



MEDIA STATEMENT

OPEN WATER SWIMMING

Natalie and Chad in the race for honours at the 2009 Commonwealth Sports Awards

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Natalie du Toit and Chad Ho are among the three finalists in their respective categories, for the 2009 Commonwealth Sports Awards, with the winners to be announced in Leeds, England on October 24.

The highly experienced Du Toit has been nominated in the 'Female Athlete with a Disability' category based her multiple world record and gold winning performances at the Paralympic Games in Beijing during 2008.

Fellow open water swimming star Chad Ho, 19, who finished 9th in the 10km final at last year's Olympics held in Beijing and who collected a bronze medal in the 5km competition at the FINA World Championships held in Italy in July, has been nominated in the 'Outstanding Young Achiever' section.

In reaction to the nominations, Swimming SA CEO Shaun Adriaanse said: "Both du Toit and Ho are credible ambassadors for aquatics and I am sure that all swimming enthusiasts will join me in wishing them the best of luck for this prestigious awards function."