

# 2006

Melbourne 2006  
Commonwealth  
Games Newsletter



ISSUE NUMBER 3

## New sports to focus on youth and excitement

A recommendation to include the sports of Basketball, Triathlon, Mountain Biking and Synchronized Diving in the Sports Program of the 2006 Commonwealth Games will be presented to the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) for approval at its General Assembly in Manchester on 27-28 July.

Applications from 19 sports and disciplines were considered by Melbourne 2006 according to their popularity, elite status and participation levels in Australia and across the Commonwealth,

along with the financial viability of their staging.

Melbourne 2006 Chief Executive, Mr Leighton Wood, said "The additional sports stood out as contemporary and appealing to a younger demographic. It is critical that the 2006 Commonwealth Games have broad community appeal. The inclusion of team sports in Kuala Lumpur in 1998 proved an outstanding success and I am confident Triathlon, Mountain Biking and Synchronized Diving will add similar value in 2006 should they be approved by the CGF. All three were stand out successes in the Sydney Olympics".

Triathlon will make its Commonwealth Games debut in the 2002 Manchester Commonwealth Games.

Basketball will make its Commonwealth Games debut in 2006, subject to it being selected to replace Cricket. Cricket's withdrawal is due to scheduling conflicts.

Basketball has strong participation in Commonwealth countries and wide appeal across all age groups. A high standard of competition is expected in existing quality facilities in Melbourne and Regional Victoria.

CEO of the ACGA, Mr Perry Crosswhite, said "The Board of

the ACGA endorsed the recommendations of the Board of Melbourne 2006 to add the three new youth orientated sports and substitute Basketball for Cricket. I look forward to subsequent CGF approval".

### Commonwealth Family shines at Olympics

The Sydney 2000 Olympics saw fourteen Commonwealth countries take home medals, reflecting success in a wide range of sports.

In terms of "medals won per head of population", four of the top five nations were from the Commonwealth with Iceland the odd one out.

1. BAHAMAS
2. BARBADOS
3. ICELAND
4. AUSTRALIA
5. JAMAICA

In two notable events, new Olympics records were set by Noah Ngeny from Kenya in the 1500m track event and the British cycling team in the 4000m pursuit.

Britain also achieved its best Gold Medal tally since 1920 while Australia recorded its highest tally of Gold and overall medals.

Congratulations on a great effort.



## From the Chairman's desk



*It gave me great pleasure in December to present to the Minister for Sport of the State of Victoria, The Hon. Justin Madden, MLC the draft Business Plan for the 2006 Commonwealth Games just five years out from the event. It contains a mix of strategic, marketing and operational plans designed to deliver an international standard Commonwealth Games to Australia in 2006.*

*The next stage of planning will see the State Government and Melbourne 2006 Board work together in order to agree on scope and business delivery structures. The State's commitment will not be finished until the benchmark created by Manchester in July 2002 is reviewed.*

