



MEDIA RELEASE

16th April 2021

One year to go before the Australian Deaf Games in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie begins

Today marks the One Year To Go milestone for the 2022 Australian Deaf Games to be staged in the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie area.

From the 16th – 23rd April 2022, the region will welcome over 1000 athletes from across the country to compete in 16 medal and 4 demonstration sports. The aim of the Australian Deaf Games is to provide a four yearly event that brings together Deaf and hard of hearing Australians in a multi-sport environment that enables all participants opportunities to compete to whatever level they aspire.

Both City of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie City Councils jointly support and contribute towards this national major event. This event will coincide with the Easter long weekend and over 1200 deaf and hard of hearing people from all over Australia will attend this event.

Deaf Sports Australia and the Games Organising Committee would like to thank the following for their great support and commitment for the Games:

- Destination NSW / NSW Government
- City of Newcastle and City of Lake Macquarie

DSA and the Games Organising Committee are pleased and proud to announce today that the following organisations have committed to the event:

- Principal Games Sponsor - Deaf Society / Deaf Services
- Principal Venue Sponsor - Wests Group Australia
- Captioning Partner – Ai-Media TV
- Medal Presentation Support Sponsor - BioRevive
- Support Sponsor - Hearing Australia

These are in addition to the already announced supporting organisations:

- SWS Lawyers (Honorary Legal Advisors and corporate partner of the Games)
- Sanitarium (product support sponsor)

The Hon. Stuart Ayres, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney said “the NSW Government was proud to support the 2022 Australian Deaf Games.”





“The 2022 Games will provide a valuable opportunity for local cafes, restaurants, hotels and retailers to capitalise on the additional visitors and showcase why the Hunter region is such a wonderful holiday destination.

The nearby Hunter Valley offers award-winning wines from Australia’s oldest wine-growing region while along the coastline, Port Stephens is a haven for whale watching and outdoor adventures.

We look forward to welcoming competitors and their families to Newcastle and Lake Macquarie next April for another standout on our regional NSW events calendar,” Mr Ayres said.

Lake Macquarie Mayor Kay Fraser (ALP) is counting down the days and can’t wait to welcome all the competitors, their families and supporters to the Hunter.

“I can’t believe it is only one year to go to the Games. It’s incredibly exciting to know that they are just around the corner. Our region is renowned for hosting major events and sporting showcases, so I know our community will embrace the celebration of sport like their own.”

“It’s truly wonderful that we can host the 2022 Australian Deaf Games in Lake Macquarie City. I can’t wait for the games to kick off and I’m looking forward to seeing all the competitors and the supporters come this time in 12 months”, said Cr. Fraser.

Newcastle Lord Mayor Nuatali Nelmes says she is looking forward to welcoming the athletes, coaches, officials and supporters to Newcastle in 2022, so they can experience the diverse natural attractions, world-class facilities and rich culture the city has to offer.

“Newcastle has become a world-class, events destination of choice, playing host to a long list of nationally and internationally significant tournaments and festivals including the World Surfing League’s Rip Curl Newcastle Cup, SAANZAR Rugby Championship and Supercars Newcastle 500,” Cr Nelmes said.

“It’s been wonderful to work collaboratively with Lake Macquarie City Council, the NSW Government and the great team at Destination NSW on securing the Australian Deaf Games, which will be fantastic not only for the competitors and the region’s sports lovers, but also for its potential flow-on effects for our visitor economy during the event and through future tourism.

“Ongoing investment in events and tourism is integral to building a thriving, diverse and robust economy, and we look forward to playing host with Lake Macquarie City Council to the Australian Deaf Games next year.”



The Games Organising Committee has and is continuing to discuss plans and work with both Councils to ensure they deliver the best Games ever, utilizing the excellent sporting venues and facilities that both Lake Macquarie and Newcastle have to offer.

Leonie Jackson was the 2022 ADG Organising Committee Chair, who sadly passed on last January. She led by example and was a much loved leader and advocate of the Deaf community. She was also passionate about participation opportunities including sports, and to honour her memory, Deaf Sports Australia has established the *Leonie Jackson Community Spirit Award*, which will be presented to a person who demonstrates leadership and passion at the Games.

Phil Harper, who is currently the Games' Acting Chair, commented that "already the Deaf and hard of hearing communities are bubbling. There is still much to do but we look forward to achieving a Games to remember especially coming out of COVID-19 and the first time we will gather together for a major event since 2018."

Deaf Sports Australia and the Games Organising Committee are pleased to confirm that the Opening Ceremony will be held at the NEX Entertainment Centre with the Closing Ceremony at the soon to be completed Multi Arts Pavilion at Speers Point

They are also very pleased to confirm that the following suppliers are currently working with them:

- Signwave Newcastle (production of Games signs)
- Lakemac Print (production of Games promotional material and publications)
- Rover Coaches
- Newcastle Truck and Car Hire
- Alinta Apparell
- Impact Trophies

The following venues for the 2022 Australian Deaf Games have also been confirmed:

City Of Newcastle

Beach Volleyball	- Nobbys Beach
Cricket	- National Park 2
Netball	- National Park
Touch Football	- National Park
Tennis	- District Park
Basketball	- Broadmeadow Stadium
Table Tennis	- Newcastle PCYC

City of Lake Macquarie



