

5 February 2013

Press Release

To Editors

NSMEN TO ENJOY MORE LIFESTYLE BENEFITS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIONAL DEFENCE

- NS45 SAFRA vouchers accepted by over 170 merchants and 5,000 outlets island-wide
- New SAFRA Punggol to offer family-centric lifestyle resort facilities

Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, President of the Republic of Singapore, stressed the critical role of NSmen in protecting Singapore's sovereignty and way of life, as well as the government's continued efforts to recognise the contributions of NSmen, during the official opening of the new SAFRA Toa Payoh this evening.

"Together with our full-time national servicemen, our NSmen are the backbone of the Singapore Armed Forces to deter potential threats to our home, our way of life and our sovereignty," said President Tony Tan. He elaborated: "Without this sacrifice from our NSmen, Singapore would not have enjoyed peace and stability, social progress and continued economic development over the past decades."

45th Anniversary of National Service Hongbao for SAF NSmen

As part of the government's continued efforts to recognise the contributions of NSmen towards National Defence, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong announced last October that all NSmen will receive vouchers to commemorate the 45th anniversary of National Service (NS45). In addition, Operationally Ready SAF NSmen who are serving their In-camp Training (ICT) cycles, or who have completed their ICT cycles in full, as at 22 October 2012, will also receive one-year free SAFRA membership.

Eligible SAF NSmen will receive notification letters and \$50 to \$100 worth of NS45 SAFRA vouchers within the next three months. The vouchers can be used to redeem a wide variety of products and services at over 170 merchants and 5,000 outlets island-wide till 31 March 2014. These range from F&B and entertainment to shopping, lifestyle and travel, among many others.

More Quality Facilities for NSmen and their Families

With the opening of the new SAFRA Toa Payoh, NSmen and their families now have convenient access to quality lifestyle facilities at five SAFRA clubs located island-wide. SAFRA Toa Payoh has proven to be the most popular SAFRA club with a monthly visitation exceeding 100,000 since it opened its doors to the public in October 2012.

Come 2015, NSmen and their families can look forward to a brand new waterfront club - SAFRA Punggol. With a flagship theme of a 'Family Lifestyle Resort', the new SAFRA Punggol will feature a suite of family-centric facilities, including a thematic indoor children's playground, interactive water play features and a childcare centre. It will also boast a special selection of F&B options, bowling centre, EnergyOne gym with IPPT facilities, sports kiosks offering sports equipment, spa and other wellness-related facilities. Well integrated with both the Punggol Town Park and Town Centre,

the new club will cater to the lifestyle needs of the large population of young NSmen and their families to the North of Singapore.

Mr Chan Chun Sing, Acting Minister for Social and Family Development, Senior Minister of State for Defence and also President of SAFRA, commented: “NSmen give their time and effort to protect Singapore despite competing demands of their families and careers. SAFRA, being a lifestyle club, is an ideal platform through which the government can cater to the lifestyle needs of NSmen and their families to recognise our NSmen for their contributions. We will continue to do more and offer better privileges to NSmen through SAFRA membership, for example, SAFRA will be launching a new ‘all-in-one’ benefits card together with a bank to offer greater convenience and a wider range of distinctive member privileges.”

Kindly refer to the following for more information:

Annex A – Fact Sheet on Implementation of NS45 SAFRA Benefits

Annex B – Fact Sheet on SAFRA Punggol Facilities

Annex C – Fact Sheet on SAFRA Toa Payoh

About SAFRA National Service Association

SAFRA was formed in 1972 to provide for the social and recreational needs of NSmen and their families through quality sports, social, educational and cultural programmes to recognise NSmen for their contributions to National Defence.

SAFRA currently has a network of five clubs conveniently located in Jurong, Mount Faber, Tampines, Toa Payoh and Yishun. Complementing the modern facilities at SAFRA clubs is a host of quality membership benefits and activities specially packaged for over 230,000 members and their families.

Issued by the Communications & Public Relations Division, SAFRA National Service Association.

45th Anniversary of National Service SAFRA Benefits Fact Sheet

To commemorate the 45th anniversary of National Service (NS), the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) announced a one-off recognition initiative to thank National Servicemen for their dedicated service to the nation in October 2013.

