

## Singapore's next national icon.

After years of preparation, Singapore Sports Hub is finally red-y to impress.

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The old National Stadium was officially closed on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2007 after standing for 38 years. Since then, events were held at the Marina Bay Floating Stadium, but not anymore after the new Singapore Sports Hub was erected.

Opening on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the 35 hectare, S\$1.33 billion Singapore Sports Hub will provide an integrated sports and lifestyle facility for the people.

To commemorate its grand opening, Singapore Sports Hub held an opening ceremony on 27<sup>th</sup> June. More than 10,000 people came together on that day to have a sneak preview of Singapore's next architectural icon.

A sea of red could be spotted from afar, as people of all ages gathered at the Stadium Roar to kick-start the opening ceremony on a fast pace. "One Year to SEA Games", a walk-a-jog, saw a whopping 6000 participants.



**Over 6000 gathered for *One-year to SEA Games* walk-a-jog**

Inside of the Sports Hub are two Olympic-sized swimming pools, one for training, and the other for competitions. The pools are open to public and will be free of charge until the end of the next month.



### **Sand courts open to public for beach activities**

Surrounding the Singapore Sports Hub is the Sports Promenade, a 900m-long sheltered walkway for people to jog and cycle. Besides that, there are also two sand courts that are open to public for volleyball, rugby and other sports. The sand courts are closely designed with real beaches in mind so as to create an impression of a beach, yet located in the heart of Singapore.



**Top-view of Singapore National Stadium**

What's impressive is the 312m diameter retractable dome-shaped roof of the national stadium. This roof is said to be the largest free-spanning dome roof in the world. With a retractable roof, matches will be able to go on regardless of the weather.

Inside of the Sports Hub are 55,000 red and white seats that are coincidentally our national colours. With configurable seats, the Sports Hub is the only stadium in the world that is able to host four different sports – rugby, cricket, football and athletics. What's even more amazing about the Sports Hub is that cool air is blown to every seat to allow ventilation, and all of this is powered by solar energy.

Not only does Singapore Sports Hub serve as an area for people to gather and do sports together, it's also a lifestyle hub with the Kallang Wave retail mall inside of it. Named after the old National Stadium, the Kallang Wave Mall is designed with wave-like contours. Apart from the mandatory shopping outlets, the mall includes many recreational activities for public use, such as an indoor rock-climbing wall. Free trials are available every weekend at 10am, 1pm and 4pm

during the month of July. From then on, there is a \$14 to \$20 fee per entry required, excluding equipment and registration.