



REPORT ON THE OFFICIAL VISIT TO KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

BY THE HONOURABLE ANNA BLIGH MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR RECONSTRUCTION

FOR THE OFFICIAL HANDOVER TO THE
COMMONWEALTH GAMES FEDERATION OF
THE CANDIDATURE FILE FOR THE GOLD
COAST BID TO HOST THE 2018
COMMONWEALTH GAMES

10 MAY – 12 MAY 2011



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Programme for Official Visit to Malaysia by -

The Honourable Anna Bligh MP

Premier of Queensland

10 - 12 May 2011

Times	Engagement Details	Notes
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Time Zones

Times in **bold** indicate local time

Times in normal font indicate Brisbane time

Time differences

Singapore/Malaysia – 2 hours behind Brisbane

Sunday 8 May 2011

9.10am *Detective Senior Constable Adam Hankinson departs Brisbane for Malaysia on SQ256 via Singapore*

5.25pm *Arrives Kuala Lumpur on Silkair Flight 338*
7.25pm

Tuesday 10 May 2011

12 noon Premier departs Executive Building for Brisbane International Airport

12.30pm Arrive and met by:

Steve Webb, *Principal Visits and Protocol Coordinator, Protocol Queensland*
Acting Sergeant Romain Dean, *Queensland Police Service*

Check in for flight and proceed to Qantas Lounge accompanied by Qantas Duty Manager

2.10pm Depart Brisbane for Singapore on Qantas Flight QF51
Accompanied by Steve Webb and Romain Dean
(Flight time: 7 hours 40 minutes)

7.50pm Arrive Singapore
9.50pm Met by Qantas Duty Manager and escorted to transit desk for issue of boarding passes for next flight and then proceed to Malaysian Golden Lounge

9.15pm Depart Singapore for Kuala Lumpur on Malaysia Airlines Flight MH610
11.15pm (*Flight time: 1 hour*)

10.15pm Arrive Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
12.15am
Wed11th

Met by **His Excellency Mr Miles Kupa**, *Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia*

10.45pm Depart for accommodation
Approx (*Transport provided by Australian High Commission*)
12.45am
Wed 11th

During transit to accommodation Premier receives Malaysian country brief in car by High Commissioner

11.30pm Arrive at accommodation
1.30am Le Meridien Kuala Lumpur
Wed 11th 2 Jalan Stesen Sentral
Kuala Lumpur Sentral
Phone: +60 3 2263 7888
Fax: +60 3 2263 7222

Check in

Overnight Kuala Lumpur

Wednesday 11 May 2011

8.30am Meeting with 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Bid Team members
10.30am Venue: Hang Lekhir, Level 6

9.00am Rehearsal of presentation
11.00am Venue: Sultans Ballroom, Level 6
Participants: All Queensland delegates

10.00am Rehearsal concludes and final changes to speeches are made and final copies printed
Approx
12noon

- 11.30am** Welcome morning tea for all delegates of both bidding cities
1.30pm Venue: Sultan's Foyer, Le Meridien
- 12noon** 2018 Commonwealth Games Candidature City Bid Lodgement event commences
2.00pm Venue: Sultans Ballroom, Le Meridien
Attire:
Business Suit
GC2018 Business Shirt
Lapel pin
- 12.15pm** 1st Candidate City presents – Gold Coast 2018
2.15pm Speakers move to stage – take seats – DVD starts

DVD featuring Eve Lutze plays providing a visual venue tour
Theme: *"I'll be there in 2018 – It's our time to Shine"*
- 12.19pm** Eve Lutze introduces herself and welcomes **The Honourable Anna Bligh MP,**
2.19pm *Premier of Queensland* to the stage
- 12.20pm** Premier addresses audience and then introduces **Councillor Ron Clarke MBE,**
2.20pm *Mayor of the City of Gold Coast*
- 12.23pm** Mayor Ron Clarke addresses audience and then introduces **Mr Sam Coffa AM JP,**
2.23pm *President, Australian Commonwealth Games Association*
- 12.26pm** Mr Sam Coffa addresses audience and welcomes **Mr Mark Stockwell, Chairman,**
2.26pm *Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid Company* to the stage
- 12.29pm** Mr Mark Stockwell addresses audience and then welcomes Eve Lutze back on
2.29pm stage with Candidature Files

Premier and Mayor Ron Clarke move forward and accept files from Eve

Mr Mark Stockwell to welcome Commonwealth Games Federation President to the stage

Premier and Mayor Ron Clarke formally pass files to the President

Group move forward to front of stage for photo opportunity
- 12.34pm** Presentation concludes
2.34pm
- 12.35pm** 2nd Candidate City presents – Hambantota 2018, Sri Lanka
2.35pm

12.55pm Drawing of lots to determine order of final presentations for 11 November, St Kitts
2.55pm and Nevis

1.00pm Lodgement event concludes
3.00pm

media conference held with Commonwealth Games Federation representatives
and the Bid Teams from both Candidate Cities

Lunch is served

Venue: Latest Recipe Restaurant, Level 5

Return to rooms and check out of hotel

(Rooms retained for late check out)

3.30pm Premier and party depart for airport
5.30pm
(Mr Mark Stockwell to join party – travelling on same flights home as Premier)
(Transport provided by Australian High Commission)