As a broad-based and inclusive initiative, all who have served NS or are serving NS will benefit from this. Every National Serviceman will receive \$50 to \$100 worth of SAFRA vouchers, which can be used to redeem lifestyle privileges.

In addition, National Servicemen who are currently serving Operationally Ready National Service (ORNS), or who have completed their ORNS training cycle in full, will also be offered a year's free SAFRA membership. This will enable more National Servicemen and their families will be able to enjoy the subsidised facilities and privileges offered by SAFRA.

This one-off initiative will add to the various measures that MINDEF have put in place over the years to appreciate National Servicemen for their vital contributions to defence.

Eligible SAF NSmen will receive notification letters and \$50 to \$100 worth of NS45 SAFRA vouchers within the next three months.

Registering for complimentary SAFRA membership

SAFRA members, who are eligible for this benefit, will receive their new membership card and NS45 SAFRA vouchers, together with their notification letters in the mail within the next three months.

Non SAFRA members who are eligible will receive a notification letter and a registration form through mail within the next three months. They will be required to register and confirm their addresses before their SAFRA membership card and NS45 SAFRA vouchers are sent to them via mail within three weeks upon successful registration.

Registration can be done via:

- 1) Online at www.ns45safra.sg*
- 2) By post to the mailing address provided in the registration form
- 3) Drop off the NS45 Registration Form at any of SAFRA clubs.

Using NS45 SAFRA Vouchers

NS45 SAFRA vouchers can be redeemed at any of participating merchants instantly. Multiple vouchers can be used in one transaction. SAFRA members can use the NS45 SAFRA vouchers in conjunction with SAFRA Rewards vouchers.

For full list of participating merchants, please refer to www.ns45safra.sg*

NSmen must present an original photo ID together with the vouchers upon redemption at any participating merchants. Vouchers are not transferable, not refundable or exchangeable for cash and any unused balance will not be refunded.

Vouchers must be redeemed on or before 31 March 2014. There will be no extension of expiry date.

****Note: The NS45 SAFRA website (URL: www.ns45safra.sg) will be operational when the notification letters are mailed out to NSmen.***

SAFRA Punggol Fact Sheet List of Facilities

SAFRA Punggol will be built on a one-hectare plot of land with a waterfront pedestrian promenade near the MRT in Punggol. The new club will adopt the “family lifestyle resort” as its flagship theme to better serve the young residential population expected in the area. It will be developed with an estimated budget of \$50 million and is slated to be completed in 2015/16.

List of Facilities in SAFRA Punggol

a) Family Recreation & Lifestyle

- Indoor themed children’s playground with interactive outdoor water play features
- Wellness and exercise facilities/spaces
- Enrichment centre/facilities
- Child care centre
- BBQ pits
- Outdoor multi-purpose courtyard

b) Sports & Leisure

- Bowling centre
- EnergyOne gym with IPPT facilities
- Sports kiosks (Bicycles and other sports rentals)
- Games Rooms
- Spa and wellness centre

c) Food & Beverage Outlets

- Seafood restaurant with alfresco dining area
- Family restaurants
- Branded cafes/restaurants
- Wine bar and pub
- Coffee outlet

d) Corporate Training and Development

- Training and development spaces / rooms
- Seminar Rooms

NEW SAFRA TOA PAYOH FACTSHEET

Address

SAFRA Toa Payoh
293 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh
Singapore 319387

Background of SAFRA Toa Payoh

SAFRA Toa Payoh was SAFRA's first permanent club opened on 19 February 1975 by then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

SAFRA Toa Payoh underwent a series of transformations in the last three decades. In 1984, SAFRA Toa Payoh underwent its first renovation at a cost of \$600,000 to refresh its outlook, expand facilities such as its canteen, practice rooms and walkways, as well as computerise certain administrative procedures such as the booking of facilities. The club underwent a second extensive renovation in 1990 which saw the addition of the main building, swimming pool and upgrades to the multi-purpose hall at a cost of another \$4 million. Subsequently, in 1996, an Annex housing a mega gym, now known as EnergyOne, was opened for members to work out and keep fit.

