



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

SPORTS NEWS

Woven into a tapestry of visions, cultures and ambitions



Queen's Baton relay is on its way

Paralympic gold medallist Kadeena Cox was given the honour of being the first batonbearer

The Queen's Baton for the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay champions the individuality in humanity and celebrates bringing people together.

It embodies the idea that every individual has distinctive live experiences that are threaded together and woven into a collective tapestry of visions, cultures and ambitions.

The Baton form is entwined with unique components and displays connectivity to represent the power of collaboration.

On 7 October 2021, at a special event at Buckingham Palace, Her Majesty The Queen placed her message to the Commonwealth into the Baton, signifying the start of a 294-day Relay through the 72 nations and territories of the Commonwealth.

The Baton will inspire people of the Commonwealth to come together and host moments of celebration ahead of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. The Lankan leg of the QBR is scheduled to take place in Sri Lanka on January 3 and January 6 where it embarks from the -

Maldives and takes flight to Bangladesh on its way towards its final destination.

The Baton journey which started off its epic journey from London with the Commonwealth Message of her Majesty the Queen emplaned at the Birmingham Airport on 8th October made its first overseas stop in Cyprus. Then the Baton moved to the African Continent via Malta to Nigeria and was in Tanzania on 13 November and on 17 November in Malawi and on 20th in Zambia to Mozambique on 23rd.

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13/11/2021 - 14/11/2021
United Republic of Tanzania

From Mozambique, the Baton will cross the seas to Mauritius Islands before returning to the African mainland before making its presence in Asia.

The Baton enter Asia in Pakistan in Kashmir and after three days in Pakistan from December 27, 2020, and the Baton will spend New Year's Day in the Maldives, before visiting Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and spending four days in India between 12-15 January 2022.



17/11/2021 - 18/11/2021
Malawi

Though the final festivity list is still in its early stages, for sure the Lankan leg of its organisation is now embroiled in a hectic festivity plan that would befit the values and ambitions of its organisers.

The 16th official Queen's Baton Relay is an epic journey across the Commonwealth, -

with The Queen's Baton visiting all 72 nations and territories, reaching Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania, the Caribbean and the Americas.



20/11/2021 - 21/11/2021
Zambia

The international route spans an impressive 269 days, spending between two and four days in each nation or territory, covering approximately 90,000 miles (140,000 kilometres), with over 7,500 Baton bearers trusted with the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to carry the Baton in their community.

The Baton has been specially created by designers and technologists from the West Midlands in a unique collaboration that fuses science, technology, engineering and art.



23/11/2021 - 24/11/2021
Mozambique

Queen's message compartment

A mechanised chamber beneath the brass leaf plaque will hold -

a message from The Queen, to be opened at the Birmingham 2022 opening ceremony.

360- Camera

Fitted with a 360-degree camera, the Baton has 'eyes', and a 'brain' which record and transmit imagery and digital information, allowing stories from Commonwealth communities to be told.



23/11/2021 - 24/11/2021
Mozambique

Copper, Aluminium and Brass

Elements of the Baton have been cast in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter using accessible metals of copper, aluminium and brass.

Platinum strand

Lining the length of the curved shape and woven throughout the Baton is a platinum strand, paying homage to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, in her Platinum Jubilee year.

Led Components

The Baton features LED lighting and a heart rate sensor that display the heartbeats of Baton bearers. The lighting also changes when two people grip the Baton during handover.

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27/12/2021 - 29/12/2021
Pakistan

Sensors

The Baton also has 'lungs', consisting of atmospheric sensors with laser technology that analyses the environmental conditions wherever it is in the world.

The shape of the Baton moves away from the traditional shape seen in previous editions of The Queen's Baton.

With Birmingham 2022 making history by being the first major multi-sport event to award more medals to women than men, the strength and fortitude of women across the Commonwealth is celebrated throughout the design of the Baton.



01/01/2022 - 02/01/2022
Maldives

The second Virtual Olympic Solidarity Sport Administrators Course for the year 2021 concluded

National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka successfully conducted its second Virtual Olympic Solidarity Sport Administrators Course (VOSSAC) via Zoom from 5 to 8 November 2021.

Forty-five candidates representing various sport organizations applied for the VOSSAC and 30 got selected to follow the course.

All the registered candidates were interviewed individually one week prior to the course and it was also conducted virtually.

