

countdown

COMMONWEALTH GAMES SCOTLAND NEWSLETTER

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Boxer Stephen Simmons celebrates medal success with CGS Chairman Michael Cavanagh

Colossal efforts rewarded

Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) announced in May a new scheme that will see the success and sacrifice of Team Scotland medallists at the Games rewarded once they retire.

In 2010, the CGS Board agreed to establish a 'Medallists Reward Scheme' for athletes representing Team Scotland at the Delhi Commonwealth Games. The details of the scheme have now been finalised and the 28 medallists will receive a share of £182,500.

The purpose of the scheme is to show recognition for Scotland's most successful Games athletes, and to assist them after

28 Recipients following the 2010 Games are:

10 Gold Medallists each receiving £10,000:

Robbie Renwick - Swimming; Hannah Miley - Swimming; Callum Johnson - Boxing; Jonathan Hammond - Shooting; Neil Stirton - Shooting; Jennifer McIntosh - Shooting; Kay Copland - Shooting; David Millar - Cycling; Jocelyn Rae - Tennis; Colin Fleming - Tennis

15 Silver Medallists each receiving £5,000: David Carry - Swimming; Andy Hunter - Swimming; Jak Scott - Swimming; Cameron Brodie - Swimming; Lewis Smith - Swimming; Sean Fraser - Swimming; Michael Jamieson - Swimming; Eilidh Child - Athletics; Josh Taylor - Boxing; Jennifer Davis - Cycling; Charline Joiner - Cycling; Shona Marshall - Shooting; Angus McLeod - Shooting; Ian Shaw - Shooting; Peter Kirkbride - Weightlifting

3 Bronze Medallists each receiving £2,500; Stephanie Twell - Athletics; Stephen Simmons - Boxing; Lauren Smith - Synchronised Swimming
Total 28 Medallists - £182,500

they 'retire' from competing at elite level, with a boost to their longer term savings and investment planning. The initiative is being funded through CGS investments, including monies received from the Glasgow 2014 Joint Marketing Plan Agreement.

Commenting on the scheme, Michael Cavanagh said: "It is recognised that whilst many athletes receive some contributions towards their sporting costs whilst competing through the Lottery and other support mechanisms, most put their non-sporting lives on hold and can struggle to re-establish their career after they retire. These funds are targeted to invest in pensions or to assist in establishing their post sporting life following retirement from top flight competition.

"We believe this is a real step forwards and something we are keen to continue for the foreseeable future. We also see this as a tangible benefit for athletes, resulting at least in part from Scotland being the next Games hosts and CGS receiving monies from the required buy-out of our marketing rights by the Organising Committee."

Gold, silver and bronze medallists from the 2010 Games will receive £10,000, £5,000 and £2,500 respectively. This will be invested on behalf of the athletes and

the capital and related interest passed on to them on notification of retirement. Only one medal per athlete will be rewarded.

Welcoming the news, boxing bronze medallist Stephen Simmons who has recently joined the professional ranks said: "It is great to see the athletes being recognised in this way and I would like to thank Commonwealth Games Scotland for introducing this new scheme. Turning pro is a great opportunity for me, but is still no guarantee of financial security and this award will help me through this important transition period. I will probably use the money to complete a personal trainer course as a fallback if things in the ring don't work out."

Former swimmer and Commonwealth Games silver medallist Andy Hunter will also benefit and added: "Whilst Lottery and other athlete funding has been a great support during my swimming career, this is a great way of helping athletes prepare for the future. As someone who has just retired from their sport and is starting out on a new career path, this funding will be invaluable in helping me bridge the gap between my old life and my future direction."

Whilst the scheme has initially targeted successful athletes from the recent Delhi 2010 Games, it is planned to operate a similar scheme for Glasgow 2014.

Shooting double gold medallist from Delhi, Jen McIntosh is delighted to be one of 10 athletes receiving the top award of £10,000 and said: "I am already really excited about the prospect of competing in front of a home crowd in Glasgow in 2014 and trying to repeat my achievements from Delhi. However this is a great additional boost for athletes, knowing that they will be recognised and supported in the longer term. I have put my studies on hold this last year to help me realise my sporting dreams and this type of initiative will be really beneficial when the time comes to move on from being a full-time athlete."





