BIRMINGHAM 2022
commonwealth games

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

Birmingham2022.com
#B2022

WELCOME...

...from John Crabtree

I am delighted to confirm that, even in these unprecedented circumstances, much progress is being made towards organising a fantastic edition of the Games and you can read about some of our latest developments over the next few pages.

I was also very pleased that earlier in the summer we were able to confirm that the Games will still occupy the same slot on the international sporting calendar, with just a 24-hour adjustment to our dates. This means that the Games will now commence on 28 July 2022 and finish on 8 August 2022.

In July we were very pleased to welcome a new member to the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee Board, after the Commonwealth Games Federation formally selected Sandra Osborne QC to fill the position vacated by Dame Louise Martin DBE.

Sandra attended her first meeting in August and has a wealth of skills and experience, so we look forward to working with her in the coming months.

JOHN CRABTREE
CHAIRMAN,
BIRMINGHAM 2022

...from Ian Reid

It is now less than two years to go until Birmingham 2022 and we were excited to be able to mark this milestone by announcing a new venue for the Games.

Our 3x3 basketball, 3x3 wheelchair basketball and beach volleyball competitions will be staged at Smithfield, a site which will bring the Games into the heart of the host city.

As you know, we've recently made some important decisions about where athletes and team officials will be staying ahead of and during the Games. Thank you to everyone that joined the presentations we gave on the new arrangements.

We have made this decision now as it provides us all with certainty at an uncertain time, and enables you and us to be able to plan for the Games with confidence.

Birmingham and the West Midlands are extremely fortunate to have some excellent existing facilities for us to use during the Games which you can find out more about in this newsletter. We'll be in touch again soon to provide you with more information.

IAN REID
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
BIRMINGHAM 2022

CGA SERVICES UPDATE

In recent weeks, Birmingham 2022 has been growing fast and several new team members have been added to the CGA Services team.

Natasha Riall

Natasha has joined the team as **CGA Services Manager**, and she'll be focusing on ensuring key information is provided to CGAs over the next two years.

Natasha will be working on key documents like the Team Size Calculator, the Chef de Mission Dossier and she'll be working on the travel grant process and the Chef de Mission Seminar.

Sean McColm

Sean has joined Birmingham 2022 as **Protocol Operations Manager** and he will be planning and delivering the venue protocol function at competition venues. He will also be working closely with other teams across Birmingham 2022, helping to plan services for the Games Family, such as village operations, venue management and transport.

Pre-Games Training Camps

Following the article in the last newsletter, Birmingham 2022 has publicly launched the search for venues for Pre-Games Training Camps (PGTC), asking for facilities from across England to get in contact if they would like to host a camp.

There has been a great deal of interest already with more than 50 applications received from different facilities.

Birmingham 2022 and its partners, namely the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and Sport England, would like to help match up CGAs with potential PGTC venues, so any CGA interested in establishing a PGTC and finding out more about the facilities that have come forward should please email B2022trainingcamps@dcms.gov.uk

Birmingham 2022 is keen to capture all information relating to PGTC, so if your CGA has already organised a camp in the UK, please use the above email address to provide us with details.

KEY DATES

Birmingham 2022 will include an updated version of this table in every CGA Newsletter.

Timing	Key Dates	Information/Action Required
17 Months	February 2021	Team Size Calculator V1 due from CGAs
12 Months	July 2021	Team Size Calculator V2 due from CGAs
12 Months	July 2021	Accreditation Manual distributed by Birmingham 2022
8 Months	November 2021	Accreditation system goes live
6 Months	January 2022	Team Size Calculator V3 due from CGAs
6 Months	January 2022	Entry by number submitted by CGAs
6 Months	January 2022	Sport entry guide distributed by Birmingham 2022
4 Months	March 2022	Accreditation deadline for CGA athletes and team officials
4 Months	April 2022	Pre-delegation registration meetings
3 Months	April 2022	Sport entry system goes live
3 Months	April 2022	Accreditation deadline for CGA dignitaries and guests
4 Weeks	June 2022	Team Size Calculator V4 due from CGAs
4 Weeks	June 2022	Entry by name submitted by CGAs
2 Weeks	July 2022	Delegation registration meetings
	22nd July 2022	Official Opening of Commonwealth Games Villages
	28th July 2022	Opening Ceremony
	8th August 2022	Closing Ceremony
	10th August 2022	Closing of Commonwealth Games Villages

