



CGA Newsletter

April 2017

2017 CGA KEY DATES

Timeframe & Deadlines	Functional Area	Activity	CGA Action Required	New /updated
Sat to Sun 1-Apr to 30-Apr	Accommodation	Accommodation Contact Centre will review all CGA Second Period Requests and issue Booking Terms		
Tue to Fri 4-Apr to 2-Jun	Press Operations	Press Organisations accreditation Expression of Interest process		
Mon to Fri 17-Apr to 5-May	Accommodation	Accommodation Portal Open for Extra Team Officials bookings	✓	
Mon 24-Apr	Ticketing	Tickets go on sale to general public (CGAs cannot sell tickets before this date)		
Apr/May	Accreditation	Distribution of Accreditation Guide / Manual		
Apr/May	Accommodation	CGA Booking Terms must be signed and returned within 30 days of receipt together with 10% deposit	✓	
May	Ticketing	1st Invoice for 50% of initial ticket allocation to be paid in full	✓	
Mon 01 May	Medical	GC2018 Team Physiotherapy Program applications closes	✓	◆
Tue 2-May	CGA Relations and Operations	Team Size Calculator v2 distributed to CGAs		
Tue to Fri 2-May to 4-Nov	Rate Card	Rate Card Catalogue goes live - Normal Order Period	✓	
Fri 2-Jun	CGA Relations and Operations	CGAs submit Team Size Calculator v2 to Gold Coast 2018	✓	
Mon 5-Jun	Logistics	Distribution of Freight Guide		
Mon to Fri 5-Jun to 28-Jul	Press Operations	Press Organisations accreditation approval process		
Fri 30-Jun	CGA Relations and Operations	Chefs de Mission Manual v2 to be distributed		
Jul	CGA Relations and Operations	Deadline to register CGA Delegates & Guests for the Chefs de Mission Seminar	✓	
Mon to Fri 3-Jul to 8-Sep	Ticketing	Phase 2 CGA ticket requests – CGAs are given the opportunity to request further tickets, and request refund up to 25% of the phase one ticket allocation via the online Client Ticket Portal (CTP).	✓	
Wed to Sun 19-Jul to 23-Jul	CGF	Commonwealth Youth Games, Bahamas		
Tue 1-Aug	Accreditation	CGA Accreditation Applications live	✓	
Sun to Thu 19-Aug to 31-Aug	Event	Southeast Asian Games, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia		
Mon 21-Aug	CGA Relations and Operations	Team Size Calculator v3 distributed to CGAs		

2017 CGA KEY DATES

Timeframe & Deadlines	Functional Area	Activity	CGA Action Required	New /updated
Sep to Oct	CGA Relations and Operations	CGA Visit Block Out Period		
Fri to Sun 15-Sep to 24-Sep	Event	5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan		
Wed 20-Sep	Accommodation	60% of total payment DUE. The Accommodation Contact Centre issue invoice 30 days prior to this date	✓	
Fri 22-Sep	CGA Relations and Operations	CGAs submit Team Size Calculator v3 to Gold Coast 2018	✓	
Fri 22-Sep	CGA Relations and Operations	1 st instalment of Travel Grant payment of 20% (on receipt of Team Size Calculator v3)		
Fri 22-Sep	Sport	Entry by number deadline	✓	
Sun 30-Sep	Ticketing	Confirmation of phase 2 tickets provided to CGAs via email. Invoice distributed for the outstanding balance from phase 1 and total amount from phase 2, less any approved returns. Payment due in October 2017.		
Oct	Sport	Sport Handbook (version 2) distributed - includes sport fact sheets and guides to sport entries and para-sport		
Sun to Thu 8-Oct to 12-Oct	CGA Relations and Operations	Chefs de Mission Seminar, Gold Coast, Australia	✓	◆
Mon 30-Oct	Ticketing	Final Payment for all Tickets to be received by Gold Coast 2018	✓	
Wed to Wed 1-Nov to 29-Nov	Accommodation	Up until 29 Nov 2017, CGAs can cancel (release) up to 100% of rooms (10% cancellation fee applies)		
Sun to Mon 5-Nov to 4-Dec	Rate Card	Late Order Period	✓	
Mon 6-Nov to Games Time	Ticketing	Phase 3 ticket requests – CGAs can contact the GOLDOC Ticketing team for any further requests. These tickets will come from available inventory and must be paid for immediately at time of confirmation.	✓	
Fri 24-Nov	Accreditation	Accreditation deadline for CGAs (Ac, Ac**,Aa, Ab, Ao, Am and P)	✓	
Fri 24-Nov	CGA Relations and Operations	2 nd instalment of Travel Grant payment of 50% (on receipt of accreditation information)		
Wed 29-Nov	Accommodation	100% final payment DUE. The Accommodation Contact Centre issue invoice 30 days prior to this date	✓	
Thu 30-Nov	Accommodation	On or after 30 Nov 2017, CGAs can cancel (release) up to 100% of rooms (100% cancellation fee applies)		
Nov	Ticketing	GOLDOC to process seat allocation for all CGA tickets		
Nov	Medical	Distribution of V2 Medical Handbook and Pharmacy Guide and V1 Anti-Doping Standards		
Nov	Arrivals and Departures	Distribution of Arrival and Departure Guide / Forms		

