



6 June 2024

The Hon. Anika Wells MP
Minister for Sport
Parliament House
PO Box 6022
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister Wells,

On behalf of Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) and its Board, we are pleased to provide you with a copy of CGA's 2023 Annual Report which was presented to and adopted by our members at the CGA Annual General Meeting (AGM) held 15 May.

The Report provides a comprehensive record of CGA programs and initiatives across the most recent calendar year, including an overview of our successful campaign at the Trindade 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games.

Successfully led by Team General Manager, Ellie Cole OAM and Deputy General Manager Greg Hire, our 75-strong Team topped the medal tally winning 64 medals across all seven program sports.

It is well documented that, in July 2023, the Victorian Government, under the leadership of then Premier Daniel Andrews, withdrew from its commitment to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. This decision has had, amongst other things, a significant negative impact of the "green and gold" runway to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

There are currently no other major international events confirmed for hosting in Australia over the coming years which provide the same pathway opportunities for Australia's athletes and for the athletes of our near neighbours in the Pacific. CGA remains committed to supporting the CGF in securing an alternative host, whether it be in Australia or elsewhere in the Commonwealth.

While not during the 2023 reporting year, CGA recently conducted comprehensive research on the Athlete Performance Impact of the Commonwealth Games. The enclosed two-page summary highlights how vital the Commonwealth Games is to the performance trajectory of athletes aspiring to compete at their sport's World Championships and the Olympic Games.

Despite the events of July 2023, CGA maintains its commitment to our Member Sports through its \$13 million 'Green2Gold2Great' investment program, which supports initiatives that enhance and develop athlete performance. In 2023, more than \$4.8 million was funded as part of the first allocation.

The refresh of CGA's Strategic Plan - *First Among Equals* concluded in early 2024 after extensive consultation with stakeholders, with a high-level summary of the revised Plan noted in the Annual Report and in the enclosed easy reference fold out brochure.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) saw members support changes to the Constitution; the amended version of which can be found on the CGA website at <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/wp-content/uploads/CGA-Ltd-Constitution-Effective-15-May-2024.pdf>.

Through an exhaustive ballot, Grant Harrison was re-elected to the Board of Directors for another four-year term before being subsequently elevated to the role of Vice President by the CGA Board.

Nominated by Rowing Australia, Olympic rowing gold medallist Duncan Free OAM secured the second elected Director position and joins the Board of Directors for an initial four-year term to expire in 2028.

CGA is indebted to outgoing Director Darryl Clout who has made a tremendous contribution to CGA over the last eight years and to the Commonwealth Sport Movement more broadly. CGA thanks Darryl for his tireless service.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and all the best for the remainder of 2024.

Yours sincerely,



BEN HOUSTON
President



CRAIG PHILLIPS AM
Chief Executive Officer

This document has been released under
the Freedom of Information Act 1982
by the Minister for Aged Care and Sport



FIRST AMONG EQUALS

OUR VISION



OUR PRIORITIES



DELIVERING TEAM SUCCESS

We invest in all elements of our Commonwealth Games and Youth Games Team.

We deliver life-best experiences for all of our Team Members.



CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES

We connect with and positively contribute to Australian communities through sport.

We live diversity, inclusiveness, and the broadest possible definition of Team.



PRESENTING A POWERFUL BRAND

Our brand is proud and daring, and brings to life our values and behavioural framework.

Our brand is recognised and celebrated for the positive impact and contribution it has on our Teams, our members, and on Australian communities.



LEADING THE WAY

We work collaboratively with our partners to build a sustainable and industry leading sports business and to advance the Commonwealth Sport Movement.



HOSTING GREAT GAMES

We collaborate with Governments and other delivery partners to realise "whole of community" benefits associated with the hosting of great "Home" Games.

OUR VALUES

INCLUSIVENESS

We embrace diversity in our communities.

We openly share our capabilities and experiences.

INTEGRITY

We are fair, ethical, and transparent.

We believe how we compete is as important as winning.

RESPECT

We are thoughtful and courteous in everything we do.

We treat all with respect.

EXCELLENCE

We lead by example in pursuing excellence.

We celebrate Australian sporting success and heritage.



COMMONWEALTH SPORT MOVEMENT

THE COMMONWEALTH IS COMPRISED OF 56 NATIONS.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES, THERE ARE 74 RECOGNISED NATIONS & TERRITORIES.

EACH NATION & TERRITORY IS REPRESENTED BY A COMMONWEALTH GAMES ASSOCIATION WHO CAN ENTER A TEAM IN THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES.