Maldives re-joins the CGF

Birmingham 2022 is delighted that there are now 72 nations and territories eligible to send participants to the Games, after the Maldives Commonwealth Games Association was recently re-admitted as a member of the Commonwealth Games Federation. Congratulations to the Maldives and the Birmingham 2022 team looks forward to working with you over the next two years

BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

NEW ACCOMMODATION REVEALED

Birmingham 2022 announced in August that athletes and team officials will now be accommodated in three campus villages, rather than at a single site village.

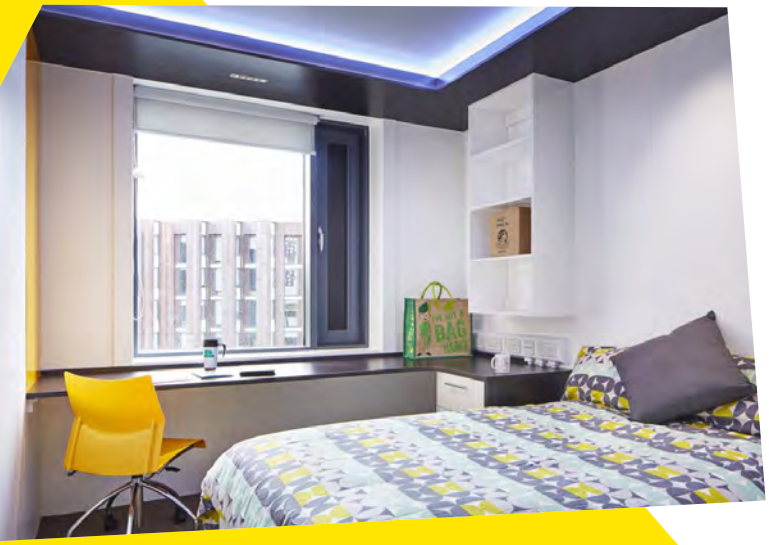
This new campus model will see 1,600 athletes and officials housed at the NEC Hotel Campus, 1,900 at the University of Warwick, and the principal village at the University of Birmingham will house 2,800 people.

The decision to move away from the single site athletes' village has been made by the Games Partnership after reviewing the impact of the global health pandemic on this construction project.

Ian Reid, CEO of Birmingham 2022, said:

"We recognise that this new model is a move away from the historic norm and we are grateful for the support shown by our partners across the Commonwealth Games Associations.

Birmingham and the West Midlands are extremely fortunate to have superb alternate facilities and we are making this decision now, with two years to go, to de-risk the project, ensure delivery for athletes and teams."



The University of Birmingham

- Already confirmed as a competition venue for hockey and squash, close to the venue for cricket
- Approximately 2,800 bed spaces
- Overall single ensuite accommodation, with potential to increase capacity in larger studio rooms
- Substantial internal catering space and external spaces for extension
- £55 million development of The Sport & Fitness Club that features a 50-metre swimming pool, a large multi-sports arena, six glass-backed squash courts, a 10-metre climbing wall and five activity studios, as well as extensive rugby pitches. The gym boasts over 200 pieces of equipment and weights training space

The University of Warwick

- This university is located close to the competition venues for rugby sevens, lawn bowls, judo and wrestling
- Approximately 1,900 bed spaces
- £49 million recent investment into the site. Featuring a huge sports hall, 12-lane 25-metre swimming pool complete with a movable floor, state-of-the-art gym, studio spaces, climbing walls, squash and netball courts, and outdoor pitches
- Substantial catering, recreational and other facilities
- Single room ensuite accommodation

The NEC Hotel Campus

- With world-class credentials in hosting global visitors to the region, athletes and team officials will be close to NEC competition venues for netball, boxing, badminton, table tennis and weightlifting
- Approximately 1,600 bed spaces, primarily in 4-star accommodation
- Excellent accommodation with large ensuite single or twin rooms

VENUE FOR 3X3 BASKETBALL AND BEACH VOLLEYBALL UNVEILED

To celebrate two years to go until the Games begin, Birmingham 2022 unveiled the Smithfield site in the heart of Birmingham city centre as the location for the 3x3 basketball, wheelchair basketball and beach volleyball competitions.