4.30pm Arrive at Kuala Lumpur International Airport
Approx
6.30pm

Australian High Commission and Malaysian Airlines officials to assist with airport
facilitation and then escort to Malaysian Airlines Golden Lounge

5.30pm Depart Kuala Lumpur for Singapore on Malaysian Airlines Flight MH613
7.30pm
(Flight time: 55 Minutes)

6.25pm Arrive Singapore
8.25pm
Met by Malaysian/Qantas Airline officials who assist with transit and accompany to
Qantas Lounge

9.25pm Depart Singapore for Brisbane on Qantas Flight QF52
11.25pm
(Flight time: 7 hours 5 minutes)

Thursday 12 May 2011

6.30am Arrive Brisbane International Airport
Met by Mrs Emily Nagel, Senior Visits and Protocol Coordinator, Protocol
Queensland

Proceed through customs and immigration processing

7.15am
Approx

Depart airport

VISIT CONCLUDES

Official Party

The Honourable Anna Bligh MP

Premier of Queensland

Mr Mark Symons

Government Media Unit

Mr Steve Webb

Principal Visits and Protocol Coordinator, Protocol Queensland, Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Acting Sergeant Romain Dean

Queensland Police Service

Detective Senior Constable Adam Hankinson

Queensland Police Service

REASON FOR TRIP

It was a requirement of the Commonwealth Games Federation's strict bidding guidelines that Bidding Candidates for the 2018 Commonwealth Games lodge their Candidature File (Bid Book) with the CGF on 11 May 2011 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The Bid Book for the Gold Coast bid is a 240 page blueprint for how the Coast would host the Games and covers themes including security, transport, accommodation, sports and venues.

The Gold Coast bid team was informed by the CGF that it had been allocated a 20 minute timeslot to make a presentation and lodge their Candidature File in Kuala Lumpur.

Mark Stockwell, Chairman of Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid Ltd, requested that Premier Anna Bligh attend the hand over to lead the delegation.

Premier Bligh had attended the CGF Annual General Assembly in Delhi in October 2010 to support the Gold Coast bid and the feedback received by the Bid Team from Commonwealth Games Association delegates was very positive. Having the Premier attend had demonstrated the level of commitment of the Queensland Government and had strengthened the Bid campaign.

It was important that this momentum was maintained at the ceremony to hand over the Bid Book.

The Games would be transformational for the Gold Coast and a huge boost for Queensland.

They could mean an investment in excess of \$500 million on sport and transport infrastructure on the Gold Coast alone.

There would be flow on benefits for the rest of Queensland.

Preliminary rounds of men's and women's basketball competition would be played in Cairns and Townsville.

It's also expected that international teams would set up training camps in many other Queensland regional centres in the lead up to the Games.

DAY OF PRESENTATION OF BID BOOK

In the morning the Premier met with the bid team to fine tune the speeches and practise for the presentation.

Eve Lutze

The Gold Coast was the first candidate city to present. The audience was shown a DVD, hosted by 10-year-old Gold Coast girl Eve Lutze, which showcased spectacular Gold Coast locations, athletes and why they train on the Coast, sports venues, and lifestyle.

Eve, who represented the youthful energy, freshness and enthusiasm of the Gold Coast, then appeared in person and introduced the Premier.

Speech by Premier Anna Bligh

The Premier told the meeting she had grown up on the Gold Coast and it was a place of rare beauty and enormous potential.

She said that in 2008, as she watched China celebrate its first Olympic Games, she was inspired by the possibility that the excitement, sense of unity and common purpose of a major international sporting event could be realised at the Gold Coast

She made a late night phone call to Sam Coffa, President of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association and proposed a Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast and Mr Coffa shared her enthusiasm.

She told the CGF she had the support of the Prime Minister and all Australians, who know and love the Gold Coast and are right behind the bid.

The Premier's speech revealed that if successful the Gold Coast Games would be held from April 4 to April 15, 2018 when the weather would be perfect for athletes and spectators alike.

These dates would include two weekends and coincide with school holidays creating a Games that all Queenslanders and Australians could share in.

The Premier also announced that in addition to the 10 core sports the program would include triathlon, cycling, gymnastics, wrestling, shooting, table tennis, and basketball.

It was pointed out that the Gold Coast had experience with big events including the Gold Coast Marathon which is expecting 25,000 entrants this year.

The Premier said 80% of the required venues were already in place and should the bid be successful, new venues would comprise both permanent and temporary facilities.

The majority of competition and practice venues are within in a 20 min drive time from the village

The Games Village, would accommodate 6,500 athletes and officials and would be linked to the city by a new light rail system.

Ms Bligh pointed out that the Gold Coast was unaffected by the Summer disasters and concluded by saying that a successful Gold Coast Bid would ensure the Games would thrive in new markets, reach younger generations, reinforce the Commonwealth Games core values of '*Humanity, Equality and Destiny*', and provide athletes with a Games where all their needs were a priority so they could shine and achieve their very best

Speech by Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke

Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke then gave his presentation.

He said that people make Games and that Gold Coast people were enthusiastic for sport, would give a warm welcome, and fill stadiums.

There was a strong community spirit on the Gold Coast with 120,000 volunteers involved with 2,950 charitable non-profit organisations within the city.

Last year athletes from 38 different countries had chosen to train on the Gold Coast due to the near perfect climate and the wonderful range of activities and facilities to entertain athletes when they were not training.

