



GoodSport NEWS

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SPORTS NEWS



Commonwealth Games 2022

SRI LANKA UP TO BIRMINGHAM CHALLENGE

Discounting the unhealthy recent vibes, there is encouraging news for the sports fraternity of our little island of splendour. The news is right now all is ready for the Lankan participation in the XXII Commonwealth Games scheduled to be held in Birmingham, England from 28 July to 8 August 2022.

Last week the former chief of staff General Dampath Fernando now attached to Meldtcorp Group of Companies took wing to Birmingham to attend a confab on the same and also make a first-hand assessment of the enormity of the 2022 task of being a part of the games proper in his -

designated capacity of chef-de-mission.

Unlike his previous experiences in other games in the same capacity, Gen. Fernando recons the Birmingham challenge is more meaningful. He explained "It was a different experience. In fact, I have taken part in other international competitions like the South Asian Games and the Asian Games in the capacity of chef-de-mission; the Birmingham experience looks more challenging.

"Generally the hosting nation organise this meeting well in advance, but because of this Covid situation they-

could not invite us to Birmingham and they conducted the meeting online. Nonetheless, it was very effective. We discussed many subjects in detail, but with that, the organising committee of the Commonwealth Games held this meeting - "Open Days" so we got the opportunity of seeing the location in person. I could say that the city of Birmingham is quite excited about the coming event. We noticed the preparations that were going on. At the same time, the meeting was meticulously planned and programmed. We had a good experience there.

From page 01

All the subjects pertaining to the organising of the Commonwealth Games will be held from 28 July to 8 August 2022.

Taking on the subject of the games having four major locations Gen Fernando explained – “This is how they have planned this programme for three days – the first session we started around 8 am to 11 am. All the heads and the members are responsible for various areas like sports entries, in terms of accreditation, Covid-19 protocols, venues and training facilities, accommodation and logistics also transportation is quite diversified.

There were presentations and sessions of Q and A; in fact, this meeting was attended by 90 delegates representing 54 countries and the meeting was held at the location where we were accommodated – Grand Hotel Birmingham.

After the Q & A session, we had the opportunity of visiting the various desks and meeting those people whom we have encountered and clarify our individual queries pertaining to our particular countries. Thereafter we were taken to visit the respective venues.



accommodate the larger number of athletes and officials.”

It is different to the Olympic Games or the Asian Games, where they have only one village. Here they do not have a “Village” per se, but they have three villages – Birmingham University, Warwick University and the CGB. In the midst, there is the CGW (University of Warwick), CGN (Which includes two large hotels -- Hotel Metropolitan, Birmingham and Moxy Hotel). CGN really is the key location in terms of competition and training venues. This location is close to two major competition venues where they would stage the majority of the disciplines.

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“On the first day, we visited Birmingham University, which is where they are going to -



From page 02

After the initial familiarisation programme, we got the opportunity of savouring the splendour of the main Alexander stadium where they are scheduled to have the opening and closing ceremonies. He added “Most of the venues – the training venues and the competition venues are up and running. However, the location for swimming is still under completion and it should be ready by July.”

GoodSport inquired about his impression of how the Lankan contingent would absorb themselves into this scenario?

“Having mingled with other delegates I came to know, that the contingents coming from smaller nations are quite minimal. I spoke to a few of the chef-de-missions countries representing akin Sri Lanka they said their contingents would be in the region of 25-40. Considering I am quite elated that our contingent is in the region of 115 athletes and a total tour squad of nearly 170; comparatively, it is quite a large representation.

“At the same time, we are going to take part in thirteen disciplines out of the thirty and we feel that is an opportunity that is bestowed upon us. We must thank the National Olympic Committee and the Ministry of Sports because in a situation of this nature that we are experiencing at present; taking a bold decision of this nature is commendable.

“I feel the exposure that our athletes would experience will be immeasurable. For the past two/ or three years, we have had hardly any sports internally because of the Covid-19 situation and that prevented us from taking part in many international competitions, other than the Olympics.

