



Edwin Peng Hsiao Han

Athlete (M)
Age: 31 / Chinese - SO Sabah

Sport – Table Tennis

Event 1 - Men's Singles
Event 2 - Mix Doubles (TEAM Tiong/Peng)



SPECIAL OLYMPICS
WORLD GAMES
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Edwin stands head and shoulders above everybody else when he is among a crowd. Standing next to his mixed doubles partner, Agnes Tiong, he looks even more imposing as he towers over her tiny figure.

Many may find it hard to believe that a man of his stature can hunch and hover over a ping pong table and hit tiny orange balls that come from every direction at 60 to 70 mph. But that is what he does and more.

Edwin was a slow learner in school, always coming in last in class during his primary years. His mom, 58-year-old Loh Sew Han, was worried about how he would cope in secondary school, and upon a friend's recommendation, signed him up for a special needs school in Tawau.

It was there that she discovered Special Olympics, and so at the tender age of 13, Edwin enrolled in the district program and tried different sports like football, athletics, basketball, and even swimming. Teachers find Edwin very helpful and will always turn to him when they need to physically move heavy things - he is physically strong! Also, some of the best times of his life are when he is participating in Special Olympics activities, playing sports like football or basketball with his best friends.

After Edwin was selected to represent Special Olympics Malaysia in Berlin, he had to attend centralized training in Melaka. During the four days and three nights, he was able to cope with being away from home and even helped to look after the younger athletes. Being the second child in the family, he has two younger siblings and is no stranger to monitoring younger people. "It's not my first time looking after someone. Usually, I will help the teachers, parents, coaches."



Today, 31-year-old Edwin works in a tire shop which he is quite contented with, although once in a while he remembers that he wanted to join the army because he is interested in weapons and defending his nation. He may not be able to do that at the moment, but he is doing the next best thing - representing Malaysia in competition to bring her gold and glory.

Despite facing challenges in his academic life, Edwin has shown that he can achieve great things through his perseverance and positive attitude.