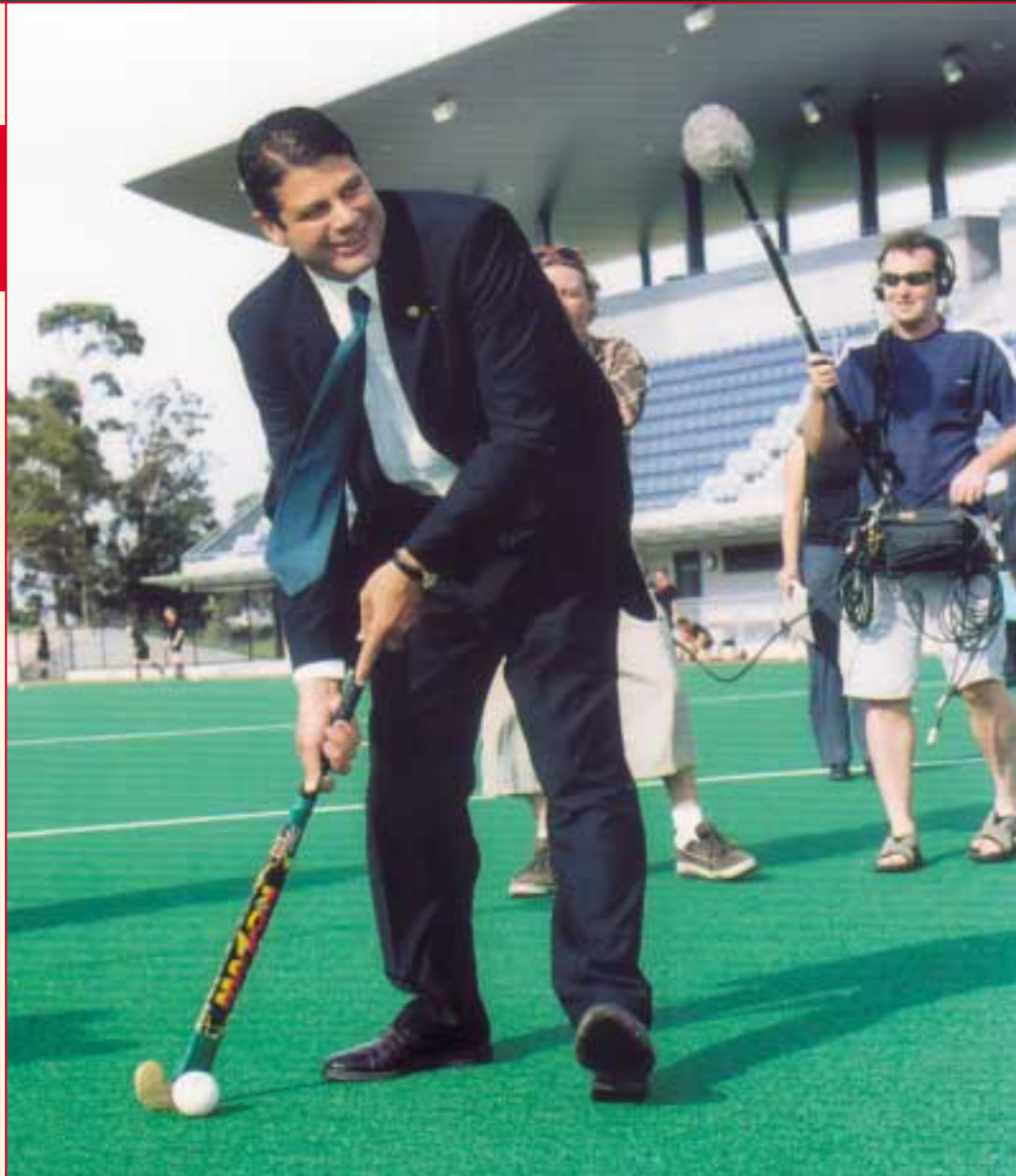
*Talks have also begun with the Federal and Local Governments in relation to possible cash and in-kind commitments regarding infrastructure and services required for 2006.*

*The enthusiasm regarding Melbourne's hosting of the 2006 Commonwealth Games is evident everywhere we go. It is up to our team to harness this natural enthusiasm and ensure it is productively utilised. This enthusiasm is, I believe, in part due to the outstanding success of the Sydney Olympics, but also due to the natural love of sport and events by Melburnians, Victorians and Australians.*

*It's part of our culture, our way of life. It makes doing what we do all the more enjoyable but it also carries with it added responsibility.*

*Ronald J. Walker*

**Ronald J. Walker AO CBE**



**Above:** Premier Steve Bracks tries out the new pitch for the media at the opening of the new State Netball & Hockey Centre.

**Below:** Weightlifting identities Boris Kayser and Sam Coffa with The Hon. Justin Madden MLC at the opening of the new State Weightlifting Stadium.



# Venue News

## State Netball & Hockey Centre

Construction of the \$27 million State Netball & Hockey Centre, at Royal Park, was completed in December and this exciting new venue was officially opened on 16 March 2001 by The Hon. Steve Bracks MP, Premier of Victoria.

The new Centre takes Netball Victoria and the Victorian Hockey Association into the 21st Century with world class facilities exceeding the level of other international venues. The project included the upgrading of Hockey facilities to provide two new state of the art water based pitches and the replacement of existing Netball infrastructure with five indoor courts and four outdoor courts. The Hockey facility has undercover seating for 1,000 spectators, with a capacity of 5-8,000 (including temporary seats) in Commonwealth Games mode. The Netball Centre will seat 3,000 spectators (1,800 moveable seats) around a feature court (which converts to 2 indoor courts for domestic competitions).

The upgrades of the Netball and Hockey facilities have been designed to meet the commitments made in the successful bid for the 2006 Commonwealth Games and to enable hosting of State, National and International Netball and Hockey competitions while still providing for public usage on a day to day basis.

## State Weightlifting Stadium



This new stadium was officially opened on 7 March 2001 by The Hon. Justin Madden MLC, Minister for Sport. Three days later the facility hosted its first official event, the inaugural "Boroondara Invitational Weightlifting Event".

This new facility will be an asset for the development of Weightlifting in Victoria through the provision of a training facility and venue to host competitions. It will be the central location for training and administration for the Victorian Weightlifting Association and provide an array of long term benefits to the sport and its development.

The State Government contribution to the project was \$1.248 million.

