



# GoodSport NEWS

S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N



## Hangzhou 2022

### 19TH ASIAN GAMES FUN RUN

### “ASIAN GAMES FOR ALL”

The 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games Hangzhou 2022, Official Fun Run will be held on February 07<sup>th</sup> 2023 at the Colombo International Financial City (Port City) under the patronage of the Olympic Council of Asia Director General - Dr. Husain Al-Musallam and a host of dignitaries.

The Games will be held in Hangzhou, China from September 23, 2023 to October 8, 2023 under the motto of “Heart to Heart, @Future.”

Among the other dignitaries who will be a part of this gateway to the 2022 Asian Games will be

- Fun Run HAGOC Delegation,
- Mr. Wu Jianzhong - Deputy Director of Games Services Department,

- Mr. Ge Jianyang - Staff of Press & Public Relations Department,
- Mr. Bao Hanyuan - Staff of Games Services Department, and
- Delegates from the Olympic Council of Asia.

The National Olympic Committee will be represented by its President Suresh Subramaniam, Secretary General NOC SL, Maxwell de Silva along with the executive committee of the NOC SL.

To liven up this colourful pageant there will be a surfeit of sports and cultural activities involving over 700 persons. The highlight of the day's activity will be Jet Ski show and traditional Martial Art - Angampora -

Demonstration recited by the Army sports division.

The President of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka Suresh Subramaniam aired the importance of the Fun Run.

He said “the presence of the Olympic Council of Asia Director General - Dr. Husain Al-Musallam who is the main cog behind Asian Games 2022, signifies how serious they are about the success of the event.

“Besides that, there is a host of other Games Officials who will await eagerly to see the successful completion of this event and report back as to what Sri Lanka is capable of delivering.”

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“For us this is a momentous opportunity and we are taking it with both hands.”

Commenting on the significance of the event, NOC SL Secretary General Maxwell de Silva said “akin to the Olympic Day Run or the Commonwealth Games Baton relay or the Asian Games Fun Run is very significant.

“In reality the “Fun Run” is the flag-off of the event and the Lankan leg of the baton that will take place at the picturesque Port City, Colombo.”

The Olympic Council of Asia is stepping up its “Asian Games for All” promotional campaign right now.

A major part of this campaign is the Asian Games Fun Run, which is held throughout the continent and brings together elite athletes, social runners, students, children and sports officials.

The OCA is working closely with the National Olympic Committees in all five zones to create a Fun Run calendar in order to promote the upcoming-



*The Fun Run for Hangzhou 2022 in Shanghai*

Asian Games and involve all levels of the community in a family-oriented activity.

To this end, the OCA has released a schedule for February and March taking in two of the five zones: South Asia and South East Asia.

The programme is still being assembled for the three remaining zones - West Asia, Central Asia and East Asia - in conjunction with the NOCs and will be released shortly.


Here is the Asian Games Fun Run calendar for February and March:

1. Maldives 4 FEB,
- 2. Sri Lanka 7 FEB,**
3. Bhutan 14 FEB,
4. Qatar 14 FEB,
5. Nepal 17 FEB,
6. Pakistan 20 FEB.
7. Singapore 24/25 FEB,
8. Timor-Leste 28 FEB,
9. Philippines 2 MAR,
10. Laos 4 March,
11. Vietnam 8 MAR and
12. Brunei 12 MAR.



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*The programme for the Lankan leg of the event will be as follows*