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Dec to Games Time	CGA Relations and Operations	CGA Visit Block Out Period		
Sat to Sat 2-Dec to 16-Dec	Event	Mini Pacific Games, Port Vila, Vanuatu		
Mon to Fri 4-Dec to 15-Dec	CGA Relations and Operations	Pre-Delegation Registration Meetings (Pre-DRMs)	✓	
Fri 22-Dec	Accreditation	Accreditation deadline for submission of Dignitaries and CGA Guests (CGA, CGA**, G, G**, Gi, Gi** and Gt)	✓	
Mon 25-Dec	Gold Coast 2018	100 days to go until GC2018		
Mon 25-Dec	QBR	Queen's Baton arrives in Australia		

2018 CGA KEY DATES

Timeframe & Deadlines	Functional Area	Activity	CGA Action Required	New /updated
Thu 4-Jan	Sport	Sport Entries System goes live (CGAs to enter athletes by name in to Sports Entries System)	✓	
Mon 8-Jan	Ticketing	CGAs can schedule appointments to collect tickets from GOLDOC Headquarters either personally or via a courier service	✓	
Fri 19-Jan	CGA Relations and Operations	Chefs de Mission Manual v3 to be distributed		
Fri 2-Feb	Accreditation	Non Valid Pass (NVP) mail-out complete		
Fri to Sun 9-Feb to 25-Feb	Event	2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics		
Mar	Medical	Distribution of Final Medical Handbook and Pharmacy Guide and Anti-Doping Standards		
Mar	Sport	Hard copies of Sport Guides for Team Leaders and Technical Officials' Manuals (per sport) are available		
Wed 7-Mar	CGA Relations and Operations	CGAs submit Team Size Calculator v4 (Entries by Name) to Gold Coast 2018	✓	
Wed 7-Mar	Sport	Individual Sport Entries deadline (by Name)	✓	
Wed 7-Mar	Sport	Team Sport Preliminary Squad Submission deadline (by Name)	✓	
Wed 7-Mar	Arrivals and Departures	Submission of Arrivals and Departures information	✓	
Mon 12-Mar	Event	Commonwealth Day		
Mon 19-Mar	Sport	Team Sport Final Squad Submission deadline (by name)	✓	