## Wellsford Rifle Range



Construction work commenced in July 2000 on the redevelopment of the Wellsford Rifle Range in Bendigo as an international standard rifle shooting facility.

All works on the range have been completed except for relocation of the caretaker's house and clubrooms and establishment of the 1000 yard shooting mound. Works beyond the 900 yard mound will be completed prior to July 2001.

The Rifle Range will play a key role in Victoria's presentation of the Commonwealth Games in 2006, thus providing an opportunity for people in regional Victoria to experience the Games first hand.

## State Lawn Bowls Centre



Fulfilling a commitment of the Government, an allocation of \$2.5 million was made in the 2000/2001 budget for the construction of a State Lawn Bowls Centre. The funds will be provided over two financial years.

The John Cain Reserve, Northcote has been selected as the site for the new Centre.

When completed, it will provide a world class facility for local Victorian bowlers as well as being capable of hosting major events including the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Construction of the Centre offers the sport of Lawn Bowls an exciting opportunity to further develop the sport.



**Top:** The updated Wellsford Rifle Range hosted its first competition and received warm praise from spectators and participants.

**Above:** The new facilities included the installation of a modern target system.

# Joint Marketing Program Agreed



## Human Resources Strategy Completed

*The team at Melbourne 2006, along with Arthur Andersen, has recently completed an extensive Human Resources strategy and six-year project plan that deals with the complex human issues that are encountered during event organisation. Employee numbers will grow very rapidly from 8 to 400 and integrate with many hundreds of secondees, thousands of contractors and 15,000 volunteers. The purpose of this strategy is to "engage the soul" of these people and address the essential "people" components of the organisation to promote a unique core culture and desire to achieve a successful 2006 Commonwealth Games. It deals with the key areas of selection and retention, training and development, communication, industrial relations, performance management, reward and remuneration and the wind up of the Games work force. A great deal of learning was taken from the organisers of the Sydney Olympic Games work force who graciously passed on their knowledge of the challenges we will face and suggestions on how to successfully*

A Joint Marketing Program agreement was recently signed by the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA) and Melbourne 2006. It ensures that Games sponsors will be offered a coordinated, all embracing package of benefits.

The program contains a commitment to provide corporate supporters of the 2002 Australian Commonwealth Games Team with the first option on purchasing 2006 properties, thereby preserving continuity with our key supporters. Furthermore, Melbourne 2006 has undertaken to work with the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) to offer multi-Games sponsorship (including those beyond 2006).

ACGA Chief Executive, Mr Perry Crosswhite (pictured), said, "This is a win-

win situation for the 2006 Commonwealth Games, 2002 and 2006 Australian Team athletes and Australia's corporate community, who can be assured of value and an enhanced level of benefits for their marketing dollar".

The consolidation of rights by Melbourne 2006 through agreements with the ACGA and the CGF will mean that the Organising Committee is in a position to coordinate the sale and distribution of all marketing properties relating to the event and the Australian Team in the lead up to 2006.

This will deliver the dual benefits of reducing the chance of ambush marketing by sponsors' competitors as well as creating a one-stop shop for approvals of sponsor initiatives involving the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

## New Appointments

### Tony Holding — Special Projects Coordinator

Mr Tony Holding has been appointed to the position of Special Projects Coordinator for Melbourne 2006 after a lifelong career in the sports industry.

Tony will project manage such programs as Melbourne's presence at the Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games, particularly the handover in the Closing Ceremony and cultural representation throughout the period of the Games. Responsibilities will also include interface with the various State, Federal and Local government departments which will be responsible for delivering services to the 2006 Games.

Tony has most recently been responsible, as Chief Executive, for planning and early operations of the 2002 World Masters Games in Melbourne. Prior to this Tony was Deputy Chief Executive for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Bid and is already well known to members of the Commonwealth Games family.

### Tania Mundy — Receptionist

Ms Tania Mundy has recently been appointed to the position of Receptionist for Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Tania will be the first point of contact for all callers and guests who are visiting the office. She will also provide administration support for all departments. With her cheerful personality and her advanced administration skills Tania is sure to thrive in this challenging and rewarding position.

Tania comes to Melbourne 2006 with a wealth of knowledge in events after three years as receptionist at the Victorian Major Events Company. Tania replaces Kate Hogan, who is pursuing a university degree.



## Market research

The CEO of Melbourne 2006 will be writing to many readers of this newsletter requesting help with an information survey. If you receive the questionnaire, please complete it fully and quickly and return it to the address supplied. Your help will be greatly appreciated.



Melbourne 2006  
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[www.melbourne2006.com.au](http://www.melbourne2006.com.au)

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