	
19th Asian Games 2023, Official Fun Run	
7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 at Colombo International Finance City (Port City)	
2.30 pm	Arrival of the school children
3.00 pm	Arrival of the Athletes
3.55 pm	Arrival of the VVIP, VIP and Other Invitees
4.00 pm	<b>Start of 19th Asian Games "FUN RUN" Parade</b>
	<b>Commencement of the Opening Ceremony</b>
4.30 pm	Playing National Anthem
4.35 pm	Welcome Address by Mr. Suresh Subramaniam, President of NOC Sri Lanka
4.40 pm	Introduction on Fun Run by a VIP delegate from OCA/Games Organizing Committee
4.45 pm	Playing Fun Run promotional video
4.55 pm	Cultural Dancing performance
	<b>Start of Outdoor Activities</b>
5.00 pm	Start of the Fun Run
5.30 pm	Display of Jet Ski Show
	Sailing Demonstration
5.45 pm	Q & A Session for school children
6.00 pm	Taekwondo Demonstration by Sri Lanka Taekwondo Federation
6.15 pm	Modern Pentathlon Game for School Children
6.30 pm	Volleyball Demonstration by Sri Lanka Volleyball Federation
6.35 pm	Dancing Performance
6.40 pm	Traditional Angampora Demonstration by Sri Lanka Army
	<b>Closing Ceremony</b>
7.00 pm	Address by the Chief Guest HE Qi Zhenhong, Ambassador of People's Republic of China
7.05 pm	Token Presentation of Certificates & Gifts for winners of Q & A Session
7.10 pm	Dancing Performance
7.15 pm	Donation of Sports Equipment for Schools
7.20 pm	Donation of school library books
7.25 pm	Token of Appreciation - Presentation of Plaques
7.30 pm	Vote of Thanks by Mr. Maxwell de Silva, Secretary General, NOC Sri Lanka

# SECOND OFFENCE, SPRINTER HIMASHA GETS ANOTHER TWO YEARS ADDED TO HIS ORIGINAL FOUR



Sri Lankan sprint ace Himasha Eshan is in further duress as the National Anti-Doping Appeals Committee has decided to extend the ban on him.

The former South Asian record holder in the 100 m event and Sri Lankan sprint champion, given another two years' addition to his original ban of four years duty to multiple violations.

Dr. Seevali Jayawickrema, the Director General of SLADA, explaining the issue to GoodSport said, "Originally the disciplinary committee imposed a ban of 4-years on sprinter Himasha Eshan for the usage of a banned steroid.

In a random test conducted by the Anti-Doping Agency on 26 October 2021, it was confirmed that Himasha had used a prohibited drug. Accordingly, on 3 June 2022, the disciplinary committee found him guilty of violating anti-doping laws and imposed a four-year ban on him from 26 October 2021 to 25 October 2025.

An appeal submitted by the aggrieved party against the ban was heard on 3 November 2022, according to which Himasha was found to be guilty once again.

As a result, the ban imposed for four years has been extended until 25 October 2027, during which time Himasha is prohibited from taking part in sports-related activities or training.

Himasha, who won the gold medal in the 100 m event at the South Asian Games in 2016, was also the national champion in the 100 m and 200 m events in Sri Lanka for many years.

"On that occasion the disciplinary imposed a one-year ban on Eshan and later reduced it 6 months.

"Now as this is the second breach of the same offence, we at SLADA made a complaint with the Appeals Committee under WADA code 10.9.

"After studying the appeal, the two-year ban increased to 6 years. In some cases, the second offence tantamount to a life-ban in some countries."

Meanwhile the National Olympic Committee also takes a very dim view on doping bans.

Any athlete who is booked for a ban by SLADA automatically is stuck off the list of monetary assistance.

Besides, the banned athletes will not be eligible for any scholarships which are awarded by the International Olympic Committee.

# SOUTH KOREAN NOC WANTS OCA CLARIFICATION OVER RUSSIAN INVOLVEMENT AT ASIAN GAMES



대한체육회

Korean Sport & Olympic Committee

The Korea Sport and Olympic Committee (KSOC) is calling on the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) for more clarification over the potential participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes at this year's Asian Games in Hangzhou.

According to South Korean news agency Yonhap, the KSOC intends to submit a letter to the OCA to find out how the Games will be run with the involvement of athletes from the two nations.

The OCA has confirmed its readiness to welcome Russian and Belarusian competitors after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) opened the door for their return under "strict conditions" of neutrality.

Athletes from Russia and Belarus have been largely frozen out of international sport in response to the invasion of Ukraine but are now being offered a possible avenue to Paris 2024 via OCA competitions.

Among those events include this year's delayed Asian Games, scheduled to take place from September 23 until October 8.

OCA Acting President Randhir Singh has revealed that a system is being devised to

enable Russian and Belarusian athletes to fight for qualification spots at next year's Olympic Games but has promised that competitors from Asia will not miss out on medals and quota places for Paris 2024.

