

General Information

Country:	KOR
Gender:	F
Height:	154
Weight:	45
Handedness:	Left-handed
Date of birth:	1981-09-29
Education:	Sports
Profession:	Athlete
License:	29091981001

Further Personal Information

Family	Husband Gong Hyo-Suk, daughter Hi [2013]
Languages	English, Korean
Higher education	Physical Education - Korea National Sports University: Seoul, KOR

Sport Specific Information

When and where did you begin this sport?	She began fencing in 1994.
Why this sport?	One of her teachers suggested she try the sport.
Handedness	Left
Footedness	Left

General Interest

Nicknames	Peanut Fencer [because of her height]. (Facebook profile, 30 May 2019)
Most influential person in career	Her daughter and her husband. (tvchosun.com, 24 Nov 2014)
Hero / Idol	Italian fencer Valentina Vezzali. (sports.news.naver.com, 31 Jan 2017)
Injuries	She was hospitalised with hepatitis after the 2008 Olympic Games. (globalpost.com, 27 Jul 2012) She has required surgery on her left knee during her career. (news.kmib.co.kr, 25 Apr 2018)
Awards and honours	She was chosen to recite the Athlete's Oath at the opening ceremony of the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon, Republic of Korea. (Asiad Daily, 17 Sep 2014) She received a Popularity Award at the 2014 MBN Women's Sports Grand Prize Ceremony in the Republic of Korea. (newswire.co.kr, 30 Dec 2014) She was named Sport Star of the Year at the 2012 Kyungki Do Sport Awards in the Republic of Korea. (kyeongin.com, 21 Dec 2012) She received the Best Player of the Year Award at the Seoul City Sport Awards in 2006 and 2008. (sbs.co.kr, 22 Dec 2008, 26 Dec 2006)
Milestones	She became the first female fencer representing the Republic of Korea to win a medal at the Olympic Games when she claimed silver in individual foil at the 2008 Games in Beijing. (SportsDeskOnline, 19 Jun 2018; adidas.com, 27 Jul 2012)
Famous relatives	Her husband Gong Hyo-Suk has represented Republic of Korea in road cycling, and competed for Korean team Uijeongbu City during the 2018 season. (procyclingstats.com, 2018; news.chosun.com, 21 Jun 2017)
Other information	RETIREMENT In 2019 she announced her retirement from competitive fencing. The following year she established a fencing academy. (news.chosun.com, 06 Oct 2019; mbcsportsplus.com, 21 Jul 2020; sports.khan.co.kr, 15 Jun 2020; weekly.khan.co.kr, 16 Jan 2021) PEANUT FENCER She received the nickname 'Peanut Fencer' because of her height. She is 154 centimetres tall, and also found it difficult to find sporting shoes the correct size. "I've never worn fencing shoes that are a perfect fit in my life. Therefore I always put insoles into the shoes, tying the laces so tight they cut off the blood in my feet before a match. I always thought that I would compete better if I found shoes that were the right size." (sisapress.com, 11 Sep 2018; news.kmib.co.kr, 25 Aug 2018)