Michael Cavanagh



Fiona McEwan



Maureen Campbell



Jackie Davidson

New Board gets clear mandate



Pete Nicolson



Niall Sturrock



Louise Martin

At the Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) AGM in Stirling at the end of May, the work of the organisation over the last four years was highlighted. This included the success of Team Scotland at the 2010 Commonwealth Games, none which would have been possible without the support of our commercial partners and in particular, sportscotland as the major public supporter of CGS and our member sports.

The planning for the next two Games cycles was also outlined, critically including preparations for the forthcoming home Games in Glasgow in 2014.

A review of the Achieve 2014 programme was also presented to the meeting with a recommendation that consideration should be given to developing an Achieve 2018 programme.

In addition a number of key decisions were taken affecting the future management, focus and direction of the organisation over the next four years.

Under the main business of the evening, a new seven member Board was voted in which will oversee the organisation and the preparation of Team Scotland in the build-up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

- Chairman - Michael Cavanagh
- Vice-Chairman - Fiona McEwan
- Executive Members - Maureen Campbell (2 year term), Jackie Davidson (2 year term), Pete Nicolson (4 year term), Niall Sturrock (4 year term).
- Louise Martin CBE remains on the Board as Immediate Past Chairman.

In addition to the positions listed above, the new Board will have the power to

co-opt up to four specialist independent director positions. Taking into account the skillset of the new Board, these positions may cover Director of Finance, Director of Marketing & Communications, Director of Team Performance Support and Director of Corporate Governance & Compliance and will be filled through an open recruitment process.

An Athlete Representative, Honorary Medical Adviser and Honorary Legal Adviser will continue to be appointed to support the Board. **sportscotland** the national agency for sport is also invited to send an observer to the Board, as has been the practice for a number of Games cycles.

Michael Cavanagh, who was elected unopposed for a second term as Chairman, committed to using his experience of the last four years to continue to strengthen and develop the organisation as it moves into one of the most exciting and challenging periods in its 80 year history. Commenting on his appointment and welcoming the new Board he said: "I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed for a second term. It has been a real privilege to work with such a committed staff and Board and I look forward to leading the organisation as we focus on selecting, preparing and managing what we hope will be our most successful ever team for Glasgow 2014."

The meeting also debated two key issues regarding Glasgow 2014 selection standards and financial forward planning. It was agreed to accept the recommendation from the post Delhi review that the 2014 general selection policy will continue to be developed over the next six months in consultation with the sports involved, for approval by the Council at its Half Yearly meeting in November 2011. This will be based on a team performing with distinction in 2014 and achieving our best ever medal target, whilst also maximising the opportunity of a home Games.

The meeting reaffirmed the financial investment principles as outlined at the 2010 AGM. The lead role of **sportscotland** in the delivery and funding of high performance sport was also supported and clarified.

Tributes were paid to the retiring Honorary Secretary, Douglas Brown, for many years of dedicated service to the organisation, to Ian Edmond, standing down as Athlete's Representative and Board Member Sandy Sutherland for their contributions over the last four years.

With thanks to board members retiring / standing down.



Douglas Brown



Ian Edmond



Sandy Sutherland

A copy of the CGS Quadrennial Report 2007-2011 is available for download from the CGS website www.cgs.org.uk



Decision time for Games family



At the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) General Assembly in St Kitts and Nevis in November, landmark decisions will be taken, affecting future Commonwealth Games. Hambantota, Sri Lanka and Gold Coast, Australia will fight it out to host the 2018 Games, whilst proposed changes to the Games sports programme will also go to a vote. This is in addition to the constitutional business of CGF elections to their Executive Board.

Sport programme under the spotlight

The process of the quadrennial review of the Commonwealth Games sports programme continued in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in May. The CGF Sports Committee and Executive Board considered feedback from CGAs including Scotland, along with input from key stakeholders like Glasgow 2014.

Amongst the proposals from the Executive Board that have now been circulated to CGAs for further consideration and comment before the November vote, is the right for future hosts to include beach volleyball in the Games from the list of category two, optional sports. They have also endorsed a push to see 20/20 cricket included as part of future Games.

Sports Review Committee chairman and CGF vice-president, HRH Tunku Imran said: "It is fundamental that our sports programme continues to evolve in such a way as to sustain the Commonwealth Games as one of the world's leading multi-sport events."

