Statement

News Access Rules pertaining to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC) is committed to ensuring the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) is accessible to all Australians and leaves a lasting positive legacy.

This means that for anyone who cannot attend GC2018 they can access coverage of GC2018 through a variety of media outlets and platforms.

GOLDOC anticipates it will accredit approximately 1,500 news media gathering organisation representatives and approximately 2,000 rights holders and support staff.

GOLDOC remains committed to freely accrediting bona fide media organisations who wish to cover GC2018.

Commercial broadcast rights arrangements have long been pivotal to the financial sustainability of major international sporting events.

In accordance with the obligations of Host City Contract with the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), only those organisations (Rights Holding Broadcasters or RHBs) that have purchased the commercial rights have the right to broadcast video and audio content of GC2018. This is consistent with all recent Commonwealth Games as well as other major international sporting events (including the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games).

The Australian broadcast rights for GC2018 were sold by the CGF to Channel Seven in 2014. Additionally, the CGF has sold broadcast rights in other regions of the Commonwealth over the past few years. All rights-holding broadcasters are subject to news access rules specific to their territory. Any changes to video and audio content access by other media organisations outside the News Access Rules is required to be negotiated with the rights holder.

The News Access Rules apply to video and audio content generated within GC2018 venues. They provide little restriction on written and photographic coverage and no restriction on video or audio content outside of venues. The in-venue Rules do, however, permit media organisations to use agreed amounts of video and audio content on their platforms.

The CGF and GOLDOC are continuing to identify opportunities for accredited media organisations to maximise their coverage by identifying a range of content opportunities, including the provision of enhanced event coverage and access to athletes and officials.

While GOLDOC is not in a position to negotiate further on broadcast rights, we hope that for the benefit of GC2018 all media outlets will seek accreditation and share the once-in-a-lifetime moments that only an event of this size can bring.