“Commonwealth Games which is well known for its diversity with the participation of 54 countries and the competitive challenge that it propagates is immense. Here there would be many athletes who have won medals at the Olympic Games and being on the same stage with them is an opportunity and a measuring tool.



At the same time, the national federations along with the coaches and the officials also good have a responsibility to do their best. Now it's only around a hundred days left for the competitions and they now have to gear themselves to live up to the challenge. In short, they have to be active and truly competitive while in Birmingham.”

GoodSport asked about the NOC SL take on it.

Gen Fernando replied “The NOC SL responsibility I say would be to handle the coordination. We are the backbone and the gatekeepers of this task are to coordinate between the host nation and us. During the three days in Birmingham, we accomplished a great deal. Myself and my Secretary-General Maxwell de Silva visited door-to-door talking to all respective groups and discussed all issues and concerns and we were able to accomplish more than 85% of them successfully.”



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මෙහි වැසි ඇද හැලීමෙන් අතරමග අත්හිටුවීමට සිදුවූ 100 වැනි ජාතික මලල ක්‍රීඩා ශූරතා තරගාවලියේදී නව ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තා තුනක් හා තවත් තරග වාර්තාවක් පිහිටුවනු ලැබිණ. මෙම තරගාවලිය දියගම මහින්ද රාජපක්ෂ පිටියේදී පැවැත්විණ.

මේ අතර ලාබාල ක්‍රීඩක ක්‍රීඩිකාවන් වෙතින් නව ජාතික කනිෂ්ඨ තරග වාර්තා දෙකක්ද බිහිවීම කැපී පෙනුණි.

මෙම නව ජාතික වාර්තා හා නව කනිෂ්ඨ වාර්තා තරගාවලිය පැවැති දෙවන දිනය තුළදී පමණක් වාර්තා විය.

වර්ෂාව දැඩි ලෙස පතිතවීමත් සමඟ දහවල් තරගාවලිය අත්හිටුවීමට තීරණය කළ ශ්‍රී ලංකා මලල ක්‍රීඩා සංගමය අත්හිටුවූ තැනේ සිට ඉතිරි තරග ඉසව් මෙම 23 වැනිදා මෙම ක්‍රීඩාංගණයේදීම පැවැත්වීමට තීරණය කළේය.

රිටි පැනීම (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වෙන් යුද හමුදා ක්‍රීඩිකා කොෂලයා පෙරේරා මාසයක් ඉක්මයාමට මත්තෙන් ඇය සතුටම තිබූ ජාතික වාර්තාව බිඳ දැමීමට සමත් වූයේ මීටර් 3.71ක දක්ෂතාවයක් පළ කරමිනි. ඇය පසුගිය මාර්තු 11 වැනිදා දියගමදී එහි නව ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තාව මීටර 3.70කට පිහිටුවූවාය. මෙවර ඇගේ දක්ෂතාව සෙත්ටිමීටරයකින් ඉහළ ගොස් තිබේ.

මේ අතර මීටර 3000 බාධක දිවීම (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වේ ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තාවට 2018 සිට හිමි කම් කියන නිලානි රත්නායක සෙනසුරාදා එහි ඉහළම දක්ෂතා අතරට පැමිණෙමින් නැවතත් ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තාව එහි අළුත් කළේ විනාඩි 9 තත්පර 40.24කටය.

එහි පැරණි වාර්තාව විනාඩි 9 තත්පර 46.76 කි. ගයන්තිකා අබේරත්න විනාඩි 2 තත්පර 01.44 කට සෙසු ශ්‍රී ලංකා නව වාර්තාව පිහිටුවූයේ මීටර 800 (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වෙනි.

මෙහි තවත් ප්‍රකට ජාතික ශූරියක් වන ඩිල්ෂි කුමාරසිංහ හරියටම මීට වසරකට පෙර (2021-4-09) විනාඩි 2 තත්පර 02.52 කට පිහිටුවා තිබූ මීටර 800 (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වේ එතෙක් පැවැති ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තාව ඒ සමග බිඳ වැටුණි.