2018 CGA KEY DATES

Timeframe & Deadlines	Functional Area	Activity	CGA Action Required	New /updated
Tue 20-Mar	Village Operations	Soft Opening of Commonwealth Games Village		
Sun 25-Mar	Village Operations	Official Opening of Commonwealth Games Village		
Mon to Tue 26-Mar to 3-Apr	Village Operations	Team Welcome Ceremonies		
Fri to Mon 30-Mar to 2-Apr	Public Holiday	Easter		
Sat 31-Mar	Sport	Regional training venues open (Cairns and Townsville)		
Sat to Wed 31-Mar to 11-Apr	Village Operations	Regional Villages Open (Cairns and Townsville)		
Tues 3-Apr	Gold Coast 2018	Commonwealth Sport Ministers Conference		
Apr	CGF	CGF General Assembly, Gold Coast		
Mon to Sun 3-Apr to 15-Apr 2018	Technology	Deadline for CGAs to submit Spectrum requests for radios and Wi-Fi (TBC)	✓	
Wed 4-Apr	Ceremonies	GC2018 Opening Ceremony		
Wed to Sun 4-Apr to 15-Apr	Gold Coast 2018	Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games		
Sun 15-Apr	Ceremonies	GC2018 Closing Ceremony		
Wed 18-Apr	Village Operations	Closing of Commonwealth Games Village		

Social Media – Follow Us, Like Us, Join Us

Is your CGA on social media? Please engage with our official GC2018 channels as listed below. GOLDOC encourages you to actively use social media to engage and inform your community of your participation in the Games. Proudly use the #GC2018 in your positive GC2018 stories!



Use the official
#GC2018

Channel	GC2018 Account
Website	gc2018.com
Facebook	facebook.com/gc2018
Twitter	twitter.com/gc2018
Instagram	instagram.com/gc2018
Youtube	youtube.com/gc2018
Hashtags	#GC2018 #SHARETHEDREAM #QBR2018



One Year to Go Milestone

4 April 2017 marked one year to go until the opening ceremony of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. The months of March and April contained many significant milestones for GOLDOC and the planning has certainly picked up another level of intensity working towards delivering a Great Games.

Sport Competition Schedule

The largest competition events schedule in Commonwealth Games history has been unveiled, with the Official Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) Ticketing Guide allowing spectators to start planning their experience ahead of ticket requests opening on 24 April. Boasting the largest medal event program and the most number of sessions in Commonwealth Games history, the GC2018 Competition Events Schedule details all 23 sporting disciplines across the integrated sport and Para-Sport program, as well as all competition dates and times.

Among the highlights of the GC2018 Competition Events Schedule are:

- * 13 sports will be showcased on Day 1 (Thursday, April 5);
- * The first gold medal to be awarded will be the Women's Triathlon on Day 1 (Thursday, April 5);
- * The highly anticipated 100m final (Men's and Women's) will be held on Day 5 (Monday, April 9);
- * Day 10 (Saturday, April 14) will act as "Super Saturday", with the most number of medals to be awarded (44 gold medals in total);
- * The Rugby Sevens finals for men and women will be the final gold medal events on Day 11 prior to the closing ceremony.

Please [click here](#) to download and save a copy of the detailed sport event schedule. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).

GC2018 Public Ticket Request Phase



The Official GC2018 Ticketing Guide, available online at www.gc2018.com/tickets, also explains the process for how to complete a ticket request. In order to make it fair for everyone, GC2018 tickets will initially be available via a ticket request phase. Ticket requests will be accumulated over a four-week period from midday on 24 April 2017 until midnight on 22 May 2017 (AEST), and no orders will be confirmed or payments taken until after the ticket request phase closes.

Borobi Coin launched

While Borobi has not only found a spot in the hearts of many, he has now taken over one of the Australian currency! It was just over one year ago that Borobi announced himself to the world in spectacular fashion, arriving with great fanfare from the back of a helicopter hovering over Burleigh beach. Borobi has since won hearts and minds across the Commonwealth over the past year and is proving to be a great ambassador for all things GC2018. The Royal Australian Mint plays an important role in commemorating significant national events and having Borobi on a coin is a fun way to celebrate and remember GC2018 for years to come. The new souvenir coin features Borobi (in colour) and is sure to be a hit with coin lovers across the nation. [Click here](#) to purchase a Borobi coin.



Optus announced as official support network of GC2018

Optus has joined GOLDOC as the official support network of GC2018, providing the event's communications infrastructure and managed services. Set to deliver digital communications connectivity for 6,600 athletes and team officials, 3,500 media, Optus will also support the cumulative broadcast services to more than 1.5 billion viewers worldwide.