Mayor Clarke said he had competed in three Commonwealth and characterised them in this way: Perth 1962 – too hot; Kingston 1966 – too humid; and Edinburgh 1970 – too cold.

The Gold Coast, he said, would be just right!

Mayor Clarke said his sport credentials also included being involved with three Olympics and setting 19 world records during his athletics career.

He said the location proposed for the Athletes Village for the Gold Coast was possibly the best village site he had seen in all his decades of watching and participating in Games competitions.

He said it would be central to all of the competition venues and training facilities, it would be sustainable as there would be a market for the residential product of the village due to it being adjacent to the Griffith University and Gold Coast Hospital, and was part of the City's Bold Future Plan and the Commonwealth Games would be a catalyst to deliver on this vision.

Speech by Sam Coffa, President of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association

Sam Coffa, President of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association and Deputy Chairman of the Gold Coast Bid, was next to speak.

He said he considered this was not only an Australian bid but also an Oceania bid.

The Gold Coast, he said, as host city to four national teams and an array of internationally recognised events had the technical expertise and experience to deliver a whole of Games experience for athletes, officials, the Games family and visitors from all over the world

Mr Coffa said that as a nation Australia had a very successful record of hosting Commonwealth Games and is one of only two countries to have competed in every Games since its inception in 1930 and Australians consider the opportunity to host the Games as an honour and a privilege.

He said a Gold Coast City 2018 Commonwealth Games would provide a memorable experience for athletes, officials, volunteers and spectators

Mr Coffa told delegates the Gold Coast bid had the commitment and support of all levels of Government and was reinforced by the wholehearted support of the Australian sporting community and Australian people.

Mr Coffa described himself as a single minded creature of the Commonwealth Games having participated in 10 Commonwealth Games as an athlete, coach, manager, technical delegate, technical advisor and technical official and Deputy Chairman of the Organising Committee for the Melbourne 2006 Games.

He said he had a very good knowledge of what Athletes and Officials need to perform at their best and he assured the CGA that these needs would be catered for to a high level.

Speech by Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid Chairman, Mark Stockwell

The final speaker for the Gold Coast was Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid Chairman, Mark Stockwell.

He said the Bid Team was striving to create a new model for the Commonwealth Games where the 'whole of games' experience for each athlete was paramount

The plan was to bring an excitement to the Games that would engage all athletes, the Commonwealth Games Family, the corporate sector, and Governments from around the world

As an athlete he said he knew the Commonwealth Games could be life changing.

As a businessmen with experience in construction, facility management, infrastructure delivery and finance, he was convinced the Gold Coast would be an outstanding destination and experience for all athletes and allow them to achieve great results

The Bid book was a 'blue print' to stage a successful Commonwealth Games and it reinforced the Gold Coast City's capabilities as an outstanding sporting, tourism and event destination.

His Board of Directors had experience in sport, running previous Commonwealth Games, as well as tourism, travel and finance.

In addition, a dedicated Business Community Consultative Committee and an Athlete's Advisory Committee had been established and were strong contributors and supporters of the bid.

He said each of the Commonwealth countries and territories had been adopted by 75 Gold Coast schools as part of a community engagement strategy that involved more than 75,000 students, teachers, family and friends

Mr Stockwell said that planned new facilities would provide a lasting legacy for the community and emphasised there would be no white elephants.

He told the CGF that the Gold Coast was looking forward to demonstrating how well it could deliver a Commonwealth Games that would leave lasting memories, reinforce the value of the Commonwealth Games Federation brand and showcase the Commonwealth athletes, at their very best to the rest of the world

The Bid Team then handed the Candidature File to CGF Vice President, HRH Tunku Imran.

The Team from Hambantota then made its presentation.

Draw to determine speech order for final presentations in November

After that, a drawing of lots determined that Hambantota will present first followed by the Gold Coast when final presentations are made at the CGF's General Assembly on 11 November, 2011 in St Kitts and Nevis in the Caribbean.

Interviews and News Conference

The Premier then participated in a separate interview with a crew filming for Brisbane TV news and then took part in a media conference held with Commonwealth Games Federation representatives and the Bid Teams from both Candidate Cities. The advantages of the Gold Coast were detailed again to international media.

Lunch with Commonwealth Games Federation representatives

The Premier and the Gold Coast Bid Team then lunched with HRH Tunku Imran, other Commonwealth Games Federation representatives, and the Hambantota Bid Team before checking out of the Hotel and departing for the airport.

Further Interviews

While driving to the airport the Premier did further follow up newspaper and radio interviews over the phone.

ATTACHMENT A - Photos



ATTACHMENT B – Media Release

GOLD COAST SHINES AT HAND OVER OF OFFICIAL COMMONWEALTH GAMES BID

11 May 2011

KUALA LUMPUR: The Gold Coast Commonwealth Games bid passed a major milestone today with the official hand over of the Candidature File (bid book) to the Commonwealth Games Federation.

Premier Anna Bligh revealed that if successful the Gold Coast Games would be held from April 4 to April 15, 2018.

"The weather would be perfect for athletes and spectators alike and these dates would include two weekends and coincide with school holidays," Ms Bligh said.

"This would be a Games that all Queenslanders and Australians could share in.

The Premier revealed that watching the Beijing Olympics inspired her to make a late night call to Australian Commonwealth Games Association President Sam Coffa to propose a Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast.