The list of ten category one, core sports remains unaltered, but there are a number of changes proposed to events within them.

Proposals from the review committee include:

- Synchronised swimming and synchronised diving be re-classified as category three - recognised sports but not eligible for inclusion
- Race-walks to be moved to category two, optional for inclusion (not in the Glasgow programme)
- The total number of entries allowed in the singles events in racquet sports to be standardised at three men and three women per country
- The maximum number of entries per country for judo and wrestling to be set at two per weight category, so long as the total number does not exceed the number of events available. This is in line with weightlifting
- There is also a move to have two bronze medals awarded in judo
- Women's boxing will be further reviewed with the AIBA

- The inclusion of women's Rugby 7s is also under consideration
- The changes to the shooting programme made post the 2006 Games should stand i.e. no pairs events and no smallbore rifle women's prone
- The need to identify and select the specific Para-Sport events no later than three years prior to each Commonwealth Games.

Commenting on the proposals Jon Doig, Chief Executive CGS said: "The recommendations will be studied in detail before further consultation with our member sports, to inform our views before the vote in November. Whilst the recommendations primarily impact on the 2018 Games and beyond, we will discuss potential opportunities and implications with Glasgow 2014, in terms of any recommendations that can be taken forward for the 2014 Games that would enhance the sports programme."



It's Australia v Sri Lanka for 2018

In 2007 it was Glasgow on tenterhooks when bidding for the 2014 Games, before the joyous result was announced. Now the Gold Coast, Australia and Hambantota, Sri Lanka are experiencing the same frantic last six months, having formally lodged their Bid Books to host the 2018 Commonwealth Games with the CGF in Malaysia in May.

Speaking at the Bid Book handover ceremony, CGF Vice President, HRH Tunku Imran thanked both candidate cities for their commitment to the Commonwealth Games movement and said: "The race for the 2018 Games presents an intriguing choice for our members. Each city would make a worthy host and would continue to build the international profile and brand of the Commonwealth Games."

An extensive CGF evaluation process is now underway, starting with a technical analysis of each city's bid. This will include site visits by the CGF Evaluation Committee chaired by Louise Martin CBE. The final evaluation report will be circulated in September, before member nations vote on 11 November.

This will inform an assessment of the merits of each bid by the CGS Board, before deciding how Scotland will vote. In addition, each country gets the opportunity to visit the bidding cities to assess the proposals first hand, and CGS Chairman, Michael Cavanagh, will attend the visits along with other members of the CGF European region.

Both cities will offer the same sport programme: Aquatics, Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby 7s, Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis, Triathlon, Weightlifting, Wrestling, with the exception of Basketball in the Gold Coast and Archery in Hambantota, with an Australian Games scheduled for April 2018 and Sri Lankan Games in May 2018. The bidding process and Bid Books for each candidate can be viewed on the CGF website www.thecgf.com

Ajith Nivard Cabraal,
Organising Committee
Co-Chairman and
Governor of the Central
Bank of Sri Lanka



"A Hambantota Games will secure long term social and economic benefits and drive sustainable development throughout our country. We are creating brand new state of the art venues, built around the Athletes' Village that puts athletes at its heart. Work has already started and we are on time and on budget to complete in 2016 so we can host CGA training camps before the Games."

Mark Stockwell,
Chairman, 2018 Gold
Coast Bid Committee



"Australia is a nation that embraces sport on all levels across multiple disciplines and we understand the significance and benefits sport and sporting events bring to international peace and goodwill among the family of Commonwealth nations. Gold Coast City is honoured and proud to be Australia's Candidate City and we look forward to welcoming Commonwealth Games Association representatives to Gold Coast City."



Scotlands' team management visit the venues

Youth Games preparations taking shape

Vicky Strange, General Team Manager reviews progress

With the general team management and the sport team leaders now in place, we thought May would be the perfect time to have our final recce visit to the Isle of Man to enable sports team leaders and specialist support staff to visit the facilities they will be using at the Games.



One key piece of information confirmed in recent weeks is the name of the hotel that we have been allocated - the Claremont, with hotel staff being extremely accommodating to our needs, which augurs well. The hotels along the promenade will act as the 'Games Village', so it was great for the whole team to see the layout of the area. You can almost see the ferry terminal from the front of the hotel, so we'll only have a short transfer when we arrive.