වසර 2019 තත්පර 02.52 ක්‍රීඩා උළෙලේදී ඔවුන්ගේ අවසන් ජාත්‍යන්තර තරග සහභාගිත්වයේදී මෙම ඉසව්වේ රන් පදක්කම ඩිල්ෂි කුමාරසිංහ (විනාඩි 2 තත්පර 06.18) විසින්ද රිදී පදක්කම ගයන්තිකා අබේරත්න (විනාඩි 2 තත්පර 08.52) විසින්ද හිමිකර ගන්නා ලදී.

දුර පැනීමේ ක්‍රීඩිකා සාරංගි ද සිල්වා නව තරග වාර්තාවට හිමිකම් කීවේ මීටර 6.52 නව උස පැනීම (කාන්තා) ඉසව්ව ජය ගනිමිනි. ඒ ඇය විසින්ම මීටර 6.48 කට (2021) පිහිටුවා තිබූ එහි තරග වාර්තාව බිඳ දමමිනි. මෙහි ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තාව ඇය සතුවන්නේ මීටර 6.95 කටය.

නව ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තා පිහිටුවූ මෙම ක්‍රීඩිකාවන් සියලු දෙනාම මිළඟ ආසියානු ක්‍රීඩා උළෙලට පහසුවෙන් නිර්දේශ ලබා ගනු ඇතැයි මලල ක්‍රීඩා තේරීම් කමිටුව පවසයි. මීටර 800 (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වේ තෙවන ස්ථානයට පත් (විනාඩි 2 තත්පර 04 . 40) තරුෂි දියාරා කරුණාරත්න එහි ජාතික කනිෂ්ඨ නව වාර්තාවට හිමිකම් කීවාය. ඇය වලල රත්නායක මැදි විදුහලේ සිසුවියක් වන අතර මීටර 800 හා මීටර 400 යන කාන්තා ඉසව් දෙකෙන්ම කොළොම්බියාවේදී අගෝස්තු මාසයේදී පැවැත්වෙන ලෝක කනිෂ්ඨ ශූරතා තරගාවලියට නිර්දේශ ලබා සිටින්නියකි. මේ අතර මීටර 400- කඩුලු පැන දිවීම (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වේ රිදී පදක්කම (විනාඩි 1 තත්පර 00.23) මෙම ජාතික තරගාවලියේදී සතු කර ගත් මහනුවර උසස් බාලිකා විදුහලේ අමේෂා හෙට්ටිආරච්චි -