"Sam loved the idea and now we have put together and presented a detailed bid for what we believe would be a sensational Games.

The Premier also announced that in addition to the 10 core sports the program would include triathlon, cycling, gymnastics, wrestling, shooting, table tennis, and basketball.

The essence of the Gold Coast shone as 10 year old local Eve Lutze starred in a DVD presentation and then took to the stage to help hand over the bid book.

"Eve has got Gold Coast written all over her - she embodies the youthful energy, freshness and enthusiasm of the Gold Coast," Ms Bligh said.

"Now the hard yards really begin with voting delegates arriving to see the Coast for themselves.

Next month the Commonwealth Games Evaluation Commission will visit the Gold Coast to assess the city's credentials against the details provided in the 240 page Candidature File, which covers themes including security, transport, accommodation, sports and venues.

This will be closely followed by visiting Commonwealth Games Association delegations from the six regions of the Commonwealth.

Africa arrives in June, Oceania in July, Europe in August, the Caribbean and Americas in September and Asia in October.

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Bid Chairman, Mark Stockwell said the Candidature File ceremony hand over today was very successful with the Premier, Mayor Ron Clarke MBE and President of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association, Sam Coffa AM JP promoting the virtues of the Gold Coast and Australia as host city and country.

"This hand over ended one important component of the Bid process and we are now looking forward to showcasing the Gold Coast through hosting the 71 Commonwealth Games Association delegates over the next six months," Mr Stockwell said.

Each regional delegation will spend four days on the Gold Coast looking at facilities, venues and assessing the city's ability to run the Games.

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games CEO, Mark Peters said he was very happy with the quality of the Candidature File and the way it was received in Kuala Lumpur.

“ The success of the final document was due to the excellent collaboration between various state Governments agencies, the Gold Coast City Council the federal Government, our Business Community Consultative Committee and Athlete’s Advisory Committee.

“ Our competitor in the Bid is serious and it is time for all people on the Gold Coast to understand the importance of the Games to the future of the Gold Coast and get behind the bid.”

Queensland Premier Anna Bligh will give more details about the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games at a Queensland Property Council lunch this Friday at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Megan Crockford

Media Officer

M: 0400 937 754

T: 61 7 5583 5803

F: 61 7 5583 5811

E: megan.crockford@goldcoast2018bid.com

Tamara Morris

Manager Communications and Community Engagement

M: 0400 658 429

T: 61 7 5583 5802

F: 61 7 5583 5811

E: tamara.morris@goldcoast2018bid.com

For more information please visit: www.goldcoast2018bid.com

Premier’s Office Media: 07 3224 4500

ATTACHMENT C – Media Clips

1. Cairns Post – 8-April-2011 – Bligh takes plunge with Games bid
2. Courier Mail – 12-May-2011 – Coasting towards Games
3. Gold Coast Bulletin – 12-May-2011 – Bid book delivers on detail
4. Gold Coast Bulletin – 12-May-2011 – Glitter Strip ditches glam for big day
5. Australian – 12-May-2011 – Gold Coast’s rival ‘no pushover’
6. Gold Coast Bulletin – 11-May-2011 – Games bid’s secret weapon unveiled
7. Gold Coast Bulletin – 11-May-2011 – Federal guarantees for 2018 Games bid
8. Gold Coast Bulletin – 10-May-2011 – Much riding on contents of one book
9. Gold Coast Bulletin – 9-May-2011 – Bid Begins
10. Gold Coast Bulletin – 10-May-2011 – GAMES SHOW – Overhaul of city to make way for 2018



Cairns Post
08-Apr-2011
Page: 11
General News
Market: Cairns QLD
Circulation: 24053
Type: Regional
Size: 355.03 sq.cms
Frequency: MTWTF--



Determined: Queensland Premier Anna Bligh (inset) will go to Malaysia in May to lodge Queensland's bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

PREMIER Anna Bligh will travel to Kuala Lumpur in May to submit Queensland's bid to host the 2018 Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast.

Ms Bligh said the state was still determined to secure the games, despite the huge rebuilding task after Queensland's summer of floods and cyclones.

"As we recover from these disasters it is important that we do not lose momentum and continue to seek out new opportunities for Queensland," Ms Bligh told Parliament.

"I believe it is important at times like these, to back ourselves, to believe in ourselves, and to be out there and be competitive on the global stage."

She noted that Queensland had held the 1982 Commonwealth Games eight years after the devastating 1974 flood — and the Commonwealth Games would

be held eight years after this summer's disasters.

Ms Bligh would travel with Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke and the Australian Commonwealth Games Association to submit the 240-page bid book on May 11.

She would miss one parliamentary Question Time because of the trip.

The State Government plans to spend \$11 million on its bid and invest more than \$1 billion in infrastructure, including an upgraded aquatic centre, new velodrome and athletes' village.

The Commonwealth Games Federation representative will visit the Gold Coast in June to assess the city.

The winning bid will be announced in November, with Sri Lanka also vying for the host role.

BREAKING NATIONAL NEWS
▶▶ www.cairns.com.au



Courier Mail
12-May-2011
Page: 71
Edition Changes - Late City
By: Robert Craddock
Market: Brisbane
Circulation: 201687
Type: Capital City Daily
Size: 146.57 sq.cms
Frequency: MTWTFS-

Coasting towards Games

Robert Craddock
COMMONWEALTH GAMES

THE Gold Coast's prospects of hosting the 2018 Commonwealth Games have risen after the decision to ban the controversial practice of last-minute vote buying.