The sports team leaders went on a tour round the Games venues, which gave them the chance to see first-hand where their athletes will be competing in September. I'm glad that everyone was as impressed as I have been with the quality of the venues. Some of the sports co-ordinators from the OC were on hand, which gave the team a

great opportunity to make contact and ask technical questions relating to their competitions.

First stop was the Villa Marina, which will be home to the boxing competition and the Closing Ceremony. It's a fantastic venue, which will holds over 1,000

people, and boxing team leader Tony Kerr was certainly impressed with what he saw. Tony will actually be bringing a squad of young boxers back to the venue in a few weeks time for a competition, which will give them invaluable experience ahead of the Games.

Laurel Bailey who will be looking after our swimmers was really enthused by the set up for the Games. Although there's no dedicated swim-down area for our swimmers, we'll be able to work around that, and the pool certainly seems like it will have a great atmosphere during competition. Our rugby team leader John Gillies was equally impressed with the rugby venue, which is a brand new facility. From what we've seen our rugby boys are in for a treat.

Gymnastics team leader Rod Smith was actually on the Isle of Man with a youth team, which gave him the perfect opportunity to see where the women's gymnastics competition will take place during the Games.

On the second day of our visit we were invited to the Isle of Man Institute of Sport for a meeting with the OC. Games Director Geoff Karran gave us a good overview of where they are with their plans. The Institute will be home to the medical centre during Games time so it was good for Dave Pugh (Head of Medical) and Lesley Dawson (Head Physiotherapist) to get their bearings there. Following the meeting we had a tour round the Palace Hotel (which will be the Games dining centre) and the Villa Marina Arcade (which will be Games HQ come September). One of the best things about the Games is the proximity of the key locations - everything is so close together, and with a shuttle bus service in place it shouldn't be a problem getting between venues.

It's quickly become clear that we've got a great team in place. The Commonwealth Youth Games are all about offering development opportunities for athletes and staff, and I'm delighted with who we have on board. There's a good mix of experienced heads and new-faces to ensure we all get the most out of the experience.

With the selection period well underway we look forward to welcoming the selected athletes to Youth Team Scotland when we announce the full team on 10 August. Bring on the Games!

MEET THE TEAM:

General Team Manager - Vicky Strange;
Deputy General Team Managers - Gail Niven, Elinor Middlemiss; Media Officer - Stuart Mackenzie; Head of Medical Services / Head Doctor - Dr David Pugh; Team Doctor - Dr Stephen Boyce ; Head Physiotherapist - Lesley Dawson; Team Physiotherapists - Linda Hardy, Kirstin Carroll

Sport Team Leaders

Athletics - Darren Ritchie; Badminton - Julie Hogg; Boxing - Tony Kerr; Cycling - Graeme Herd; Gymnastics - Rod Smith; Rugby 7s - John Gillies; Swimming - Laurel Bailey



Athletics stadium ready for action



Womens' gymnastics venue



Games HQ and Closing Ceremony at the Villa Marina complex

IV Commonwealth Youth Games, Isle of Man 7-13 September 2011

Competition schedule

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony will be held at the Bowl Stadium, Douglas on the 8th September 2011.

Sports

The seven sports in the Youth Games will take place at the following venues 8-11 September:

Athletics

The National Sports Centre Athletics Stadium, Douglas - a 400 metre, 6 lane (8 lane straight) fully floodlit synthetic running track overviewed by a 500 seat grandstand.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	TYPE
Friday 9 September	Morning	11:30 - 13:45	Heats/Qualification
	Evening	17:45 - 21:00	Finals
Saturday 10 September	Morning	11:00 - 13:45	Heats/Qualification
	Evening	16:00 - 20:45	Finals
Sunday 11 September	Morning	11:00 - 12:45	Heats/Qualification
	Evening	16:15 - 19:15	Finals

Boxing

The Villa Marina, Douglas will play host to the boxing during the Games. Due to the anticipated number of entries the Boxing competition is scheduled to start on Thursday 8 September, prior to the Opening Ceremony.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	TYPE
Thursday 8 September	Afternoon	12:00 - 16:00	Prelims(prov.)
Friday 9 September	Afternoon	12:00 - 16:00	Quarter finals
	Evening	17:00 - 21:00	Quarter finals
Saturday 10 September	Evening	17:00 - 21:00	Semi-finals
Sunday 11 September	Evening	17:00 - 21:00	Finals