The KSOC has told Yonhap that there has been no consultation from the OCA over the participation of athletes from Russia and Belarus and is demanding answers from the continental body.

"With Russian and Belarusian athletes participating, operating knockout events at the Asian Games can pose some problems," said an official from the KSOC.

"We will ask the OCA how it will handle those situations, and also in what sports Russian and Belarusian athletes will compete at the Asian Games."

Singh has suggested that separate medals could be awarded to athletes from Asian nations should Russian and Belarusian competitors deny them a place on the podium.

The Indian official also said that they will not be able to participate in combat sports, like wrestling, at the Asian Games.

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Ukraine has slammed the IOC's decision to further explore a pathway for Russian and Belarusian athletes and threatened to boycott Paris 2024.

Norway, Poland, Estonia and Latvia are among the other European nations that are opposed to the move.

Singh said the reason why the OCA has offered to give athletes from Russia and Belarus the chance to compete at its event was based on the "principle that sport is a unifying power".

"Sport is not a place for politics," Singh told the Indian Express.

"Sports are for sports people; for love, friendship and brotherhood.

"Sports people are one family.

"On that basis, we are supporting them."

South Korea is ranked third in the all-time Asian Games medals table and finished in the top three at Jakarta-Palembang 2018 with 177 medals including 49 golds.

[insidethegames.biz](http://insidethegames.biz)

# UKRAINE COULD BOYCOTT PARIS OLYMPICS IF RUSSIAN ATHLETES TAKE PART



Ukraine's sports minister warned on Thursday his country could boycott the 2024 Paris Olympics if Russian and Belarusian athletes are allowed to take part.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) said it was seeking a "pathway" for Russians to take part in the Games despite the invasion of Ukraine.

international competitions," Goutzeit wrote on Facebook.

"If we are not heard, I do not exclude the possibility that we will boycott and refuse to participate in the Olympics."

Russia and its ally Belarus have been sidelined from most Olympic sports since Russian forces invaded Ukraine last February.

Ukraine's sports minister Vadym Goutzeit said such a move was "unacceptable".

"Our position remains unchanged -- as long as the war continues in Ukraine, Russian and Belarusian athletes should not be in international

Ignoring calls from Ukraine to ban Russian and Belarusian athletes from next year's summer Olympics, the IOC said that a way to allow competitors from those countries to take part as neutrals should be "further explored".

The IOC said "no athlete should be prevented from competing just because of their passport".

Following that announcement, the Olympic Council of Asia on Thursday offered athletes from both countries the chance to compete in this year's Asian Games.

That is a significant move because they could gain qualifying marks in competition in Asia to allow them to compete in Paris.

**'Not reality of war'**

The IOC's stance was strongly criticised by Britain and Denmark.

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Britain, which has supplied military and humanitarian support to Ukraine since the invasion began, said the IOC's move was a "world away from the reality of war".

Britain's Culture Secretary Michelle Donelan said: "We condemn any action that allows President Putin to legitimise his illegal war in Ukraine.

"This position from the IOC is a world away from the reality of war being felt by the Ukrainian people -- and IOC president (Thomas) Bach's own words less than a year ago where he strongly condemned Russia for breaking the Olympic Truce and urged it to 'give peace a chance'," she added.

The head of Denmark's National Olympic Committee said his country was also strongly opposed to Russia returning to the Olympic fold.

"The Russian aggression in UKR is escalating," Hans Natorp tweeted.

"Under these circumstances, it will be unacceptable to open up for RUS and Belarusian international sports participation.

"We stand firmly in our position. Now is not the right time to consider their return."

The mayor of Paris said however she was in favour of Russian athletes competing at the 2024 Games, providing they did so as neutrals.

"I think that it's a sporting moment and we shouldn't deprive athletes of the competition," Anne Hidalgo told France 2 television.

"But I think and what I'm arguing for, as is a large part of the sporting world, is that there isn't a delegation under the Russian banner."

She suggested they compete under a "neutral banner".

Paris organisers have no say on the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes.

The IOC said that the international federation for each Olympic sport was "the sole authority for its international competitions"

*Courtesy - Paris (AFP)*