Gold Coast is favourite to beat their sole rival, the Sri Lankan port of Hambantota, which is being heavily redeveloped with the assistance of Chinese banking interests.

Gold Coast officials formally handed over their bid document in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Premier Anna Bligh gave a brief address to senior Games officials, joining Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke, and members of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association, including bid chairman Mark Stockwell and association president Sam Coffa. Coffa is pleased the two regions will compete on a level playing field.

Under new legislation, nothing outside the "bid book" can now be offered to the Games' 71 voting nations before the venue for the Games is decided in the Caribbean in November.

"We made a recommendation to the Commonwealth

Games Federation executive board that no longer will a country be allowed to ambush the voting with a late money offer," Coffa said from Kuala Lumpur. "They accepted that and have new rules which says whatever is in the big book is all you can offer."

The issue of vote buying flared after Delhi won the right to host last year's Commonwealth Games after offering all nations a \$140,000 sweetener just before the final vote. It beat Canadian city Hamilton, who offered nations \$70,000 each, in the final poll 46 votes to 22.

Hamilton's bid organisers, and many of the nations who voted for that city, fired off angry protests about India buying votes and the bad blood generated between several feuding nations still exists.

In banning the last-minute cash offers, the CGF has instead insisted both nations be prepared to put £5 million (\$7,538,000) into a development fund which any of the Games voting nations can apply for.

"The key thing is we want that money to go to developing nations for the preparation of athletes," Coffa said.



Gold Coast Bulletin
12-May-2011
Page: 4
General News
By: Suzanne Lappeman
Market: Gold Coast QLD
Circulation: 39128
Type: Regional
Size: 244.06 sq.cms
Frequency: MTWTF--

Bid book delivers on detail

SUZANNE LAPPEMAN
lappemans@goldcoast.com.au
twitter.com/sueGCB

THE Gold Coast focused on delivery, detail and performance when launching its bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games, says Premier Anna Bligh.

Ms Bligh, who headed the team in Kuala Lumpur to hand over the city's 240-page bid book to the Commonwealth Games Federation, said the reception had been encouraging.

The presentation was low-key compared to the rival bid by Sri Lanka, which included dancers and the loud beat of drums.

"The Sri Lankan presentation was very polished, very professional and very colourful," Ms Bligh said.

"The Gold Coast's presentation focused on delivery, on detail and performance."

Ms Bligh said 10-year-old local Eve Lutze who starred in the DVD presentation stole the show.

"Eve has got Gold Coast written all over her – she embodies the youthful energy, freshness and enthusiasm of the Gold Coast," she said.

Ms Bligh revealed that if successful, the Gold Coast Games would be held from April 4 to April 15, 2018.

"The weather would be perfect for athletes and spectators alike and

these dates would include two weekends and coincide with school holidays," she said.

"This would be a Games that all Queenslanders and Australians could share in."

Ms Bligh also revealed that in addition to the 10 core sports, the program would include triathlon, cycling, gymnastics, wrestling, shooting, table tennis, and basketball.

However, these sports were decided before it was announced the popular Australian sports of rugby league, beach volleyball and 20/20 cricket may also be included by 2018.

"That would be something that we would consider if we win," she said.

"Clearly a sport like beach volleyball would be terrific on the Gold Coast."

The Commonwealth Games Evaluation Commission is to visit the Gold Coast next month to assess the city's credentials, closely followed by delegations from the six regions of the Commonwealth.

Africa arrives in June, Oceania in July, Europe in August, the Caribbean and Americas in September and Asia in October.

Each regional delegation will spend four days on the Coast looking at facilities, venues and assessing the city's ability to run the Games.

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games CEO Mark Peters said he was very happy with the quality of

the Candidature File and the way it was received in Kuala Lumpur.

"Our competitor in the bid is serious and it is time for all people on the Gold Coast to understand the importance of the Games to the future of the Gold Coast and get behind the bid," he said.

Hambantota's bid boss, Ajith Nivard Cabraal, said the Games would secure long-term and sustainable social and economic benefits for Sri Lanka.

CGF vice-president Tunku Imran said the race for the 2018 Games presented an intriguing choice.

A draw during the lodgement ceremony determined that Hambantota would be the first to present to the General Assembly in St Kitts and Nevis on November 11 when the decision would be made.





Gold Coast Bulletin
12-May-2011
Page: 4
General News
By: Lucy Ardern
Market: Gold Coast QLD
Circulation: 39128
Type: Regional
Size: 362.51 sq.cms
Frequency: MTWTF--

Glitter Strip ditches glam for big day

LUCY ARDERN
 ardernl@goldcoast.com.au

THE drumming, wild dancing and loud singing from the Hambantota bid team was in stark contrast to the low-key Gold Coast presentation for the Commonwealth Games bid in Kuala Lumpur.

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games bid chief executive Mark Peters said about 20 Sri Lankan entertainers had been flown to Malaysia for the handover of Hambantota's bid book yesterday.

"Credit to them, their warmth and love of the country came

across," he said. "Their presentation was all about the vision for the future."

Sri Lankan Sports Minister Mahindananda Aluthgamage headed up Hambantota's presentation to the Commonwealth Games Federation.