Cycling

Various courses including part of the world famous TT road racing circuit will be utilised around the Island.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	TYPE	EVENT
Friday 9 September	Evening	18:15 - 20:30	Final	Time Trial
Saturday 10 September	Morning	10:00 - 12:00	Final	Women's Road Race
	Afternoon	13:30 - 16:30	Final	Men's Road Race
Sunday 11 September	Afternoon	14:00 - 16:00	Final	Criterium

Badminton

The National Sports Centre, Douglas - a 44x36 metre sports hall with ten badminton courts and accommodation for up to 1,000 spectators.

DAY	TIME	TYPE	M / W	EVENT
Friday 9 September	10:30 - 18:30	Rounds 1 & 2	M/W/Mixed	Singles/Doubles
Saturday 10 September	10:30 - 18:00	Quarter/Semi	M/W/Mixed	Singles/Doubles
Sunday 11 September	11:00 - 16:00	Finals	M/W/ Mixed	Singles/Doubles

Gymnastics

Gymnastics will be held at two venues with the men based at the Ellan Vannin Gymnastics Club and the women at the Manx Gymnastics Centre of Excellence. The competition schedule is the same for both men's and women's events.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	EVENT
Friday 9 September	Afternoon	14:00 - 17:00	Artistic - Team (3 to count)
Saturday 10 September	Afternoon	14:00 - 17:00	Individual All-Around
Sunday 11 September	Afternoon	14:00 - 17:00	Individual Apparatus Finals

Rugby 7s

The newly refurbished Bowl, Douglas will play host to the Rugby 7s Tournament.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	TYPE
Saturday 10 September	Evening	16:00 - 21:00	Group Matches
Sunday 11 September	Evening	15:30 - 20:30	Quarter, Semis and Final

Swimming

Swimming will be held at the National Sports Centre, Douglas in an eight lane 25m championship pool.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	TYPE
Friday 9 September	Morning	09:00 - 11:00	Heats
	Evening	18:00 - 20:30	Finals
Saturday 10 September	Morning	09:00 - 11:00	Heats
	Evening	17:30 - 20:00	Finals
Sunday 11 September	Morning	09:00 - 11:00	Heats
	Evening	17:30 - 20:00	Finals

Closing Ceremony

This will be an informal affair on 12 September at the Villa Marina on Central Promenade, Douglas, following the day of cultural activities.

Please note that the competition schedule may be subject to change.

Youth Games athletes recognised

Following the success of the Athlete of the Month awards over the last two Youth Games and the 2010 Commonwealth Games, Commonwealth Games Scotland (CGS) has committed to continue to fund the scheme through the Commonwealth Games Scotland Youth Trust for 2011.

Each month between May and August 2011, the seven sports participating in the Commonwealth Youth Games in the Isle of Man in September are invited to nominate potential Youth Team Scotland athletes from their sport who have demonstrated good performances at competitions in the build up to selection for the Games. A CGS judging panel will select two winners who will each be awarded £250. Following the Games, the judging panel will also consider performances at the Games themselves to select an Athlete of the Games and two runners-up who will receive £500 and £250 respectively.

In May, cyclist Grant Ferguson and hammer thrower Kimberley Reed were named as the two award winners selected from amongst some strong nominations.

17 year old Grant Ferguson from Peebles is hoping to be selected for the road cycling events in the Isle of Man and



recent form in races at home and abroad is standing him in good stead.

Grant recently represented Great Britain in the Junior Peace Race, in the Czech Republic, one of the world's premier stage races for juniors (under 19yrs). It is also part of the UCI Nations Cup for junior road riders. After five days of tough racing Grant finished top GB rider, in 16th place overall from a field of 110 riders of top international standard.

Delighted to be one of the first winners Grant said: "It is absolutely brilliant to be recognised in this way. The £250 will be really useful as I got caught up in a crash in a race last month which is one of the hazards of my sport, and had to get my bike fixed. To represent Scotland at the Commonwealth Youth Games would be a real highlight for me."

The second award winner for May is 16 year old



Kimberley Reed from Edinburgh, who has been breaking barriers in the hammer. Not only did she smash the Commonwealth Youth Games qualifications standard by more than 4 metres back in April, she set a new Scottish U17 record with a throw of 53.63m that will also potentially see her qualify for the World Youth Championships in July. She is currently ranked 7th in the world at U18 level.