Smithfield, previously the site of Birmingham's Wholesale Markets, will be a crucial venue for the host city, creating an urban hub that's just a short walk from Birmingham's famous Bullring shopping centre and the two arenas will have an impressive city-scape backdrop.

To provide a flavour of the sporting action that spectators can expect to see in 2022, temporary courts for the two sports were set up at the site as part of the two years to go celebrations, giving current and future stars of both sports, and young basketballers from the City of Birmingham Basketball Club, the first chance to try out the location.

Birmingham 2022 finalised using the Smithfield site, where two bespoke arenas will be built side by side, after working closely with the host city and the national governing bodies as well as international federations for the sports.

CEO for Birmingham 2022, Ian Reid, said:

"Smithfield is a fantastic location for these two sports, allowing us to bring together thousands of local people and spectators from further afield and enabling us to create a key hub for the Games in the heart of the city centre. It's currently a blank canvas which will allow us to transform this location into a vibrant venue for two exciting sports that will no doubt bring a festival atmosphere to the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games."

More details about how these sports will be showcased at Smithfield will be shared in the coming months.

BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

SPOTLIGHT ON BIRMINGHAM 2022 VENUES

SUTTON PARK

Sutton Park is a 2,400-acre National Nature Reserve located six miles north of the city centre, and during the Games it will host the triathlon and para-triathlon competition.

It's one of the largest urban parks in Europe and is designated as a 'Site of Special Scientific Interest'. Sutton Park is also a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The park has open heathland, woodlands, seven lakes, wetlands, and marshes – each with its own rich variety of plants and wildlife, some rarely seen in the region. Cattle and wild ponies also graze on the land.

The park is no stranger to sport as it has long been the host to fun runs and charity races, including the Great Midlands Fun Run. Sutton Park also frequently hosts regional and national road relay events.

EDGBASTON STADIUM

Situated in a leafy suburb, just a mile from Birmingham city centre, Edgbaston Stadium is one of the youngest and one of the finest of England's Test venues.

The stadium is the home to Warwickshire County Cricket Club and the Birmingham Bears, and in recent years it has been transformed into one of the UK's leading sporting venues.

For more than 100 years, first-class international cricket has been played in Birmingham. The ground is also the regular host of Twenty20 finals day, and it was the scene of Brian Lara's world-record 501 not out against Durham in 1994.

Edgbaston Stadium has also been a venue for two ICC Champions Trophy tournaments and hosted a number of matches in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019, including England's semi-final win over Australia.

The stadium will host women's cricket during Birmingham 2022. This will be the first time ever that Twenty20 and women's cricket has ever been part of the Commonwealth Games.

BIRMINGHAM 2022'S ACCESSIBILITY COMMITMENT

Earlier this summer Birmingham 2022 published the Birmingham 2022 Accessibility and Inclusion Commitment, outlining plans to make this the most accessible Commonwealth Games in history.

Included in the commitment is the creation of the Birmingham 2022 Inclusive Games Standard or **The BIG Standard,** which focuses on making improvements in areas such as wheelchair bays and accessible seating, specifications for accessible rooms in the athletes' accommodation, and the provision of accessible and changing places toilets.

The BIG Standard takes current legislation, existing regulations, and best practice as a baseline and builds on this to create a new set of clear and practical guidelines, to be introduced across the Games.

This new set of standards has been developed with the support of the **Birmingham 2022 Accessibility Advisory Forum**, a group that includes accessibility specialists, along with representatives from charities, official competition venues and some of the Games Partners.

Birmingham-based, Sarah Rennie has been selected as the independent chair and will lead the Accessibility Advisory Forum in its task of providing expert advice and guidance to the Birmingham 2022 team over the next two years.

Sarah Rennie, Chair of Birmingham 2022 Accessibility Advisory Forum said:

"I am really proud to play my part over the next two years in what is a hugely important and credible Forum, providing guidance to help ensure that the Games is as accessible as possible. The Forum brings together representatives with expertise and passion and our joint vision is to make Birmingham 2022 the most accessible Commonwealth Games in history."