Mr Peters said the Coast emphasised its performance record and outlined the detail of the 240-page bid book during the 20-minute presentation.

"Our message was around the fact that we are ready now to host the Games," he said.

The promotional DVD starring

local schoolgirl Eve Lutze was also a key part of the Coast presentation, according to Mr Peters, who said the 10-year-old's speech to the federation was touching.

Gold Coast bid boss Mark Stockwell said Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke emphasised how the sporting venues would be full if the city hosted the Games.

"Ron talked about how important that is for an athlete and their performance," Mr Stockwell said.

The Games evaluation commission will visit the Gold Coast in June. A final decision will be made in November.



Eve Lutze, Mayor Ron Clarke and Premier Anna Bligh present the Games bid



Australian
12-May-2011
Page: 39
Sport
By: Nicole Jeffery
Market: Australia
Circulation: 129166
Type: Australian National
Size: 163.91 sq.cms
Frequency: MTWTF

Gold Coast's rival 'no pushover'

NICOLE JEFFERY
COMMONWEALTH GAMES

THE Gold Coast's rival to host the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the little-known Sri Lankan city of Hambantota, will be "no pushover", Australian Games chief Perry Crosswhite warned after both cities presented their bids in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

When it became apparent last year that the Gold Coast's only competitor would be Hambantota, there was an assumption that the Queensland city would be an automatic choice, particularly in the wake of the troubles experienced by the last subcontinental host, Delhi, last year.

However, it has become increasingly apparent to the Australian bid officials that they are in a tough contest to claim the 2018 Games.

Crosswhite said Sri Lanka's bid presentation to the Commonwealth Games Federation executive board yesterday was "spectacular, with lots of dancers".

"It's very much a government-based bid and underwritten by the government, which is building a future city (the port of Hambantota). The message was that you

can trust the Sri Lankan government to deliver, and it was presented by the governor of their reserve bank."

Meanwhile, the Gold Coast bid, led by Queensland Premier Anna Bligh, Gold Coast Mayor (and Olympian) Ron Clarke and bid chairman Mark Stockwell, promised a safe pair of hands with a well-planned and executed

"The race for the 2018 Games presents an intriguing choice for our members"

PRINCE TUNKU IMRAN
CGF VICE-PRESIDENT

Games that will provide a model for other regional cities that might wish to bid.

Bid chief executive Mark Peters said it would take a great effort to win the Games.

"Our competitor in the bid is serious and it is time for all people on the Gold Coast to understand the importance of the Games to the future of the Gold Coast and get behind the bid," he said.

The Gold Coast presentation

proposed dates of April 4-15, a move partly calculated to overcome the reluctance of the leading track and field stars to extend their competition seasons into October, a difficulty Delhi experienced last year.

The April dates would also cause less disruption to the local football teams (AFL's Suns and the NRL's Titans) than dates later in the year which would have put their home grounds (Carrara Stadium and Skilled Park) off limits for most of the season as the city prepared for the Games.

The Gold Coast has also proposed a very similar sporting program to that held in the highly successful 2006 Melbourne Games.

It includes optional sports that are popular in Australia (cycling, triathlon, basketball) along with those that are followed in the wider Commonwealth (shooting, wrestling, table tennis) and should appeal to the delegates who will choose the host city.

CGF vice-president Prince Tunku Imran declared that the "race for the 2018 Games presents an intriguing choice for our members".

The CGF general assembly will elect the 2018 host city on November 11 in St Kitts and Nevis.



Games bid's secret weapon unveiled

LUCY ARDERN
ardernl@goldcoast.com.au

EVE Lutze is no ordinary 10-year-old Gold Coast girl.

She has no interest in television or social networking sites such as Facebook, instead choosing to spend all her spare time playing sport and practising for her starring role in the school play.

The schoolgirl's rare qualities have landed her another job: the city's secret weapon in the Commonwealth Games bid.

Premier Anna Bligh, Mayor Ron Clarke, Australian Commonwealth Games Association president Sam Coffa and Commonwealth Games bid boss Mark Stockwell will

all take to the stage in Kuala Lumpur today.

But the main role in front of the Commonwealth Games Federation will fall to Eve, who will introduce the city's bid and present the bid book to officials.

"I am extremely excited," the St Andrew's Lutheran College student said.

Not showing any sign of nerves before her big moment, Eve insisted she was "comfortable with public speaking".

"I do speech and drama and am involved in the school play," she said. "I am used to people looking at me and speaking to me."

Eve is also the star of the promotional DVD for the bid that will

introduce the Gold Coast presentation at 2pm, before she speaks to Federation members.

The DVD shows the schoolgirl running into the city's sporting champions while she explores the Gold Coast.

Eve said the best part of the experience was meeting heroes such as runner Sally Pearson, swimmer Brenton Rickard and Olympic champion cyclist Sara Carrigan.

"Brenton gave me his Commonwealth Games cap from Delhi," she gushed, still obviously star struck.

A swimmer, runner, gymnast and surfer, Eve is yet to decide on a sporting path, but she wants to be one of the athletes she believes will be on the Gold Coast in 2018.



Eve Lutze, 10, with world breaststroke champion Brenton Rickard

Photo: MIKE BATTERHAM



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Federal guarantees for 2018 Games bid

THE Federal Government has formalised its support for the Gold Coast bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Premier Anna Bligh delivers the city's official bid book to the Commonwealth Games Federation in Kuala Lumpur today to guarantee federal support – but no actual funding yet.