Congratulations to both Athlete of the Month award winners and we look forward to reporting about more exciting young talent over coming months. Go to www.cgcs.org.uk for the full stories.



Team Scotland Glasgow 2014 - planning for success

The outstanding success of Team Scotland in Manchester, Melbourne and Delhi will be a hard act to follow, but we are already working hard to ensure we have our most successful team ever at home in Glasgow in 2014.

Following completion of the post Delhi Games Review, a number of key recommendations were made and acted upon to assist us with planning for the Glasgow Games. We have now commenced a review of the general selection criteria and pre-Games holding camp options, involving consultation with sports, and both these key pieces of work to be completed by December this year.

Reminder guides on Games eligibility have been distributed to all sports on the programme to ensure that all eligible athletes are available to compete and succeed for Scotland.

Recognising that in both an Olympic and Commonwealth Games context there are two home games in the next three years, CGS staff have also held discussions with the British Olympic Association, reviewing key learning points from recent Games and identifying areas of joint working. This ongoing relationship will ensure key lessons from London 2012 are

incorporated into our planning as we go forward. Likewise there have been discussions with UK Sport to ensure that they are working closely with CGS and other UK CGAs and home country sports councils to encourage and support the prioritisation of the Commonwealth Games by UK governing bodies.

CGS continues to work closely with **sportscotland** on joint areas of Glasgow 2014 planning to ensure we deliver our most successful team ever in 2014. As part of this process, we will be meeting with each sport over the next three months, and **sportscotland** will be reviewing preparations for Glasgow 2014 as part of the Mission 2014 process. Recently, the latest part of the Gold for Glasgow campaign was launched to identify potential powerlifting athletes for Team Scotland. It is hoped that this programme can build on the success of the programme run in cycling, that saw Charlene Joiner and Jenny Davis win silver in the team sprint in Delhi.

Thumbs-up for Glasgow

Commonwealth Games Associations (CGAs) from Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales descended on Glasgow in May to see how the city is preparing for the 2014 Games and were "hugely impressed" with the progress the city has made.

The CGAs, who are responsible for ensuring the best possible representation from their country at the Games and the well-being of their athletes during competition, met key members from the Organising Committee during the three-day visit and attended a number of key briefing sessions.



They also familiarised themselves with the city and went to see the site of the Games Village - work on which commences in June - and the various venue sites across Glasgow that will host the 11 days of sporting competition in three years' time.

Representatives from across the Commonwealth will continue to visit Glasgow in the build up to 2014 and early impressions indicate that Glasgow is on track and is in fantastic shape to deliver a 'truly memorable' Commonwealth Games.

Jake Wilkins, New Zealand's Team Services Director said: "I was hugely impressed with Glasgow 2014's desire and commitment to re-define what it means to deliver a truly athlete centred Games, and there is a real opportunity for this aim to be realised. These visits are crucial. It allows us to meet the team behind Glasgow 2014 and also gives us an insight into what to expect."

Jon Doig, Commonwealth Games Scotland's Chief Executive, added: "The ability for all CGAs to input directly into the planning process will have a positive outcome, ensuring a great Games for the athletes, the city and Scotland."



Games Village out of the starting blocks

Construction on the Commonwealth Games Village commenced in June and once finished, will offer a true "home from home" experience, providing accommodation for 6,500 athletes and officials.

It will also contain exclusive retail and recreation areas, dining hall, medical facilities and other amenities to ensure that the athletes' every need can be met on site, in a friendly and relaxing environment.

Uniquely, Glasgow 2014 has gone to great lengths to ensure that the Village will be truly athlete centred, involving current and past athletes from their Athletes' Advisory Committee to shape the final specification.

After the Games, the Games Village will be redeveloped by Glasgow City Council, and will become part of the East End Regeneration programme. It will become an attractive residential area comprising new affordable homes, which will also be available for social rental, as well as a residential care home.

Schools up for tartan challenge

Primary and secondary school pupils across Scotland are being offered a once in a lifetime opportunity to design the official tartan for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

The competition, which was launched in May, is being run in conjunction with Learning and Teaching Scotland and schools are being encouraged to run their own competitions, before submitting a final entry by the middle of June.