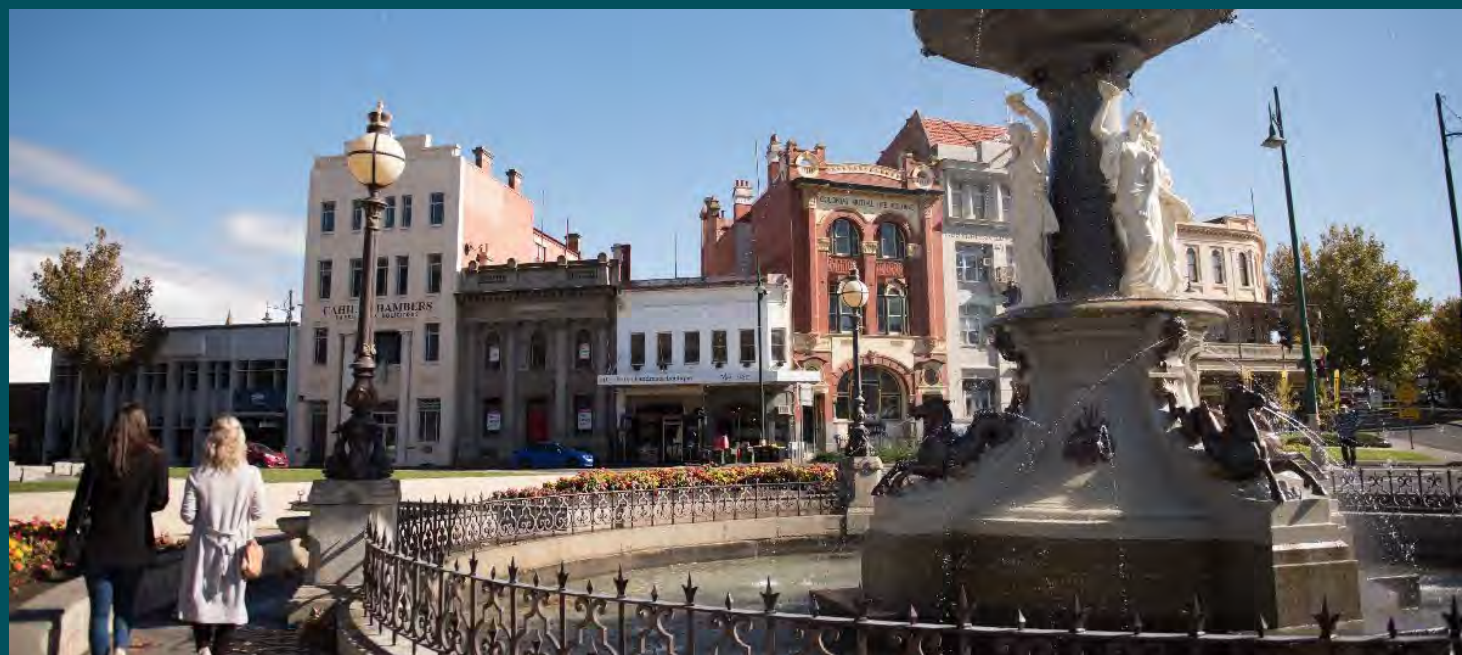
ඒ සමගම එහි ජාතික කනිෂ්ඨ වාර්තාවද තමන් සතුකර ගැනීමට සමත් වූවාය. මෙම ක්‍රීඩිකාවද මීට පෙරම එළඹෙන ලෝක කනිෂ්ඨ තරගාවලියට ශ්‍රී ලංකාවෙන් නිර්දේශ ලබා සිටින ක්‍රීඩිකාවකි.

මීටර 800 (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වේ ඩිල්ෂි කුමාරසිංහ සතුව 2018 ආසියානු කනිෂ්ඨ ශූරතා තරගාවලියේදී පිහිටුවා තිබූ (විනාඩි 02 තත්පර 04.84) පැරණි ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තාව පෙරේරා (9) තරුෂි බිඳ දැමීමට සමත්වීමත් සමඟ ඇය ආසියාවේ ශ්‍රේණිගත කිරීම් අනුව අංක එකටත් ලෝක ශ්‍රේණිගත කිරීම් අනුව අංක හතරටත් පැමිණීමට සමත් වූ බව ඇගේ පෞද්ගලික පුහුණුකරු සුසන්ත ප්‍රනාන්දු මහතා පවසයි.

ගත සංවත්සර ජාතික මලල ක්‍රීඩා ශූරතා තරගාවලිය අතරමග අත්හිටුවන විට තරග ඉසව්වලදී කැපී පෙනුණු සිදුවීම් වන්නේ එතෙක් වාර්තා වූ සියලු නව ශ්‍රී ලංකා වාර්තා ජාතික කනිෂ්ඨ වාර්තා හා තරග වාර්තා ක්‍රීඩිකාවන් වෙතින් පමණක් වාර්තා වී තිබීමයි.

[නාමය පවරණය] කෙළවර





CGF HAS CONFIRMED THAT 2026 COMMONWEALTH GAMES WILL BE HOSTED BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA IN AUSTRALIA

The announcement follows a successful exclusive dialogue period between the CGF, Commonwealth Games Australia (CGAus) and Victoria, where an exciting proposal to stage the major multi-sport competition across the State was agreed.