OPTUS

Festival GC2018

The arts and culture program that will light up the Gold Coast and Commonwealth Games event cities in 2018 will be known as Festival 2018. The festival will be a free public celebration that will run concurrently with the GC2018 Competition Events Schedule. Festival 2018 will be a bold, aspirational 12-day celebration that will inspire audiences with a high quality program of live performances, art installations and interactive cultural experiences.

Do you have a cultural dance group within your community here in Australia? If so, please reach out to your CGA Relations Manager as the Festival 2018 would love to contact them.



CGA Relations and Operations FA Update

GC2018 Chefs de Mission Seminar Update

The Chefs de Mission (CdM) seminar will be held from 8-12 October 2017 at the Mantra on the View on the Gold Coast. More information regarding the seminar will be provided in the coming weeks. This will include information regarding flight travel grants, accommodation and the Australian visa process.

Chefs de Mission Seminar Tentative Schedule	
Sun 08 Oct	PM – CdM Welcome & Kick Off session
Mon 09 Oct	All day – CdM Seminar
Tue 10 Oct	All day – CdM Seminar
Wed 11 Oct	All day – CdM Seminar
Thu 12 Oct	Optional Venue Tours AM – Option #1 Brisbane Venue Tours (Track Cycling & Shooting) All day – Option #2 Cairns & Townsville Venue Tours* (Basketball)

* CGAs with Basketball teams only.

All costs associated with Cairns & Townsville tours (including flights, accommodation, meals) is at CGAs expense. CGA Relations staff will travel with CGAs to Optional Venue Tours.

Team Size Calculator (TSC) v2

Team Size Calculator v2 will be distributed by your CGA Relations Manager on **2 May 2017**. CGAs will also receive a copy of their Sport Qualification tracking document with TSCv2. When completing your TSC please reference the Sport Qualification tracking document. Please be as accurate as possible in your TSC, as it is used as a planning number for GOLDOC in functional areas such as the Village, Sport Competition, Transport, Catering, Accreditation and Ceremonies. The TSC is also used to calculate your CGA entitlements. TSCv2 is due **2 June 2017**. TSC v3 will be distributed in August 2017.



Sport Qualification Tracking document

GOLDOC Sport has undertaken preliminary tracking to project current qualification based on recently released Athlete Allocation Systems. This tracking is indicative only, and has tried to replicate qualification periods of International Sport Federation ranking lists wherever possible. This information should be used for planning purposes only, and in no way reflects final athlete qualifications.

This tracking information will be updated in advance of each TSC distribution, and is hoped to assist CGAs verify internal tracking processes.

Please note that where IF discretion is to be applied under the Allocation System, assumptions may be made, and we have not attempted to apply any National Selection Standards across this information.

After you receive your tracking document if you have any feedback or if there is additional information that would be of assistance to include please feel free to let us know.

2017 CGA Open Days

GOLDOC was delighted to host 9 CGAs (22 delegates) from across the Commonwealth at the GC2018 Open Day. As part of the program, the delegates joined invited guests and dignitaries for the One Year To Go celebrations overlooking the iconic Surfers Paradise Beach.

The CGAs received updates from functional areas such as Villages, Transport, Sport and Accreditation. The group visited multiple competition venues and the Commonwealth Games Village.

Please [click here](#) to download and save a copy of the CGA Open Days presentation. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).



Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) visits Gold Coast

CGC visited the GOLDOC offices for the first time from 11-13 April. The delegation heard from key functional areas, visited venues and the Village. CGC was fortunate enough to be the first CGA to tour the newly opened Carrara Sport and Leisure Centre.



CGA Contacts

Have you appointed your GC2018 Chef de Mission? Please email your CGA Relations Manager with the details so we can ensure your Chef is added to our database.

Did your CGA recently hold elections? Please email contact details to your CGA Relations Manager if you have appointed a new President or Secretary General. This will ensure your CGA is always receiving GOLDOC updates and information.

