

Isle of Man Commonwealth Youth Games 2011 Miniature Sheet

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The Isle of Man Post Office is pleased to present a miniature sheet of stamps featuring the official CYG 2011 logo, and the Games mascot 'Tosha' to celebrate the fourth Commonwealth Youth Games which take place on the Isle of Man from the 7th – 13th September 2011.

The first Commonwealth Youth Games were held in Edinburgh, Scotland in August 2000; since then Bendigo, Australia 2004 and Pune, India 2008 have also hosted the Games. A decision was taken by the Commonwealth Games Federation at their General Assembly in 2005 to award the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games to the Isle of Man. Preparations started immediately and now as we get ever closer the excitement is building and we are eager to give a warm Manx welcome to competitors, officials and guests from many of the Commonwealth nations.

All competitors in the Commonwealth Youth Games are between the ages of 13 and 18 years old and a maximum number of 1000 athletes are invited to participate in seven sporting events; athletics, badminton, boxing, cycling, gymnastics, rugby 7's and swimming.

Geoff Karran MBE, Games Director said, "After 6 years of planning we are now very excited that the Games are only days away and we hope to put on an event that the Isle of Man will be proud of and one that will be remembered fondly by our friends from the Commonwealth. All venues are in place and ready for the start of the Games on the 7th September. The all new Bowl Stadium will be the venue for the Opening Ceremony which promises to be an exciting and memorable event with a 20 minute entertainment section co-ordinated by Walk the Plank and featuring many of the Island's young artists.

The volunteer response from the Manx public has been excellent and highlights the great importance the Manx community place on encouraging young people to take up sport and recreation in order to gain a sense of personal well being and competitive spirit.


The business community of the Island have also played their part in bringing the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games to fruition and Mr Karran added, "I would also like to give a big thank you to the Isle of Man Government, the Games Partners and sponsors whose continued support has helped us tremendously in putting on these Games."

The Hon. Michael Fennell OJ., CD, President of the Commonwealth Games Federation said:


"This will be the fourth edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games and its popularity amongst competing countries continues to grow. I am sure that visiting athletes and officials will have a memorable time in the Isle of Man thanks to the work and support of both the Isle of Man Government and the Manx population. The opportunities that flow from hosting this event, including volunteering, will ensure that sport continues to be an important part of life on the Island providing a legacy for local communities and visiting nations & territories in the years to come."

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“The high quality competition that will be on display, the uniqueness of the venues and the athlete’s village will only add to the development of some of the finest athletes in the world as they look ahead to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and beyond. The significance of the Commonwealth Youth Games in the development of today’s talent should not be underestimated. Back in 2004 in Bendigo, Australia we saw the likes of Jessica Ennis and Beth Tweddle compete and then go on to become world champions in their respective sports of athletics and gymnastics.”

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