The selected participants are from diverse sporting backgrounds such as Squash, Rugby, Rowing, Badminton, University academics, sport administration officials from tri-forces and sports clubs.

Apart from the above, regional interest was noted with one of the Executive Committee members from the NOC Mongolia - Mr. Amarsanaa's presence as a guest participant.

He commented at the end of the course that NOC Mongolia needs NOC Sri Lanka's assistance to conduct this course in Mongolia. All selected participants were online throughout the course over four days.

The session included lectures, group discussions, presentations, and knowledge checkpoints via Google Forms.

The sessions were conducted by the National Course Directors of NOC Sri Lanka - Mr. B.L.H. Perera, Group Capt. Nalin de Silva, and Ms. Oliviya Gamage; Maj. Gen. Dampath Fernando and Mr. Gobinath Sivarajah.

The third and final course for the year shall be conducted on 4, 5, 11, and 12, December 2021. You may find more information via www.olympic.lk/nocnews/301 to apply.



Third Virtual Olympic Solidarity Sport Administrators Course - 2021



✓ Are you a

- Sport Administrator
- Lecturer in Sport Science / Management
- Instructor in Physical Education

✓ Are you good in

- Using computers
- English
- Sports background
- Facility of using internet and disturbance free environment

✓ Course Fee: LKR. 20,000.00

Tel: +94-11-268-4420

Email: natolcom@slt.lkWeb: www.olympic.lk

✓ How to apply

- Duly filled Application
- Detailed CV
- Recommendation letter from your sport org.
- All documents should be reached to natolcom@slt.lk

Apply before
November 20,
2021

Dates: 04, 05, 11, & 12 December 2021

Where: Online [Zoom]



Birmingham 2022 unveils Netball and Cricket T20 match schedules

The first matches for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games have been announced, as the organisers of the Games have revealed the schedules for the women's cricket T20 and for the netball competition at the event.

The women's cricket T20 competition will be held at the Edgbaston Stadium from the 29 July, with the bronze and gold medal matches taking place on 7 August. The first match on the schedule will see Australia take on India in the early session, with Pakistan playing Barbados, who were recently confirmed as the team from the West Indies that will take part in the Commonwealth Games. The host nation team for the Games, Team England, will be in action for the first time on 30 July, when they will take on the winner of a qualifying tournament which is due to take place at the start of 2022.

They will then play South Africa in the early session on 2 August, followed by a third match against New Zealand in the evening session on Thursday 4 August. Other highlights on the schedule include India against Pakistan on 31 July and Australia will also take on Pakistan on 3 August. 7 out of 8 qualifiers for the cricket T20 competition were announced back in April with the final team set to be finalised at the end of January 2022. Last month the first six qualifiers for the netball competition, which will be held at the NEC Arena, were announced, with the final six set to be confirmed early in 2022.


The netball matches will also begin on Friday 29 July, one day after the opening ceremony for the Games, the largest multi-sport event to be held in the UK for a decade and the biggest ever event to be held in the West Midlands region.

Team England, the reigning Commonwealth Champions, and the host team for the tournament, will be first on court in the early session on 29 July, taking on one of the sides that will be announced next year. The following day they will play Malawi and they will also have games on the 1 August and 2 August, with their final group match set to be a showdown with New Zealand on 4 August. Other netball matches that have been revealed so far include Jamaica against South Africa in the evening session on 30 July, Australia against South Africa in the morning session on 1 August and -


New Zealand against Malawi in the evening session of the same day. Australia against Jamaica will be the match in the morning session on 4 August – the first of three netball sessions to be held on that day.

The announcement of the match schedules for the two team sports comes just a few weeks before tickets for Birmingham 2022 are expected to go on general sale. Matt Kidson, Director of Sport for Birmingham 2022, said: "Not surprisingly we have already sold thousands of tickets for both the netball and cricket T20 sessions through our ticket ballots, but we know that some fans have been waiting to find out the details of the match schedules before choosing which sessions they want to attend, so we're expecting these sports to sell quickly, when ticket sales go live.