Extra Team Officials

GOLDOC are pleased to confirm an exclusive accommodation request period for Extra Team Officials accommodation, which opened on 17 April 2017. The portal will close on **5 May 2017**. CGAs are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to accommodate your extra team officials. Please use your existing CGA login and password to access the portal via: <https://events.gc2018.com/accommodation/constituent>

The Accommodation Contact Centre will review all requests at the time this period closes and will respond to CGAs by the end of May 2017 with proposed accommodation allocation for ETOs. The booking process, terms and conditions remain the same as reflected in your CGA Accommodation Guide.

Should you have any further questions regarding GC2018 accommodation please feel free to email accommodation@goldoc.com or contact the Accommodation Contact Centre directly on 1300 641 875 (within Australia) or +61 7 5618 2269 if calling from overseas.

In line with CGF obligation ACR16.6, the purchase of Knife and Fork (K+F) privileges are mandatory for all ETO accreditations and will cost **AUD \$1,480 per ETO accreditation**. It should be noted that CGAs, according to CGF obligation ACR20 are entitled to transfer Ao +Am accreditations, including those that are ETOs, based on a pre-determined pool of transfers based on the total number of team officials calculated and confirmed at the DRM. Should the CGA decide to transfer an ETO accreditation, the knife and fork privilege will also be transferred and does not incur an additional charge. The process for CGAs to make payment for the knife and fork privileges is not yet finalised. Information regarding payment will be shared at a later date.

Sport FA Update

GC2018 Sport Schedule

Please [click here](#) to download and save a copy of Version 3.1 of the overall sport competition schedule. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).

GC2018 Sport Handbook

Version 1 of the GC2018 Sport Handbook was distributed on 14 April 2017. This version of the Sport Handbook outlines key information about the Sport competition and provides operational and sport specific information in 23 Sport Fact Sheets. The handbook supports CGAs in their initial planning for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. Version two (October 2017) will include additional sections; Sport Entries Guide and Para-Sport Guide. Please [click here](#) to download and save a copy. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).

Sport Feature

Cycling

Mountain Biking



View the building of the Mountain Bike trails via this youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ou5SFq0wCtU>

This youtube link provides vision of the trails: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YocD07Yu_ik

Operational Trials

From 5 – 9 September, the Gold Coast will welcome the Commonwealth & Oceania Weightlifting Championships. All athletes will compete with the same objective: secure a spot for the GC2018 Commonwealth Games! Organised by Australian Weightlifting Federation, this event will be held in the Games-venue – Carrara Sport & Leisure Centre - and will be a great observation and learning opportunity for GOLDOC.

For more information on qualification criteria and athletes' registration, please check with the Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation owf@bigpond.com or Australian Weightlifting Federation mkeelan@awf.com.au

Please [click here](#) for a list of international events being hosted in Australia leading up the Games! (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).

Medical FA Update

Reminder: Applications for Team Physiotherapy Program close 30 April 2017

Applications for the GC2018 Team Physiotherapy Program will close 30 April 2017. The Team Physiotherapy Program will see the placement of skilled and experienced volunteer physiotherapists with Commonwealth Games Association (CGA) teams for the duration of the Games period, 25 March to 15 April 2018.

The GC2018 Medical Team volunteer will be a dedicated resource for the CGA teams and will complement and support existing CGA team medical staff. Volunteer physiotherapists, who are placed with a CGA team, will not count towards a CGAs accreditation. These individuals will be accredited as volunteers through the GC2018 Medical Team. CGAs will be required to provide team uniforms, equipment and consumables needed.

Under a fair and equitable process, all CGAs can apply to participate in the team physiotherapy program. Requests will be considered based on a number of factors, including the availability of appropriately skilled physiotherapists and prioritised on an as-needs basis.

CGA CALL TO ACTION: Applications Closing SOON



For CGA teams who wish to participate in this program, please complete the application form by [clicking here](#). (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).

The form must be completed and returned to CGAmedical@goldoc.com by **30 April 2017**.

