



channelnewsasia.com

A MEDIA CORP Interactive Media

HOME



Video Finance Lifestyle Travel Weather Discussion TV Shows



About Us

ASIA PACIFIC

SINGAPORE

WORLD

BUSINESS

SPORT

TECHNOLOGY

ENTERTAINMENT

HEALTH

SPECIAL REPORTS

BLOGS

YOUR NEWS

7 Day News Archive
M | T | W | T | F | S | S

Search

iPhone App

BlackBerry App

Android App

Mobile News

RSS

eNewsletter

TWITTER

twitter

Follow us on Twitter

FACEBOOK

Find us on Facebook

Home >

SINGAPORE NEWS

A- A+

Former shot-putter Luan Wei's civil suit against SAA gets underway

By Low Lin Fhoong, Channel NewsAsia | Posted: 01 December 2009 2243 hrs

SINGAPORE: After four years, former shot-putter Luan Wei's civil suit against the Singapore Athletic Association (SAA) finally got underway in court on Tuesday.

Luan Wei and thrower E Xiaoxu were recruited in 1999 by what was then known as the Singapore Amateur Athletic Association under the country's foreign sports talent scheme.

But they were dropped in 2004 after the national track and field body claimed the two athletes' performances were not up to mark.

The SAA were sued by the duo in the High Court for unfair dismissal in 2005, but proceedings stalled after they could not raise money for security for costs, which is a deposit required if a foreigner takes a Singaporean entity or individual to court.

Lawyer Edmond Pereira then applied for the case to be heard in the Subordinate Court, which requires less security for costs, and while E still could not raise enough money, Luan Wei successfully pooled together enough for the case to be heard.

In the opening day of hearing, Pereira and SAA's lawyer, Giam Chin Toon (Wee Swee Teow & Co) agreed that there was an agreement between the parties to bring Liaoning-born Luan Wei to Singapore and train him, and for him to eventually represent Singapore in international competition.

The issue, according to both counsels, was with the terms of the agreement.

Now a physical education and social science student at Hunan University, Luan Wei - who was accompanied in court by his mother Zhang Ping and father Luan Da Ren - is claiming loss of earnings and expenses as a result of a breach of contract by SAA.

No amount has been indicated in the claim submitted by Pereira.

Zhang Ping told the court that her son had been recruited by SAA to train, study and compete for Singapore, and that the association had made eight promises, which included Singapore citizenship within a year, English tuition, allowance, and education in a local university.

"Before he came to Singapore, Luan Wei was training and studying in Shanghai," she said on the witness stand. "The most crucial point of our discussion (with SAA) was that if the child was not allowed to study, we wouldn't have come to Singapore."

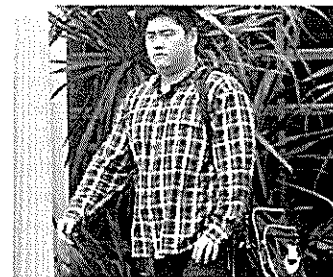
However, Giam highlighted that the promises Zhang Ping claimed the SAA gave, as listed in her affidavit, differed from the notes of the meeting, which was recorded when Luan Wei and E, as well as their parents, met the SAA in October 2004.

The defence counsel also questioned Luan Wei's achievements.

Giam pointed out that Luan Wei had won a silver medal in a regional age group meet in Shanghai and not gold, as indicated in the former athlete's statement.

He said Luan Wei was due to enrol in the University in Shanghai in 2001 and not 1999 as previously stated. Other points that were disputed included the remuneration promised to Luan Wei.

The trial continues on Wednesday. - CNA/ir



Photos 1 of 1
Luan Wei



Facebook



Twitter



Live



Google



del.icio.us



Digg



SHARE



Print

Ads by Google

Data Mining Using Excel

MS Excel Workshop by Temple Uni SG For Hospitality Professionals
www.ieec.asia/KLS

Guide to Investing in SG

Find out how easy it is to invest in Singapore. Read the guide here.
www.SEDB.com

Make Huge income at home

We will teach you how to make Real Profits in Real Time-Full Training-
www.xForex.com

OTHER SINGAPORE NEWS

- GE: Counting down to the General Election
- GE: Electoral Boundaries Review Committee report accepted