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CRICKET T20 MATCH SCHEDULE



GROUP A

FRIDAY 29 JULY 11:00 - 14:30
AUSTRALIA V INDIA
FRIDAY 29 JULY 18:00 - 21:30
PAKISTAN V BARBADOS
SUNDAY 31 JULY 11:00 - 14:30
INDIA V PAKISTAN
SUNDAY 31 JULY 18:00 - 21:30
BARBADOS V AUSTRALIA
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 11:00 - 14:30
AUSTRALIA V PAKISTAN
WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 18:00 - 21:30
INDIA V BARBADOS

SEMI-FINAL 1*

SATURDAY 6 AUGUST | 11:00 - 14:30

SEMI-FINAL 2*

SATURDAY 6 AUGUST | 18:00 - 21:30

FINAL

SUNDAY 7 AUGUST | 17:00 START

WINNER OF SEMI-FINAL 1 V WINNER OF SEMI-FINAL 2

BRONZE MEDAL MATCH

SUNDAY 7 AUGUST | 10:00 START

SEMI-FINAL 1 RUNNER-UP V SEMI-FINAL 2 RUNNER-UP

GROUP B

SATURDAY 30 JULY 11:00 - 14:30
NEW ZEALAND V SOUTH AFRICA
SATURDAY 30 JULY 18:00 - 21:30
ENGLAND V CWGQ
TUESDAY 2 AUGUST 11:00 - 14:30
ENGLAND V SOUTH AFRICA
TUESDAY 2 AUGUST 18:00 - 21:30
CWGQ V NEW ZEALAND
THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 11:00 - 14:30
SOUTH AFRICA V CWGQ
THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 18:00 - 21:30
ENGLAND V NEW ZEALAND

#B2022

CWGQ - Commonwealth Games Qualifier, will not be finalised until February 2022.
*The order of the semi-final matches will be determined upon completion of group matches.

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“If there are netball and cricket fans who haven’t yet set up their ticketing account, then now would be a great time to do so, as tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis, once the general sale begins.” Birmingham 2022 will be the first time that cricket T20 has been included in the Games and it is also the first time that women’s cricket has been on the sports programme at any Commonwealth Games, with men’s 50 overs cricket included in the 1998 edition which was held in Kuala Lumpur. Team England are the defending champions in netball and Ama Agbeze, who is now a Birmingham 2022 board member, was captain of the team when they won gold in dramatic circumstances on the Gold Coast.

Ama said: “The gold medal match at Gold Coast 2018 was one of the greatest experiences of my life and we can expect more drama at Birmingham 2022. It has been a tough couple of years with many international netball matches having to be postponed or cancelled, so I know that all of the teams will be looking forward to the Commonwealth Games and a chance to renew -

their rivalry.

“With the final of both of netball and women’s cricket T20 being staged on Sunday 7 August and with the women’s hockey tournament medal matches on that day too, it will truly be a super Sunday for women’s team sport and I can’t wait to witness it.” Commonwealth Games Federation Sport Director Ann-Louise Morgan said: “It is a special milestone to be unveiling the first matches for Birmingham 2022.

“There is no doubt that the cricket T20 and netball competitions will showcase the very best of Commonwealth Sport as well as women’s sport. We have been delighted to see such huge interest in tickets for both of these sports, but we are pleased that there are still opportunities for cricket and netball fans to attend the Games in person. Now is the time to ensure you set up a Birmingham 2022 ticketing account ahead of general sale in the coming weeks.”

ICC Acting Chief Executive Geoff Allardice said: “We have seen tremendous growth of the women’s game over the past few years and the Commonwealth Games will undoubtedly be another major moment on that journey.

“Today’s announcement of the match schedule gives fans lots to look forward to, not least with the opening game between ICC Women’s T20 World Cup 2020 finalists Australia and India and we know that Edgbaston will provide a great stage for the competition. “On behalf of the ICC and our Members, I would like to thank the Commonwealth Games Federation for all the support and look forward to some exciting cricket in Birmingham 2022.”

World Netball President, Liz Nicholl CBE said: “With the hosts England confirmed to be part of the opening match at this very special multi-sport event, the athletes and their supporters will await with excitement the announcement of the remaining six qualifiers for Birmingham 2022, to see who the hosts will face. World Netball will continue to work with the Commonwealth Games Federation, Commonwealth Games Associations and Birmingham 2022 on the announcement of the remaining teams.

“Thank you to all our Netball Family who have already purchased tickets to support our athletes and their nations in Birmingham, I look forward to joining you all at the NEC Arena for what is sure to be an exciting event to showcase our sport as we continue to grow, to play and to inspire.”

