight into possible careers in the sports industry.

On the first day of the conference, participants can also look forward to dialogue sessions facilitated by prominent sports practitioners and former national athletes. Youths will have an opportunity to engage them and hear them share their experience and knowledge of the sports industry today. Besides former national athletes, the recently crowned Singapore Sports Idols, Team Singapore Volunteers and young Team Singapore Ambassadors will also share their experience on their sports journeys. (For more details on the dialogue sessions, please refer to Annex E.)

For those who want practical experience, the conference will also engage the participants by providing 14 sessions ranging from triathlon basics, endurance running, agility training and other sports. A strength and conditioning coach from the Sports Medicine and Sports Science Division of SSC, will also be available to teach participants how to enhance their strength (For more details on the practical sessions, please refer to Annex F).

Professor Low Teck Seng, Principal and CEO, Republic Polytechnic said, “We are happy to work together with SSC to raise awareness about career prospects open to young people who want to establish themselves in the sports and health industries. This is a win-win for our partners and us because our students will not only gain in knowledge about future career options; they will also contribute to the success of the event by offering fresh ideas to market and manage the event well. We have no doubt everyone will emerge from this conference better informed and excited about the future of sports in Singapore.”

For more information on Singapore Sports Conference, please visit http://www.rp.sg/sporesportsconference.
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**About Singapore Sports Council**

The Singapore Sports Council (SSC) is Singapore's lead agency tasked with developing sports in Singapore. Our vision is to create a Sporting Singapore where Sports is a way of life. SSC aims to develop sports champions and create enjoyable sporting experiences for Singapore through the three strategic thrusts of cultivating a sporting culture, achieving sports excellence and creating a vibrant sports industry. Formed on 1 October 1973, SSC is a statutory board under the purview of the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports. Please visit the SSC website at www.ssc.gov.sg for more information.

**About Republic Polytechnic**

The first educational institution in Singapore to adopt the Problem-Based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic has five schools and two centres offering twenty-nine diploma courses in Information & Communications Technology, Engineering, Applied Science, Technology for the Arts, Sports, Health & Leisure, Innovation and Enterprise, and Culture and Communication. Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving process skills and a life-long learning attitude. Its holistic, broad-based curriculum, covering culture, enterprise development, and cognitive processes, prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society. Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various national and international accreditations, including People Developer Standards, ISO9001, ISO14001, OHSAS 18001, Singapore Quality Class, Singapore Innovation Class, and the Singapore Health Awards (Gold). For more information, visit http://www.rp.sg