Following the recommendation by the Fourth Committee to Recognise the Contributions of Operationally Ready NSmen to Total Defence (RECORD IV) in 2006, SAFRA Toa Payoh was closed for redevelopment in July 2010. SAFRA Toa Payoh, SAFRA's very first permanent club, underwent reconstruction to almost triple its former size.

Consisting of four storeys and occupying a gross floor area of 24,223 square meters, the new SAFRA Toa Payoh is now the largest among SAFRA's current network of five clubs. The new club marked its soft opening with a two-day Open House on 27 & 28 October 2012.

SAFRA Toa Payoh Development Committee

The Development Committee of SAFRA Toa Payoh was steered by a committee chaired by Mr Johnny Tan and comprising eight NSman volunteers and staff.

Chairman	Mr Johnny Tan Cheng Hye, PBM
Vice-Chairman	Mr Chong Siak Yen, Gerald
Secretary	Ms Christine Pang
Member	Mr Hoong Bee Lok
Member	Mr Joe Tan Yong Chiang
Member	CPT (NS) Khoo Sze Boon
Member	2WO (VOL) Thenagarani Subramaniam
Member	MAJ (NS) Ridzuan Bin Ismail
Co-Opted Member	MAJ (NS) Yong Yia Chil Alvin

Key Statistics

Land Size : 2.47 hectare

S/N	Items	Old Club	New Club
1	GFA	8,701 m ²	24,223 m ²
2	Floors	3	4
3	Patronage	Average of 40,000 per month	Average of 100,000 per month

Design Intent and Concept

The Design Intent of the new club is to affirm SAFRA Toa Payoh Club as an Edutainment Flagship, with the theme, 'One Stop Learning, Non-stop Fun'. The club will instill a Fun, Interactive, Safe and Family-Oriented Environment, targeting NSmen and their families with education and entertainment needs.

The design concept includes:

- a) The main entrance to the new SAFRA Toa Payoh Club is designed as a beacon – one that provides a memorable image to the new club. Shaped as an ellipse and inspired by elements of nature, it is a powerful marker by day and a glowing lantern by night.
- b) Organising the programmatic elements and acting as a focus for the club are the pools. Framing the pool area is a feature wall that extends out to the main entrance plaza. Visual connection is created between the main entrance plaza and the pool area.
- c) An organic glass form housing the gym hovers above the pool area and sweeps across part of the feature wall in a dramatic way.
- d) A screen of rhythmic expression and varying transparency wraps the building and defines the edge with the expressway and its slip road. Projections such as roof terraces and framed spaces add to the rhythm created in the screen.

Facilities

	Recreational	F&B	Enrichment
SAFRA Toa Payoh Facilities	EnergyOne (16,070 sqft)	Astons Specialties (3,174 sqft)	AikiForest (1,510sqft)
	Lagoon Billiard (5,921 sqft)	Beer Alley (1,260 sqft)	Berries World of Learning School (3,037 sqft)
	Multi-Purpose Hall (6,590 sqft) - 3 Badminton courts	Kkongdon Barbeque (1,509 sqft)	Dance Studio (2,088 sqft)
	Squash court x 2 (1,500 sqft)	McDonald's (4,273 sqft)	Gymnademics (2,178 sqft)
	SuperBowl (19,418 sqft)	New Zealand Natural (829 sqft)	Kids Amaze Indoor Playground (12,700 sqft)
	Swimming Pool (32,302 sqft) - 6-lane 50m lap pool - Training pool - Waterplay Feature pool	Restaurant Hoshigaoka (1,700 sqft)	Medley Music School (2,178 sqft)
	The Winners' Circle (3,358 sqft)	Tim Palace (13,226 sqft)	NurtureStars Child Care Centre (7,748 sqft)
	Games Rooms x 3 (775 sqft)	Toast Box (2,107 sqft)	One Learning Space Education Centre (2,178 sqft)
	BBQ Pits x 2 (1,600 sqft)		Taekwondonomics (1,611sqft)
			The Fins Swim School (325 sqft)
			Z Fencing (6,418 sqft)
			Seminar Rooms (4,520 sqft) - Option to partitioned into 6 rooms