

## **2010 AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH GAMES TEAM INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL TEAM MEMBERS**

Although it is some two and a half years to go to the 2010 Commonwealth Games to be held in Delhi it is appropriate for the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA) to raise a number of matters relating to Australian Commonwealth Games Team membership which should be communicated to athletes/officials in your sport who have the potential to be selected for the 2010 Team. The ACGA has communicated in a similar vein in the past with Program Sports prior to the 1998, 2002 and 2006 Commonwealth Games at around the same period of time prior to these events.

As was the case with previous Australian Teams there will be a Team Agreement which will set out the obligations of both the Team athletes/officials and the ACGA for the 2010 Australian Commonwealth Games Team. Membership of the Commonwealth Games Team (Athletes and Officials) will be conditional upon signing and complying with the terms of the Team Agreement. At present we believe that the Team Agreement will be similar in form and content to agreements used for past teams.

### **Please Note:**

- Team sponsorship period – This is commonly called the “black-out period” and is generally one month prior to the Games Opening Ceremony until one week following the Games Closing Ceremony or immediately following the last held Welcome Home function, whichever occurs last.

As presently planned, for the 2010 Games in Delhi, the Opening Ceremony is scheduled to be held on 3 October and the Closing Ceremony is scheduled for 14 October. During the “black-out period” Team members (Athletes and Officials) may not promote their personal sponsorships. The rationale behind this term of the Agreement is to protect the official Commonwealth Games Team sponsors.

- Athletes/Officials not to act as Journalists – The rules under which the Games are organized provide that accredited Team Athletes/Officials are to take part in the Games as athletes or officials. They are not authorized to act as journalists. Therefore Team Athletes/Officials are not permitted to undertake journalistic duties during the period they are subject to the Team Agreement, and should not enter into agreements with media companies/representatives for that period;

- Athletes/Officials not to bring ACGA or their Sport into disrepute – The Team Agreement prohibits members (Athletes/Officials) from bringing the Team or their sport into disrepute. This provision of the Agreement will operate from the moment an Athlete becomes a Team member, which may happen up to six months in advance of the Games. “Bringing the Team or the sport into disrepute” could involve matters that occurred prior to membership of the Team, such matters only becoming public knowledge following appointment to the Team.

Potential Team members should advise any current sponsor that may be affected by the sponsorship “black-out period” of the terms and effect of the Agreement. Likewise, potential future sponsors that could be affected by the sponsorship “black-out period” should be advised in the course of sponsorship negotiations.

As mentioned above we would be grateful if you could bring this letter to the attention of the potential 2010 Australian Commonwealth Games Team members in your sport.