GC2018 Medical Handbook & Pharmacy Guide

On 3 April 2017, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games [Medical Handbook and Pharmacy Guide](#) was released to all CGAs. The handbook contains detailed information about our comprehensive medical program and the medical and healthcare services that will be available to client groups at Games time. It also contains important information and actions for CGA Medical Teams to consider and complete as part of their planning and preparation for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The Pharmacy List will be available in version two of the Medical Handbook and Pharmacy Guide, expected to be released October 2017. Any queries or questions in relation to the Medical Handbook and Pharmacy Guide can be directed to CGAmedical@goldoc.com

Transport FA Update

GOLDOC has announced Thrifty as the Official Car Rental supplier for GC2018. Thrifty will provide about 1,400 vehicles across up to 15 category types for Games operations. The pool of vehicles will be made up of passenger cars (small, medium, station wagon), light commercial (utes, vans, small trucks) and some small buses.

The fleet will be used for GC2018 car-with-driver services provided to Games officials, including Technical Delegates, team officials, dignitaries and sponsors.

In addition, there is a significant sport requirement including marathon press trucks, broadcast vehicles, cycling team vehicles, vehicles to support the Queen's Baton Relay and vehicles for Games operational usage.



Rate Card FA Update

GC2018 Rate Card

The Rate Card Portal will open for the start of the normal order period to CGAs in May. Please nominate a representative within your CGA to act as the primary contact for the Rate Card portal. The primary contact will be provided with a user name and password to access the online rate card catalogue to order items for Games Time.

CGA CALL TO ACTION: Primary Contact Form for Rate Card Portal



Please [click here](#) to download and return a copy of the form to your CGA Relations Manager by **2 May 2017**. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).

Merchandise FA Update

Announcing International Shipping

GC2018 Online Store has now gone LIVE for International Shipping. Full details can be view on the following: <https://shop.gc2018.com/pages/delivery>

Accreditation FA Update

Accreditation

The CGA Accreditation Manual will be available to CGAs in the coming month. The accreditation manual has been prepared to assist CGAs in completing the accreditation process for their delegations.

In June 2017, CGAs will be provided with the full accreditation registration package. The accreditation registration package includes forms such as the organisational consent form and user account application form. All required forms must be returned to GOLDOC in order for a user account to be created for access to the online eAccreditation system.

Each CGA will have a dedicated GOLDOC Accreditation contact to support you through the accreditation process. You will be able to contact this person directly with any questions in relation to the accreditation process.

Visa Application Overview

Please [click here](#) for the Visa Application Overview. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days). The Visa Application overview is to assist CGAs in preparing members of their delegation to apply for a Games Time Visa for their participation in The Games. We recommend that you review the Visa Application Overview as soon as possible.



Games Time Visa Hub

GOLDOC is providing an in-house Games Time Visa Hub to support all Games Family participants to obtain the appropriate visa for travel to Australia for their participation in the Games.

The Games Time Visa Hub will:

- Be under the supervision of Registered Migration Agents within the GOLDOC Accreditation Team.
- Initiate the visa application after the Application for Accreditation has been made by the CGA directly with the participant.
- Use software to support individual applicant engagement and track progress and outstanding actions.
- Provide the best level of support possible to guide participants through the process.
- GOLDOC will be able to advise CGAs of progress with visa applications for their delegation.

Further detailed information on the Games Time Visa Hub will be provided in the Games Time visa update in August 2017.

Security FA Update

Introduction to Queensland Police Service (QPS)

Please [click here](#) to view a letter of introduction to the Queensland Police Service (QPS). QPS would like to identify any high profile athletes, athletes that are well-known or celebrated in your home nation or territory that may be travelling to the Gold Coast as part of your team. If you are aware of these such athletes or team officials, please contact Inspector Scott Knowles (knowles.scottw@polic.qld.gov.au).

Village FA Update



Workforce FA Update

Volunteer Fast Facts

It's wonderful that more than 47,000 people have put up their hand to volunteer at the Games and ensure visitors and athletes get to see what makes Queensland so special. The enthusiasm of volunteers at major events is infectious.