The final six netball teams that will compete at Birmingham 2022 and the final qualifier for the women’s cricket T20 tournament will be confirmed at the end of January 2022. To find out more about Birmingham 2022, create your ticket account or see the full competition schedule for all 286 sessions of sport, go to birmingham2022.com

NETBALL MATCH SCHEDULE

GROUP A

FRIDAY 29 JULY	SATURDAY 30 JULY	SUNDAY 31 JULY	MONDAY 1 AUGUST	TUESDAY 2 AUGUST
12:00 - 15:30 ENGLAND V B5 AUSTRALIA V A6	12:00 - 15:30 AUSTRALIA V A4 ENGLAND V MALAWI	12:00 - 15:30 MALAWI V B6 SOUTH AFRICA V A6	12:00 - 15:30 AUSTRALIA V SOUTH AFRICA JAMAICA V A6	12:00 - 15:30 AUSTRALIA V A5 JAMAICA V A4
18:00 - 21:30 JAMAICA V A5 NEW ZEALAND V B6	18:00 - 21:30 JAMAICA V SOUTH AFRICA NEW ZEALAND V B4	18:00 - 21:30 A4 V A5 B4 V B5	18:00 - 21:30 ENGLAND V B6 NEW ZEALAND V MALAWI	18:00 - 21:30 ENGLAND V B4 NEW ZEALAND V B5

GROUP B

WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST	THURSDAY 4 AUGUST	FRIDAY 5 AUGUST	SEMI-FINAL 1*	BRONZE MEDAL MATCH
12:00 - 15:30 SOUTH AFRICA V A5 B4 V B6	09:00 - 12:30 AUSTRALIA V JAMAICA A5 V A6	09:00 - 13:00 CL 1 (11 V 12) CL 2 (9 V 10)	SATURDAY 6 AUGUST 09:00 - 11:00	SUNDAY 7 AUGUST 13:30 - 15:30
18:00 - 21:30 A4 V A6 MALAWI V B5	14:00 - 17:30 B5 V B6 MALAWI V B4	14:30 - 18:30 CL 3 (7 V 8) CL 4 (5 V 6)	SATURDAY 6 AUGUST 14:30 - 16:30	FINAL SUNDAY 7 AUGUST 20:30 - 22:30
	19:00 - 22:30 SOUTH AFRICA V A4 NEW ZEALAND V ENGLAND			

#B2022 Teams ranked 7-12 in the World Netball rankings on 31 January 2022 will be invited to participate in the games and fill the remaining 6 team slots. *The order of the semi-final matches will be determined upon completion of group matches.

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Safe Sport Webinar conducted

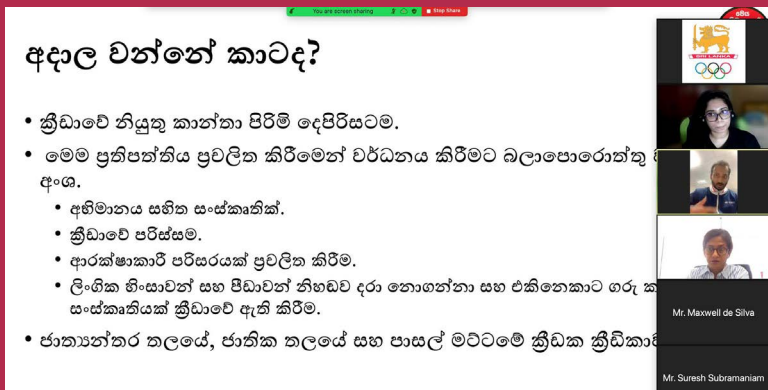
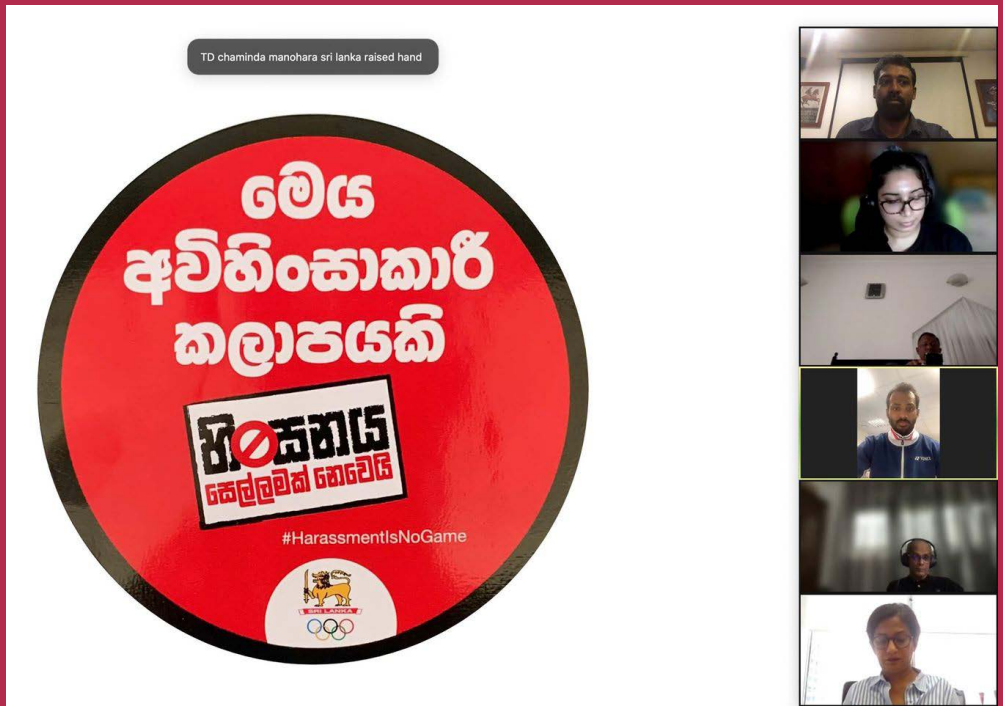
Women's Committee and Athletes' Commission of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka jointly conducted a webinar on "Make Sports a Safe Zone" on November 8, 2021. The webinar was conducted in Sinhala medium for the athletes.