Participants will digitally upload their winning tartan online onto a special piece of software called the 'tartan generator' to be considered with other schools' entries from across Scotland. A shortlist will be produced and put before a judging panel, with the winning design being developed into



the official Games tartan by Highland company Gaelic Themes.

The winning tartan is likely to enjoy a high profile during Glasgow 2014 and could feature in specific branding, merchandise and ceremonies.

Dinner date

The 2011 Commonwealth Games Scotland Annual Awards Dinner will be held at the SAS Radisson Hotel in Glasgow on Saturday 29 October. We are delighted to have the support of Glasgow 2014 for the event, as Scotland prepares to host the Games in three years' time.

Join us for a great evening celebrating Scottish sporting achievement with a focus on this year's Youth Games team. A number of prestigious awards will be made including the Lonsdale Trophy for the Scottish Sportsperson of the Year, Athlete of the Youth Games and the Scottish Sports Aid Merit Awards for athletes 18 and under. Meet up with colleagues and friends from across Scottish sport and business for a great night of sporting chat and entertainment. Bookings now being taken, contact info@cgcs.org.uk for details.

Key dates 2011

31 Jul	End of Selection Period - Isle of Man 2011
9 Aug	Isle of Man 2011 - Team announcement
13-14 Aug	Isle of Man 2011 - Team Camp
6 Sep	Team departure - Isle of Man 2011
7-12 Sep	Commonwealth Youth Games 2011 - Isle of Man
13-Sep	Team arrive home
29 Oct	CGS Sports Awards Dinner - Athlete of the Youth Games and Lonsdale Trophy
11 Nov	CGF General Assembly - Decision on Sports Review & 2018 Commonwealth Games Host City
23 Nov	CGS Half Yearly meeting - Generic selection policy and Team Scotland staffing structure confirmed



Major supporter

sportscotland

New website

Since Delhi 2010, we have been reviewing the requirements of our website to meet the needs of our member sports and athletes preparing for future Commonwealth Games. We have also improved the archive of historical information and background about the Games and Team Scotland. With the next Games coming to Glasgow in 2014 there has been significant interest in our area of work and we are sure this is set to grow even further.

Throughout the site you will find lots of fabulous images showcasing Team Scotland athletes in action and their achievements. There is a complete history of Team Scotland's performances at both the Commonwealth and Commonwealth Youth Games. Visit the Top Scots at the Games section to see if you know who tops the all-time medal table of Scottish athletes - you may get a few surprises!

We look forward to building on the site in the future, to bring you the latest news about team preparations and performances from the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games in the Isle of Man, Glasgow 2014 and beyond.



New challenge for Vicky

At the end of May, we said farewell to Vicky Strange who has left her post as CGS Games Team Operations Manager, to join the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee as Head of Sport Competition. In this role she will continue to work closely with CGS and member sports to develop and implement plans in this area.

Wishing Vicky well, CGS chief executive Jon Doig said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for Vicky, and great to know that this key element of the 2014 Games is in such experienced and capable hands. Vicky was an excellent General Team Manager for Delhi dealing with the many challenges arising, in a calm, professional manner with such good humour, I know she will take the very best wishes of CGS and all the sports with her."



Vicky said: "I have really enjoyed my time with CGS and feel privileged to be one of the few people to have been the General Team Manager for Team Scotland

at a Commonwealth Games. Despite all the challenges around Delhi, I will always look back on it as a fantastic experience, and one of the proudest of my professional life. It was such an amazing team effort from everyone and I would like to thank all the people who supported me in my role and contributed so much to the overall team success. I'm very excited to be joining the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee, with the opportunity to play an integral part in staging a successful event for Scotland."

It has been agreed that Vicky will continue in her role leading the Youth Games team for the Isle of Man with additional operational support from CGS HQ. Recruitment for Vicky's replacement is now underway.

Another well known Commonwealth Games Scotland face that has joined the OC is cyclist Kate Cullen. Kate, a qualified architect, who won a bronze medal on the track in the 25km Points Race at the 2006 Melbourne Games, has been appointed as a venue overlay manager, responsible for the development of existing venues so they are fit for purpose for the Games.

Good luck to them both!

Countdown Photo credits: Rob Eyton-Jones, Rebecca Lee, Duncan McEwan, Glasgow 2014