NATIONS AND
TERRITORIES
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH

74

22
AFRICA

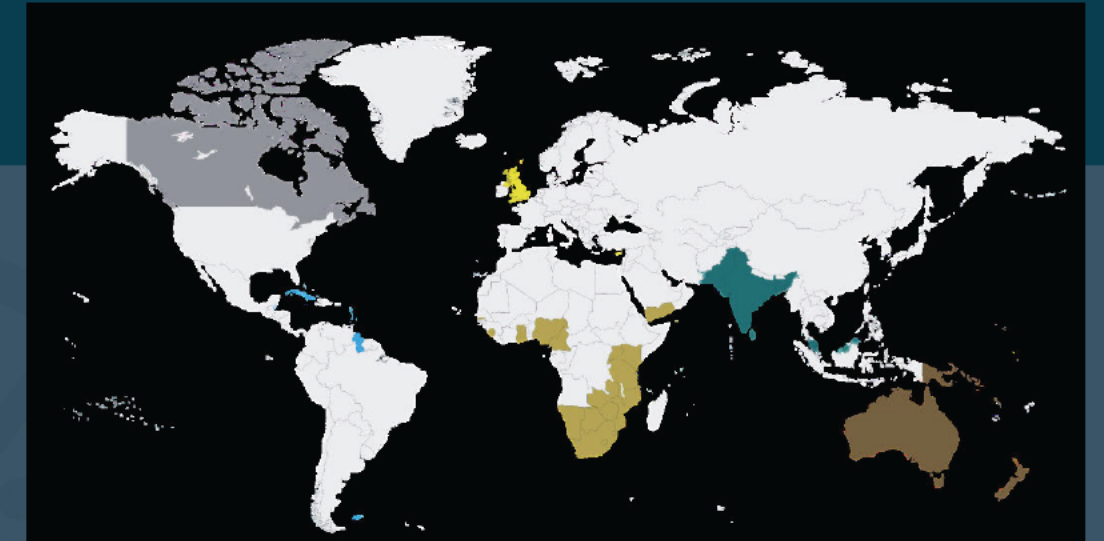
14
CARIBBEAN

6
AMERICAS

8
ASIA

14
OCEANIA

10
EUROPE



POPULATION: 2.5 BILLION



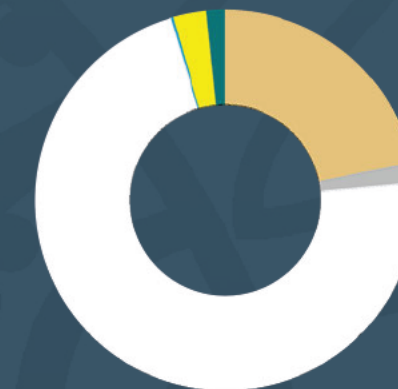
33% COMMONWEALTH
67% REST OF THE WORLD

LAND AREA BREAKDOWN



21% COMMONWEALTH
79% REST OF THE WORLD

POPULATION BY REGION



AFRICA - 21.89%
AMERICAS - 1.65%
ASIA - 71.84%
CARIBBEAN - 0.2%
EUROPE - 2.81%
OCEANIA - 1.61%

COMMONWEALTH GAMES: ATHLETE PERFORMANCE IMPACT

In 2024, Commonwealth Games Australia commissioned Kinetica to explore data and create insights to determine the value of the Commonwealth Games.

The results showed that the Commonwealth Games play a crucial role within the Australian system of high-performance sport in shaping the careers of athletes and providing a platform for them to showcase their talent on the international stage.

A FLYING START

The Commonwealth Games is **CRITICAL** in providing a debut international competition opportunity for Australian athletes.

46%

of athletes who compete for Australia do so for the first time at the Commonwealth Games.



I think going to the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games, doing well and also having exposure on the world stage at my first multi-sport competition gave me a boost of motivation. That little taste of success propelled me forward.

ANABELLE SMITH (DIVING)

BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES GOLD MEDALLIST
RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES BRONZE MEDALLIST
2024 WORLD 3M SYNCHRO CHAMPION

A STEP UP

A medal win at the Commonwealth Games is a strong indicator of **FUTURE SUCCESS**.

51%

of athletes who win medals at the Commonwealth Games go on to win medals at their next global competition.

A further
15%

who don't win medals capitalise on the opportunity and go on to win medals at their next global competition.

I found it a nice stepping stone and it was an event where I could set some achievable goals.

I had the best time and to this day, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games was one of my favourite events.

NINA KENNEDY (ATHLETICS)

BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES GOLD MEDALLIST
2022 WORLD POLE VAULT CHAMPION



SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

Success at the Commonwealth Games translates to **ONGOING SUCCESS** for athletes across their career, whether they win a medal or not.

79%

of Olympic medallists competed at a Commonwealth Games first.

42%

of athletes who win medals at the Olympic Games first win medals at the Commonwealth Games.

2.3
YEARS



4.5
YEARS

Commonwealth Games medallists have a longer average career duration.

The Commonwealth Games encouraged me to keep going. I couldn't imagine jumping straight to the Olympics.

EMMA MCKEON AM (SWIMMING)

14-TIME COMMONWEALTH GAMES GOLD MEDALLIST
FIVE-TIME OLYMPIC GAMES GOLD MEDALLIST



A database of over 5,000 unique athletes who represented Australia in a range of competitions since 1978 was created by combining information provided by Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Sport Intelligence unit. For the purpose of this project, and the analysis contained within this report, the following information (records) was removed:

- Any athlete who competed prior to 1978
- Para-athletes – there was not a critical mass of data for para-athletes across both Paralympics and Commonwealth Games over time. This requires separate analysis in the future
- Only competitions that were classified as World Championships (or equivalent) defined in collaboration with CGA
- Sports not represented at both Commonwealth Games and Olympics (e.g. netball, lawn bowls, squash, golf, cricket)
- Records that were incomplete or undefined (i.e. missing information)