- More than 47,000 GC2018 volunteer applications
- 91% of applications came from Australia
- 76% of Australian applications came from Queensland
- Applications received from 117 countries
- 99% of applications from Commonwealth countries
- Youngest applicants are 16
- Oldest applicants are 91

The Volunteers will be the face of the Games and play a key role in shaping the Games experience for athletes, spectators and visitors to the Sunshine State. Next up is the opening of our Volunteer Selection Centre in May, which is where shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an informal interview. The centre will mark the beginning of the physical volunteer journey and for many this may be one of the proudest moments of their life.



Protocol FA Update

GOLDOC hosted a Diplomatic Briefing in Canberra on Thursday 30th March 2017. The briefing was well attended by members of the Commonwealth diplomatic missions located in Canberra. The Australian Governor-General welcomed the attendees who were then given a thorough presentation from representatives from GOLDOC (Chairman and CEO) as well as the Queensland Government and the City of Gold Coast highlighting the wonderful benefits for those wishing to attend the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Key messaging amongst the broad information provided was for the diplomatic missions to ensure that they be in contact with their home CGA on a regular basis to assist them for the planning of any attendance by a visiting Head of State, Royals, Head of Government, and Sports Minister. The CGAs are the main conduit of information between attending CGA nations and territories and the Organising Committee. This key message of communicating with their CGAs was reinforced a number of times during the presentations. GOLDOC encourages you to reach out to your Australian High Commission or equivalent.

Accommodation FA Update

GC2018 Athletes Friends and Family Homestay

GOLDOC recognises the importance of an effective support structure for athletes and therefore introduce this unique accommodation offer for athletes' friends and families at Games time and was pleased to launch the GC2018 Athletes Friends and Family Homestay Experience at the CGA Open Days. Please [click here](#) to download and save a copy of the Homestay Experience flyer to share with Athletes Family and Friends. (Note: This link will expire in 30 days).



CGA Second and Final Request Period

The second and final request period for CGA's closed on 31 March 2017. All requests submitted in this window and are in final stages of contracting. Any additional requests for accommodation will now be waitlisted by the GOLDOC Accommodation team and periodically reviewed against any possible released accommodation and event/function space; identification of a suitable option is subject to availability.

Dignitary Accommodation

Each CGA President and Secretary General will each be allocated a single room (to include accompanying guest and 2 breakfasts) at the Games Family Hotel, Sheraton Grand Mirage Gold Coast, from 29 March 2018 until 17 April 2018 (check out 18 April 2018). The Games Family Hotel Request Forms for additional dignitaries such as Sovereign, Head of State or Government, Honoured Guests (Sports Minister and High Commissioner) were due by 31 March 2017 and are now under review. Any additional requests for accommodation at the will be waitlisted and subject to availability, alternatively an overflow hotel may be recommended.

Queen's Baton Relay FA Update

QBR in Africa

Dancing, sports, running relays and even tree planting have been part of the Baton's adventures in Africa so far. From the gloved hands of Her Majesty, the Baton has passed from those of presidents to fisherwomen and from school children to Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) medal hopefuls. Already the Baton has touched the lives of thousands of people.

The Baton's first stop in Sierra Leone inspired para-athlete Mohamed Kamara to train for GC2018. A 100m and 200m sprinter, Mohamed was the only athlete to represent Sierra Leone at the London 2012 Paralympic Games, holding his country's flag up high at the opening ceremony.

Then in Ghana, people came out of their homes and lined the streets to cheer the Baton on as it was carried from the Presidential Palace to the Theodosia Okoh Hockey Stadium, where it was met by dozens of children.

The 'land of a thousand hills' and a thousand smiles, Rwanda, was the Baton's third stop. Here, the Baton passed between the hands of locals and visitors who joined in planting bamboo along the Sebeya River bank in the country's western province.

The Baton also joined locals in the Rwamagara district for Umuganda, where on the last Saturday of every month, all Rwandans take part in community work in aid of overall national development.

