

INTERVIEW: Sport SG - Team Nila



*With love from,
Team Nila!*

1. What inspired the project, and how do you appeal to the most popular demographic of volunteers to participate?

Team Nila's journey started from the 2010 Youth Olympics where we rallied Singaporeans from all walks of life to sign up as event volunteers. We nicknamed ourselves "The Purple Army" in reference to our iconic purple uniform at the Games village and competition venues. When Youth Olympics ended, it was a bittersweet moment for all of us. However, it also marked the start of something greater as SportSG launched Team Nila to encourage Singaporeans to continuously give back through sport volunteerism.

Since 2010, the Team Nila family has grown exponentially and we are currently a 6000-member strong community. Our people come from a variety of backgrounds and share a common passion for sport and volunteerism. Throughout the year, Team Nila comes together in support of programmes such as GetActive! Singapore, the Rugby Sevens and Active Health initiatives. Our volunteers contribute in areas that best suit their interests.

2. Which part of your project do you think has the biggest impact on Singaporeans' love for their city, and how so?

Personally, I would say it is the platform that Team Nila provides for volunteers to lead and support initiatives that encourage community spirit and togetherness. An example is seen in the annual GetActive! Singapore campaign to celebrate Singapore's birthday through sport, where our Team Nila leaders help in organising Sport Festivals. These events also empower regular citizens to express and celebrate their sense of identity and belonging in their own unique ways.

3. How did you find out about COLA and what attracted you to apply for it?

We first heard about COLA in 2018 when ActiveSG was awarded. As a national movement for sport as a positive driving force, Team Nila's work is closely aligned with social sustainability and being agents of change. As the volunteering arm of ActiveSG, we were motivated by the premise to serve as catalysts in building relationships and connections between people in the community.

4. What advice would you offer to potential applicants who are keen to start their projects?

Change does not start easy, but passion can bring about extraordinary things. We would like to encourage everyone to take a leap of faith and kick-start your own positive change, especially in the field of sport. We welcome suggestions at team_nila@sport.gov.sg

5. How would you want to work with sport to extend Team Nila's impact for developing Singapore as a lovable city?

Team Nila is all about building active citizen participation through sport and exemplifying our core values of Courage, Passion and Friendship. Through sport, we hope to build a more caring a cohesive society and we will continue to leverage our five Giving Platforms to provide all Singaporeans with a broad range of volunteering and growth opportunities.