

MGM Artistic Swimming Elite Extravaganza & Macao Open Artistic Swimming Competition

Mega Sports Event Made a Grand Splash in the Local Community



Macau's first artistic swimming-themed mega sports event "MGM Artistic Swimming Elite Extravaganza & Macao Open Artistic Swimming Competition 2023" was held from June 23 to 25. Presented by Associação Geral de Nataç o de Macau, the Macau Artistic Swimming Team and MGM, together with the support of the Sports Bureau of the Macao SAR, the three-day event attracted nearly 180 artistic swimming athletes from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau to fiercely compete with their captivating water acrobatics. A strong lineup of China's three renowned teams, namely China's National Artistic Swimming Team, Beijing Artistic Swimming Team and Sichuan Artistic Swimming Team, were also invited to present a set of exhilarating "water ballet" performances for audience in Macau.



In addition to the performances and competition, MGM also invited the national athletes to share their stories with the local students and athletes. Student reporters were offered to conduct interviews the elite teams to better understand their remarkable

journey, which was a great opportunity for practicing their journalism skills.

Lai Pak Leng, President of Associação Geral de Natação de Macau, said, “With the honorable support from the Sports Bureau and MGM, the competition this year has been elevated to a whole new level – on top of the participation of athletes from the Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau, we have even invited top-notch teams of China to bring to Macau a series of fascinating performance,



creating a greater stage for the athletes and also the audience. This mega sports event truly showcased the strength of our local artistic swimming athletes and promoted the exchange between local and national athletes, which helped energizing the local sports industry and speeding up its convergence with the international sports scene.”

Pansy Ho, Chairperson and Executive Director of MGM China Holdings Limited, said, “MGM is honored to be the first integrated tourism enterprise to launch such groundbreaking artistic swimming event in Macau with Associação Geral de Natação de Macau and the support from the Sports Bureau, pioneering a new chapter of sports tourism. Comprised of a series of activities including joint performances, competition, sharing session and more, this innovative event augmented the synergy of tourism and sports to promote Macau as a city for major sports events as well as a destination with diversified tourist resources, which ultimately contributed the ‘1+4’ diversified development strategy initiated by the Macao SAR government.”

National Athletes Shared their Career Success to Local Youth



To provide a platform for local artistic swimmers to exchange with the distinguished athletes, MGM hosted a "Sharing Session" for national athletes to share their exceptional sports career. Six elite athletes, including Shi Haoyu, Cheng Wentao and Zhang Yiyao from China’s National Artistic Swimming Team, Yang Shuncheng from Beijing Artistic Swimming Team, Dai Shiyi from Sichuan Artistic Swimming Team, and

Ao leong Sin Ieng from Macau Artistic Swimming Team, were invited to speak at the session for nearly 200 local artistic swimming athletes, youth and students.

Shi Haoyu, the gold medalist at the Mixed Duet Free Routine Category of the World Aquatics Artistic Swimming World Cup, said, “During our performances in Macau, we felt

truly welcomed and appreciated by the audience. Often portrayed as a female dominated sport, artistic swimming has always been highlighting the gentleness of the female body – and as a male athlete in the sports, I endeavor to overcome such challenges by bringing forth the beauty of masculinity into the pool, hoping to create more possibilities for the development of artistic swimming.”

Student Reporters Invited to Interview National Athletes

Previously, MGM supported the “Selection of Student Reporters for 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games – Macau Station” and provided trainings for the participating student reporters. Taking this opportunity that the national elite athletes were performing in Macau, MGM once again invited those student reporters, alongside members of schools’ artistic swimming teams and students to the performance, competition and sharing sessions, and even arranged an interview session for them to set up and close with the national athletes.



One of the participating student reporters, Cheng Yu Han, who also participated in the “Selection of Student Reporters for 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games – Macau Station”, said, “I have found the techniques of raising interview questions the most helpful from the training two years ago. It helped to equipped me for being a better student reporter in school, and also for this opportunity to interview national athletes in this event. With the previous trainings, alongside extensive research on artistic swimming and the performing elite teams, I was able to conduct an efficient and content interview with the athletes.”

Video Content: <https://www.facebook.com/MGMMACAU/videos/223262107183528/>