“For the bid to be compliant, the Australian Government must provide guarantees which will come into effect if the bid is won. These guarantees include requirements on immigration, customs, work permits, taxation, security, protection of commercial rights, and communications and information technology,” the Budget papers state.

“If the 2018 Queensland Government's bid is successful, it is expected that some of the Commonwealth Government guarantees will commence following the announcement of the successful host country in November 2011.”

If the Gold Coast gets named as host city in November the Federal Government will start to roll out what is needed administratively to make the Games happen.



Editorial

Much riding on contents of one book



TOMORROW is D-day for the Gold Coast's 2018 Commonwealth Games bid.

Premier Anna Bligh and officials from the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Bid Committee will deliver the city's blueprint to the organisation's Kuala Lumpur headquarters.

There is a lot riding on a successful outcome.

Today we reveal the State Government's plan for the relocation of the Gold Coast Show to Carrara and the establishment of a "health and knowledge" precinct at the existing Parklands showgrounds site. This would also be home to the athletes village in 2018.

It is a big call to move a successful annual show against its will.

It is also a big call to send key events of the "Gold Coast" games such as cycling and shooting to Brisbane.

But the biggest call of all is to present the "Bid Book", as it is known, to the Commonwealth Games Federation, satisfied that the city will be supportive. The Bid Book is the master plan for what will actually happen in 2018, so, if not set in stone, it is certainly rigid.

There have been questions over the level of community consultation engaged by the committee in its preparation of the book. But the bid team has pressed on and backed its judgment. Recent initiatives such as the adopt-a-country program are being enthusiastically supported by Coast schools, so the signs are encouraging.

The first look at what is proposed for Carrara is exciting. Extra sports

pavilions, playing fields, an overhead bridge to the showgrounds where we can imagine other events being held – it adds up to a tremendous sporting and entertainment asset for the city.

Meanwhile, the environment of Parklands will change, largely because of two giants that have grown up beside it – Griffith University and the new Gold Coast University Hospital. They change the complexity of that community and the opportunity to build a new suburb is almost enticing. Businesses and services feeding off the hospital and university will have a ready-made location.

Our city is changing. There is bound to be pain and discontent along the way, but on the other side we may well have a thriving 21st century metropolis.

There is a lot riding on that Bid Book.



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BID BEGINS: A high-powered delegation will today travel to Kuala Lumpur to officially present the Gold Coast's 2018 Commonwealth Games bid. Led by Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke and bid boss Mark

Stockwell, the delegation will be joined by Premier Anna Bligh tomorrow before presenting the 240-page, 51,000-word bid book on Wednesday. The final decision will be made in November.



GAMES SHOW

OVERHAUL OF CITY TO MAKE WAY FOR 2018

EXCLUSIVE

SUE LAPPEMAN AND LUCY ARDERN

THE Gold Coast showgrounds will move to Carrara and its current city-centre site will be rebuilt as an athletes village in preparation for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Premier Anna Bligh yesterday unveiled a dramatic multimillion-dollar plan to move the city's annual show to a permanent venue to be built at Carrara opposite the new AFL stadium. The existing showgrounds at Parklands will

be remodelled into a 21st century 'health and knowledge precinct' piggy-backing on the huge growth of neighbouring Griffith University and the Gold Coast University Hospital due to open next year.

More sports facilities will be built adjacent to the Carrara stadium if the Coast wins the 2018 Games.

The Premier today leaves for Kuala Lumpur where she will

formally lodge the city's bid with the Commonwealth Games Federation tomorrow.

The athletes village would be home to 6500 competitors and officials if the Coast hosts the Games but the redevelopment of Parklands will go ahead regardless. The Show Society has resisted relocation plans.

P4-5



Coverstory

● Sports superzone built at Carrara near stadium

● Athletes village at Parklands for 2018 Commonwealth Games

● Gold Coast Show moves to Carrara

● 6500 athletes and officials expected

● Parklands Showgrounds becomes 'health and knowledge' precinct

● Major jobs boost to build and redevelop both Carrara and Parklands

Carrara boost as prize sports precinct



SUZANNE LAPPEMAN

LUCY ARDERN

THE Gold Coast Show is moving to Carrara in a multimillion-dollar plan revealed for the first time today.

The show will be relocated to land opposite the Carrara Stadium under the State Government's long-term vision for the site at Parklands.

Premier Anna Bligh made the announcement as she prepared to leave for Kuala Lumpur today to make Queensland's official bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Under the master plan, the Government will resume a parcel of land on the southern side of the Nerang-Broadbeach Rd to create a major entertainment and sporting precinct.

The removal of the showgrounds to Carrara by 2013 will free up Parklands for a residential development and a "health and knowledge precinct" close to the Gold Coast University Hospital and Griffith University.

"The relocation of the Gold Coast Show provides an exciting opportunity to provide not only a permanent Gold Coast Showground but also expand the Carrara precinct into a major entertainment and sporting precinct," Ms Bligh said.

"The vision for the Carrara precinct incorporates elite sport training and development,

community sport and a range of entertainment activities.

"What this plan does is retain this important event and part of the Gold Coast's heritage while looking to the future and creating thousands of jobs and new opportunities on the Coast.

"The State is seeking approvals to commence compulsory acquisition of the site."

