



# POC Online

The official weekly online newsletter of the Philippine Olympic Committee

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October 31, 2009 Vol. 1 No. 17

## RP competes in 3rd Asian Indoor Games

**A** select 23-man delegation banners Team Philippines in its quest for glory in the 3rd Asian Indoor Games in the Vietnam cities of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh.

The Filipinos are competing in six of 24 sports disciplines during the October 30 to November 8 biennial meet.

The country will be vying for the 219 total gold medals at stake in the events of women's boxing, swimming, wushu, muay, chess and bowling.

In the first two stagings of the meet, the Filipinos won two gold medals courtesy of muay bets Billy Alumno (cruiserweight) in the 2005 Bangkok meet and Ruben Sumido (light-welterweight) in 2007 in Macau.

In all, the country has won two golds, two silvers and five bronze medals in the previous Asian Indoor Games campaigns.

But with the entry of women's boxing, hopes are high that the Filipinos will be in a position to win more medals.

Wushu's Julian Camacho is the Chef de Mission of the RP contingent. He is being accompanied by Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) Secretary-General Steve Hontiveros.

Leading the way in women's boxing are veterans Mitchel Martinez and Annie Albania. Martinez is a former Asian champion and Southeast Asian Games gold medal winner, while Albania, 27, won a silver medal in last year's World Championship and bagged a gold in the 2007 Thailand SEA Games.

Other Filipino boxers competing are Josie Gabuco, Alice Kate Aparri and newcomer Nesty Peticio, with Glicerio Catolico and Roel Velasco as coaches.

Miguel Molina, the 2007 Best Male Athlete of the Southeast Asian Games, will be the country's entry in swimming, while Grandmasters Mark Paragua and Joey Antonio as well as Women FIDE Masters Catherine Perena and Sherily Cua spearhead the strong men's and women's chess team.

Biboy Rivera leads the bowling team together with Constantine Chester King, Raoul Miranda, Jonas Jason Baltazar, Liza Del Rosario, Krizziah Lyn Tabora, Kimberly Lao and Ma. Lourdes Arles. Jay Harold Gregorio, Zaidi Laruan and Maricel Subang compose the muay squad, while Jennifer Lagilag and Rhea May Rifani make-up the wushu team.

Bowling and muay will be held in Ho Chi Minh, with Hanoi hosting the rest of the four events where Filipinos will be seeing action.

Around 5,000 athletes from 45 countries are participating in the Games.

## Triathlon

# RP youth captures bronze in Hong Kong triathlon meet

YOUNGSTER Johanna Pe Benito finally claimed a breakthrough medal in international competition with a bronze finish in the female junior elite of the 2009 Hong Kong ITU Triathlon Premium Race Asian Cup recently.

The 15-year old lass came through with a strong showing in both the bike and run events to make up for a slow start that saw her running fourth after the swim event.

She submitted time of one hour, 19 minutes and 24 seconds, with splits of 16:03, 36:24 and 22:45 in the race held at the 750 m swim, 18 km bike and 5k run distance.

Hong Kong bets Vincci Hui Wai Sum and Chan On Ki made a 1-2 finish for the host special administrative region of China. Sum clocked 1:10:34 in winning the gold, more than five minutes ahead of Ki (1:16:28).

The race marked the second major international outing for Pe Benito, who now sets her sights on the 2009 Asian Duathlon Championships this November 15 at Subic Bay.

The medal finish likewise erased the bitter memories of Pe Benito in the Tongyeong Asian Triathlon Championship last August, when she failed to finish the race after suffering a crash in the bike course. The accident caused a deep wound in her chin, requiring 15 stitches to close.

“It’s a dream come true for me to win a bronze medal in an international tournament. This would not have happened without the support of my family, coach Melvin Fausto and God,” the young triathlete said.

The Triathlon Association of the Philippines (TRAP) also sent veterans Niel Catiil and Kim Mangrobang to see action in the elite race.

Both Catiil and Mangrobang failed to win a medal, but submitted personal best times in covering the 1.5k swim, 40k bike and 10k run events. Catiil clocked 2:01:34 to finish 19th overall and seventh among Asian participants, while Mangrobang had a time of 2:17:04 to finish 9th overall and third among Asian triathletes.

Tony Moulai of France defeated Russian Dmitry Polyanski and former Asian champion Danylo Sapunov of Kazakhstan to clinch the men’s title (1:50:15), while Vendula Frintova of the Czech Republic dominated Yuliya Sapunova of Ukraine and Michelle Wu of Australia (third placer in the last Subic Bay International Triathlon) for the women’s crown (2:03:07).

Like Pe Benito, both Catiil and Mangrobang are also set to compete in the Asian Duathlon Championships.

## **361 Degrees Co. is RP Team Outfitter**

A leading, China-based sportswear manufacturer has been commissioned by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) to be the official outfitter of Team Philippines in at least five major international tournaments.

The POC signed a one-year partnership with 361 Degrees Co. Ltd. recently, designating the sports product manufacturer as the official sportswear sponsor of the POC beginning with this year's 25th Southeast Asian Games in Laos.

Present during the contract signing held at the third floor of the Hyatt Hotel in Manila were POC President Jose `Peping' Cojuangco, Chairman Monico Puentevella, Secretary-General Steve Hontiveros, Treasurer Julian Camacho and Spokesperson Joey Romasanta, while 361 Degrees was represented by Deputy Director for Sports Marketing Zhao Feng, CEO Xing Jiaming and Zhui Hui, representative for Southeast Asian business development.

Aside from the SEA Games, also part of the deal are the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada, the 2010 Asian Beach Games in Muscat, Oman, the 2010 Asian Games in Guangzhou, China and the 2010 Youth Olympics in Singapore.

Under the deal, as the `Official Outfitter of Team Philippines', 361 Degrees Co. Ltd, has the exclusive right in all of the above-mentioned sports competitions to use the name, emblem and trademark of the POC in their sportswear.

The company also enjoys the use of the POC name, emblem and trademark in its promotional materials in order to publicize and promote it and the POC within the period 2009 to 2010.

Officials and athletes of the Philippine delegation must wear the sportswear provided by 361 Degrees in any appearance during the aforementioned games, including warm-up, competition (except actual competition uniform) and awards ceremony.

To be provided by the Chinese sports firm are two pairs each of t-shirts with collar, round-neck t-shirts, sports shorts, sports caps, sports towels, sports socks, and a pair of sports shoes, a bag, knapsack, a pair of jogging pants and one official sportswear.