THE SEARCH FOR MASCOT MAKERS

Over the summer, Birmingham 2022 ran a nationwide search to find a design for the official mascot for the Games.

Children aged five to 15 from across the country were invited to create their own mascot designs, using the identity, heritage, and culture of the West Midlands as inspiration. They were also encouraged to think about everything the region stands for such as youthfulness, diversity, dynamism and creativity.

The nationwide search to find a 'Mascot Maker' followed the staging of the world's first 'Virtual Mascot Summit', hosted by President of Commonwealth Games England and gold medal winning heptathlete Denise Lewis OBE, alongside TV presenter Radzi Chinyanganya.

The summit saw children from across Birmingham and the West Midlands take part in various tasks to help develop what the mascot looks like, as well as what its characteristics, values and movements should be.

At the summit the children were supported by Team England athletes including sprinter and para-athlete Katrina Hart, basketball player Kofi Josephs and Commonwealth champion gymnast Dom Cunningham.

All of the entries are currently being considered and the best designs will inspire the official Games mascot, which will be seen by over one billion people, and will become an iconic symbol for the region in the run up to and during the Games.

Denise Lewis OBE, said:

"I've seen some fantastic mascots during my athletics career, so the bar has been set pretty high for Birmingham 2022, but I'm confident that children across the country can create something spectacular that will become an icon for the Games and inspire future generations."

HOST BROADCASTER ANNOUNCED

Following an international tender process, the world-leading sports broadcast production company Sunset+Vine has been appointed as Host Broadcaster for Birmingham 2022.

The agreement includes a full-service delivery of every aspect of the Games, including more sports coverage than at any previous Commonwealth Games.

Over the 11 days of spectacular sporting action, Sunset+Vine will be responsible for:

- Filming live coverage of all 19 sports;
- Capturing up to 2,000 hours of cutting-edge sporting action;
- Featuring each of the 4,500 competitors taking part in the Games;
- Delivering first-class footage to a global audience of more than 1.5 billion

Sunset+Vine will also capture footage of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, as well as producing additional feature content about the history of Birmingham and the Games.

Multi-camera footage of the Games will be made available to Rights Holding Broadcasters (RHBs) and distributed to TV channels across the world for a viewing experience to remember.

The full-service media agency has a wealth of experience producing award-winning coverage of high-profile sporting events, including at the last two editions of the Games – Gold Coast 2018 and Glasgow 2014, the London 2012 and Rio Paralympics, and the 2017 World Athletics Championships in London.

In addition to its broadcast services, Sunset+Vine will launch a Host Broadcast Training Initiative (HBTI) in the West Midlands, designed to push boundaries by addressing the lack of diversity in the creative sector.

Tapping into the rich cultural and ethnic diversity of the West Midlands, the HBTI will offer training to 200 young people from the region over a twelve-month period, with 50% of participants recruited from underrepresented groups and a focus on creating opportunities for the BAME community.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES ACT

On June 25th 2020, the Birmingham Commonwealth Games Act received Royal Assent.

This is great news for Birmingham 2022 and paves the way for the successful delivery of the Games.

The Act will ensure that:

- Unauthorised sales of Games tickets are prohibited
- Commercial rights are protected
- Transport flows effectively
- Government funding is compliant

The protections put in place are essential to prevent not only ticket touting, but also unauthorised advertising around Games locations and unauthorised associations with Birmingham 2022. This is important to protect the public from being misled into buying goods and services, such as merchandise or promotions, that aren't officially affiliated with Birmingham 2022.

To help individuals and businesses understand the measures, detailed guidance has been published on the website which explains what some elements of the new legislation means and how to comply.

The Act will also help to ensure that transport works effectively across the West Midlands. Working with local authorities, Games Transport Plans will be implemented which may involve temporary road restrictions and other measures to ensure those people travelling to and from the Games can do so quickly and with minimal disruption for the region.

Going forward, the Birmingham 2022 team will be working hard to implement these measures now provided for by the Act.

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commonwealth games

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