The proposal capitalises on the 2026/30 Strategic Roadmap, which provides renewed flexibility to be innovative and creative in delivering the Games.

In what will be a first ever predominantly regional Commonwealth Games, Victoria 2026 will be staged in March 2026 across multiple cities and regional hubs including Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and Gippsland. The Opening Ceremony will take place at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground. The approach will showcase the best of what the State has to offer and ensure a uniquely Victorian experience for the athletes and spectators.

There will be a phased approach in creating the sports programme for Victoria 2026.

An initial 16 sports have been put forward for the Games, with further sports to be added later this year.

The CGF, CGAus and Victoria entered an exclusive dialogue period in February 2022. A CGF and CGAus visit to Victoria took place later that month. This was followed by a Victoria 2026 delegation presenting their 2026 Games Proposal to the CGF Executive Board in Birmingham, England in March 2022.

The Proposal has now been approved by the CGF Executive Board, with the Host Contract to be signed in Victoria today.

CGF President Dame Louise Martin said: “The Commonwealth Games Federation is absolutely delighted to award the 2026 Commonwealth Games to Victoria.

Commonwealth Games Australia and the Victorian Government have set out a bold and innovative vision for hosting our major multi-sport event.

In Victoria, we believe we have found the perfect partner for the next stage of our journey.

This is a very special moment for the Commonwealth Sport Family and on behalf of the entire Movement, I would like to congratulate Commonwealth Games Australia and Victoria on their successful Games submission. We now look forward to a bright future as we work together to stage a Commonwealth Games like no other.”

Premier of Victoria Daniel Andrews said: “It’s a great honour to have Victoria chosen as the host venue for the 2026 Commonwealth Games – we can’t wait to welcome the world to all of our state.”

From page 05

“The Commonwealth Games in regional Victoria is great for jobs, hospitality and our economy.”

Australia has staged the Commonwealth Games on five occasions, with Victoria playing host to the Melbourne 2006 Games; widely considered one of the most successful editions of the event in history.

“The country has also staged the Games in Sydney in 1938, Perth in 1962, Brisbane in 1982 and most recently Gold Coast in 2018. Victoria has also hosted the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo in 2004.”

Commonwealth Games Australia President Ben Houston said:

“Commonwealth Games Australia is thrilled to welcome the athletes of the Commonwealth back to Australia and we look forward to working with both the CGF and the -

Victorian Government to bring the Games to life across Victoria in 2026.”

“A home Games will provide immeasurable benefits for our Member sports and will inspire our athletes in what will be a unique and exciting Games”.

The 2026 Games will be the 23rd edition of the major multi-sport competition, which first began in Hamilton, Canada in 1930.

Victoria is a world-leading major events and tourism destination. The State has a strong track record for staging high profile sporting competitions including The Australian Open tennis grand slam, the Melbourne Formula 1 Grand Prix and the Melbourne Cup.

Victoria also regularly hosts elite cricket, golf and Australian Rules Football competition.

“The country has also staged the Games in Sydney in 1938, Perth in 1962, Brisbane in 1982 and most recently Gold Coast in 2018. Victoria has also hosted the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo in 2004.”

The 2022 Commonwealth Games will be staged in Birmingham, England from 28 July – 8 August.

VICTORIA 2026: INITIAL 16 SPORTS ON THE PROGRAMME

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Proposed Location</i>
Aquatics (Swimming, Para Swimming and Diving)	Geelong
Athletics & Para Athletics	Ballarat
Badminton	Gippsland
Boxing	Ballarat
Beach Volleyball	Geelong
Cricket T20	Geelong, Gippsland, Ballarat, Bendigo
Cycling	Gippsland to Bendigo
Gymnastics	Geelong
Hockey	Geelong
Lawn Bowls & Para Lawn Bowls	Bendigo
Netball	Bendigo
Rugby Sevens	Gippsland
Squash	Bendigo
Table Tennis & Para Table Tennis	Geelong
Triathlon & Para Triathlon	Geelong
Weightlifting & Para Powerlifting	Bendigo