Next up the Queen's Baton travelled to Uganda, with a street celebration, memorial tribute and school visit giving many the opportunity to be part of the excitement of GC2018. Also we saw Australian athletes competing at the IAAF World Cross Country Championships in the nation's capital Kampala. The gruelling conditions didn't stop our Aussies digging in for preparation for GC2018.

In Cameroon, the Queen's Baton shared a message of unity during a visit to the Promhanicam School, a centre for the education, rehabilitation and inclusion of physically and intellectually disabled children. Commonwealth Games Federation Vice President, Gideon Sam, made sure every child knew the Commonwealth Games was for them.

"Every child is equal, every athlete is equal, and when you come to the Commonwealth Games they are for you," Mr Sam said.



The celebration of unity continued to the Baton's sixth stop, Lagos, Nigeria, where it took part in festivities marking one year to go until GC2018. There was a street relay with former Olympic and Commonwealth Games athletes, and prospects for GC2018. And local children ran and jumped with the Baton during a Schools Connect visit to Greensprings School in Lekki.

A reminder that any use of the Queen's Baton Relay emblem, wordmark or graphic, must be approved prior to use. Please [click here](#) to download and review a copy of the QBR Brand Guidelines. Please email your request with attached creative to qbrapprovals@goldoc.com

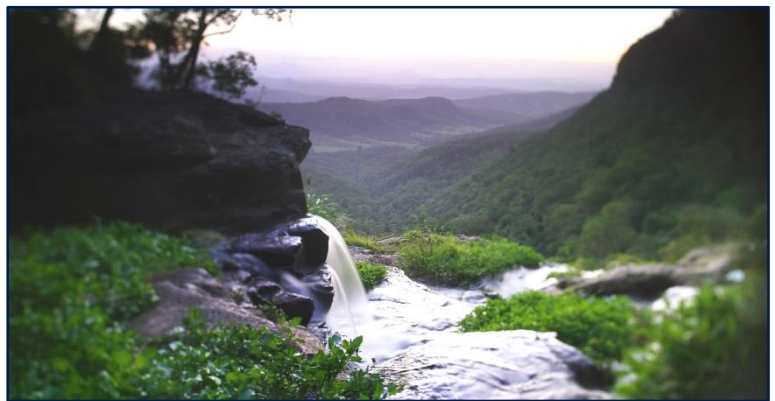
Follow the Queen's Baton Relay on its journey. Please direct your communities and stakeholders to follow the Baton at www.gc2018.com/qbr and be sure to interact with us on social media @gc2018 and use the hashtag #qbr2018.

Sustainability FA Update

GOLDOC participates in first ever Pride in Sport index

GOLDOC is proud to participate in the inaugural Pride in Sport Index™ (PSI) - an initiative of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Australian Sports Commission and a legacy of the Bingham Cup, Sydney.

The Australian-first benchmarking measure is specifically designed to assess the inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex (LGBTI) people within Australian sport and sporting organisations.



GOLDOC's entry in the Pride in Sport Index aligns with inclusivity and diversity vision, which is to stage an event that welcomes participation by people of every gender, socio-economic status, race, orientation or ability. Being part of the inaugural Pride in Sport Index supports GOLDOC's zero tolerance approach to homophobia, biphobia and transphobia, bullying and harassment. GOLDOC wants to ensure that everyone can enjoy the Games in a truly welcoming, inclusive environment.

Human Rights Policy

GOLDOC recently published its Human Rights Policy for GC2018, drawing on the United Nations (UN) Global Compact and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) to ensure a holistic approach to the management of human rights across GC2018 planning and delivery.

There is increasing literature around the impact that mega sporting events can have on human rights. GOLDOC is committed to delivering a sustainable event that leaves a positive legacy for the local community and the people and societies that it impacts.

As one of the fundamental steps in the application of the UNGPs, this policy has been developed to publicly communicate GOLDOC's commitment to positively managing its human rights impacts.



Gold Coast 2018

XXI Commonwealth Games



GOLDOC is committed to showing leadership in sustainability by delivering the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games™ to international standards and to use our learning to inspire best practice both at home and around the world.

Download Towards a Sustainable GC2018