More than 300 events, estimated to be worth more than \$56 million, are staged at the Parklands showgrounds each year.

The Gold Coast Show Society had hoped to pressure the State Government to reverse its decision to move the showgrounds.

But chairman of the council's Commonwealth Games consultative committee, Peter Young, said the announcement would provide certainty for the show which needed easy access to public transport.

"The purchase of the new site will enable us to deliver a fully integrated sports precinct at Carrara - which supports our long-term objectives for sports tourism," he said.

The land to be resumed is 21.28ha, adjacent to a 9.05ha council property.

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General News

By: SUE LAPPEMAN AND LUCY ARDERN

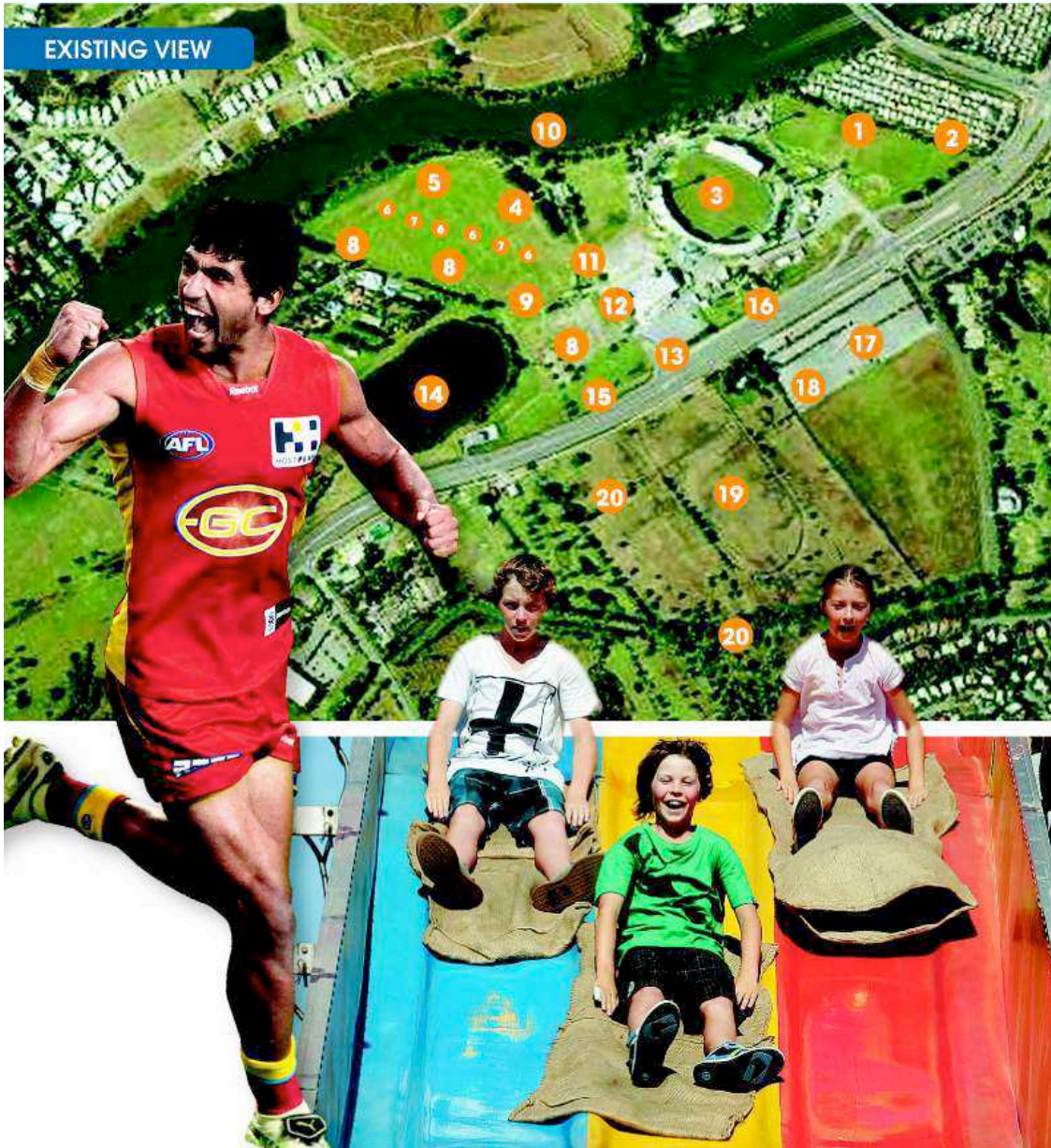
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PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

FIRST LOOK AT GAMES AND SHOWGROUND PLAN

1. AFL training field	14. Existing lake
2. Future GCFC training and admin building	15. Bus hub for sports hall
3. Stadium	16. Bus hub for stadium
4. Warm-up track	17. Existing carpark
5. Throwing warm-up	18. Hardstand/exhibition
6. Potential seating expansion	19. Show ring
7. 1000-seat pavilion with change facilities	20. Hardstand/sideshow alley and rides
8. Sports fields	21. Lake/retention basin
9. Indoor sports hall (parking below)	Area shown hatched to be used during show
10. Jetty and ferry terminal	Horse floats
11. Carpark	Show participants parking
12. Event plaza/park	Mustering yard
13. Future link – pedestrian bridge	Small animal zone

ALWAYS DELHI 2010