150 plus athletes and sport administrators took part in the webinar. Mr. Suresh Subramaniam - President of NOC Sri Lanka, Mr. Maxwell de Silva - Secretary General of NOC Sri Lanka, Ms. Niloo Jayatilake - Chairperson of Women's Committee, Dr. Nihal de Silva OLY - Member of Compliance Committee, Mr. Niluka Karunaratne OLY - Chairman of Athletes' Commission and Ms. Reshika Udugampola OLY - Secretary of Athletes' Commission were the panelists of the webinar.

Before the panel discussion, Niluka presented on Make Sports a Safe Zone and shared his personal experience as well. At the end of the session, participants were allowed for an open discussion and some of the sport administrators shared their past experiences and highlighted the importance of the policy implementation. Moreover, Mr. Jayalal from Sri Lanka Schools Athletics Association too took part in the programme and

emphasized the importance of educating the school children in this aspect.

The women's committee of NOC Sri Lanka had developed a safe sport policy last year and did a campaign too during the pandemic time. As the continuation of the programme, this webinar was organized and the next webinar in Tamil medium shall be organized in the earlier part of 2022.



Sri Lankan NOC President meets with France and Kosovo to strengthen diplomatic relations

Suresh Subramaniam, the President of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka, met with his French and Kosovan counterparts to strengthen cooperation between the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) on visits to both countries.

The Olympic Committee of Kosovo's (KOK) President Ismet Krasniqi and secretary general Besim Aliti hosted Subramaniam at the KOK's headquarters in Pristina.

The pair thanked Subramaniam and expressed their commitment to bolstering the diplomatic relations between Kosovo and Sri Lanka's NOCs.

The pair already share a good relationship as Kosovo hosted a Sri Lankan judo team to aid in their preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Subramaniam congratulated the Kosovo Olympic Committee on the two gold medals, both in judo, won in Tokyo and said it was evidence of the hard work and dedication of its athletes. At the end of the meeting, gifts were exchanged between the two Presidents. A similar meeting then took place in Paris as Subramaniam was hosted by the French National Olympic and Sports Committee's President Brigitte Henriques and secretary general Didier Seminet.

Sri Lanka was represented by nine athletes across seven sports at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and nine at the Paralympics.

The country did not win a single medal at the Olympics with Yupun Abeykoon its best performer after placing sixth in the men's 100 metres quarter-final.

The country fared better in the Paralympics as Dinesh Priyantha Herath won Sri Lanka's first ever gold medal at the event in the men's javelin throw F46 while Dulan Kodithuwakku took bronze in the men's javelin throw F64.



The President of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka, right, was hosted in France by Brigitte Henriques, centre, and Didier Seminet ©Sri Lanka NOC