

= David Jacobs (table tennis) =

Dian David Michael Jacobs (born 21 June 1977) , commonly referred to as David Jacobs , is an Indonesian athlete who competes in table tennis , currently Class 10 para table tennis . Born in Ujung Pandang , he took up table tennis at the age of ten and rose quickly through national tournaments . He was training to play internationally by 2000 , and in 2001 he won his first gold medal , at the SEATTA Games in Singapore . Since 2010 he has competed in para table tennis , having spent most of his career competing against athletes with full functionality . He competed in the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London , winning a bronze medal .

= = Early life = =

Jacobs was born in Ujung Pandang (now Makassar) on 21 June 1977 . He is of Ambonese descent . He began playing table tennis at age ten , with the support of his parents Jan and Nell , as well as his brothers Rano , Piere , and Joe ; as of 2012 his three brothers also play table tennis . In 1989 his parents registered him with the PTP Club in Semarang ; in his two years with the club he became a national champion at the elementary @-@ school level .

When Jacobs was ready to begin his junior high school , the family moved to Jakarta . Jacobs was signed with UMS 80 Club . He continued to improve and joined the provincial team . In 1997 he was sent to Beijing to train at the Shi Cha Hai Sports School . By 2000 Jacobs was already being prepared to compete at the international level by the Indonesian Table Tennis Association . As of January 2012 Jacobs is married to Jeanny Palar , with whom he has one child .

= = Table tennis career = =

While earning a degree in management from the Perbanas School of Economics , Jacobs continued training . He participated in his first Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) in 2001 . Together with Yon Mardiono , in 2001 Jacobs won Indonesia 's only gold medal at the SEATTA table tennis championship in Singapore . In the men 's doubles competition they defeated the Thai duo Phucong Sanguansin and Phakphoom Sanguansin in three matches , scoring 11 @-@ 4 , 11 @-@ 4 , and 11 @-@ 6 . Paired with Mardiono for the first time for this tournament , Jacobs told The Jakarta Post that they " were determined not to let ourselves be dominated " .

Jacobs continued to play at the SEA Games , competing in Vietnam (2003) , the Philippines (2005) , and Thailand (2007) . He won the 2004 Pekan Olahraga Nasional competition for table tennis , which led to him receiving an honorary position at the Department of Sport ; he became a full @-@ time employee there in 2008 . In 2008 , Jacobs served as a coach for the Indonesian men 's table tennis team , and in 2009 he competed at the SEA Games in Kuala Lumpur .

= = Para table tennis career = =

Jacobs began playing in para table tennis tournaments later that year , becoming a member of the National Paralympic Committee in 2010 . He competes in Class 10 , which is the highest level of functionality in the system . He usually trains with opponents who maintain full functionality . Jacobs himself has a problem with one of his hands .

At the 2010 Asian Para Games in Guangzhou , China , Jacobs won a bronze medal . Before the competition he had only a month to train . He competed in several international tournaments , winning a gold in Thailand , silver in Beijing , bronze in the Czech Republic , silver in the United Kingdom , and gold in Taiwan . At the 2011 ASEAN ParaGames in Surakarta , Jacobs won seven gold medals : men 's singles (open) , men 's doubles (open) , mixed doubles (open) , men 's doubles , mixed doubles , team , and single . In January of the following year Jacobs took on Indonesian president Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in a three @-@ game series . Although the president won one game with a score of 13 @-@ 11 , Jacobs took the series , winning two games with the scores 11 @-@ 7 and 11 @-@ 9 . After the competition , Yudhoyono gave a speech of the

need to support Indonesia 's disabled athletes .

In March 2012 Jacobs won two gold medals at the Protour Paratable Tennis Liknano Open in Italy . In the men 's singles he defeated Ivan Karavec of the Czech Republic with a score of 11 @-@ 9 , 11 @-@ 7 , and 11 @-@ 8 , while in the men 's team play he was paired with Komet Akbar and defeated teams from the Netherlands and Czech Republic . In June he won the Slovakian Table Tennis Tournament , ranking him among the top three in the world .

Jacobs is one of several athletes who represented Indonesia at the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London , with Ni Nengah Wideasih (powerlifting) , the swimmer Agus Ngaimin , and an athletics competitor , Setyo Budi Hartanto . Jacobs won the bronze medal in the Table Tennis Men 's Individual C10 classification . It was the nation 's first Paralympic medal in over twenty years .