




Speech By
Hon. John-Paul Langbroek

MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

COMMONWEALTH GAMES ARRANGEMENTS (BRAND PROTECTION) AMENDMENT BILL

 **Hon. JH LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Minister for Education, Training and Employment) (6.09 pm): It is my pleasure to rise to speak to the Commonwealth Games Arrangements (Brand Protection) Amendment Bill 2013 and to follow my colleague the member for Mermaid Beach and of course the minister, the member for Currumbin, who has taken on the job given to her by the Premier of delivering these friendly games in 2018. It has been interesting to hear people's memories about Commonwealth Games that they remember. I have vivid memories of that era as well, because in 1981 the precursor to the Commonwealth Games were the SGIO games. I was an usher at the swimming at Chandler when I was at university and working part time as well. It was a great insight and preparation for the Commonwealth Games that were going to be held in 1982 when I was in fourth year at university. Some great things happened, as I think the honourable member for Whitsunday mentioned in his memories of the 1982 games, and some interesting statistics came out of the 1982 Commonwealth Games, which, as the member for Mermaid Beach mentioned, is when Queensland and Brisbane in particular became more of a world city. The current Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Graham Quirk, uses that as the time for Brisbane becoming a new world city.

Given the SGIO games, it is interesting to note where stadiums and facilities were put. Last weekend many of us went to see Bruce Springsteen at the Entertainment Centre which, as I understand, was used for something at those games. My memory may be mistaken that that is what the Entertainment Centre was used for, but Chandler certainly was developed in the lead-up to the 1982 Commonwealth Games with regard to the velodrome and of course the swimming, as was QEII Stadium. It has now been shown in many places that it is better to put the new facilities closer to the city centre, and that is why we have subsequently developed facilities like the Gabba and Suncorp Stadium. I remember that in 1982 when the Commonwealth Games were held a lot of 21st parties were held at that time for those of us at university. Lawn bowls became a very popular sport because we often had 21sts at lawn bowling clubs and Australia won, as I recall, the gold medal in the men's fours at the Commonwealth Games. I remember going to a couple of 21sts at which people were dressed up as lawn bowlers following the success of the men's fours team. Again, that was following on from the success of Rob Parella who, as I understand it, won the silver medal in the men's singles to a fellow called Willie Wood from Scotland who won the singles at the men's bowls.

It is also interesting to note that sex tests for athletes were introduced for the first time in 1982. As it turned out, we had no idea then of course what the East German swimmers were doing in the early 1980s. The Australian women's bowls team of Eva Wilcher, Rose O'Brien and Pat Smith had no great concerns about the sex tests being carried out on them because they had 10 children and 14 grandchildren between them! I also have some very fond memories of subsequent Commonwealth Games in terms of the Gold Coast. Andrew Baildon is a favoured sporting son of the Gold Coast. At the 1990 Commonwealth Games when I was working as a dentist in my surgery, I had a TV above the chair for patients to watch the games and Andrew Baildon won four gold medals and a bronze at that Commonwealth Games. Of course, he is the son of another former mayor of the Gold Coast

whom the member for Mermaid Beach had a couple of electoral battles with, some of which he was successful in and one in which he was not. But that is another story for another day.

In the 2006 Commonwealth Games I remember being at the games when Kerryn McCann won the women's marathon. The lead changed six times over the last two kilometres and Kerryn McCann won it at the age of 38 against an African runner. She subsequently was diagnosed with breast cancer only a year later and died, I think, in 2008. But she said herself that it was the greatest victory she had ever had, the greatest race she had ever run. I was in the stadium that day to see her win the marathon. When she came into the stadium, you could actually see the effect of the crowd on this runner—this Australian runner—who ran her fastest time ever or second fastest time in the marathon. The crowd literally lifted her to the success that she had. Other memories are Andrew Lloyd winning the 5,000 metres in Auckland after coming from last in the last lap. These events all contributed to other great relationships that we as a state and country have with other countries when we look at some of the history of other events with great runners like Kip Keino, Henry Rono and Herb Elliott, the great Australian runner, and Filbert Bayi from Tanzania. They are all memories that those of us who love sport take with us.

Mr Stevens: Ron Clarke.

Mr LANGBROEK: Ron Clarke of course, another mayor of the Gold Coast, who was a great runner in the 5,000 and 10,000 metres.

With regard to the theme of the bill and the objective, we do need to prohibit the unauthorised use of images and references for commercial or promotional purposes. I noted the contribution of the Leader of the House when he mentioned that it is hoped that most or all breaches will be able to be resolved informally without the need for civil action or prosecution, but it is of course prudent for the minister to oversee a regime where there may be the need to have stronger penalties in a world where people will take advantage of inaction by the government. It is important that the minister oversee that and I commend her for that. With those words, I commend the bill to the House and say that of course we are looking forward to it. We supported this in opposition in a bipartisan way. We understand the budget difficulties that we are having and we acknowledge the support of the Treasurer in making sure we live up to our commitment of supporting the games. We want them to be a great games, and I am sure they will be on the Gold Coast in 2018.