




Speech By  
**Joan Pease**

**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

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### **BRISBANE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES ARRANGEMENTS BILL**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (12.07 pm): It was really lovely to hear that speech from the member for Nanango and I am delighted that she is so enthusiastic about the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and that her side of the House is supportive, but it is interesting to note that opposition members of the committee submitted a statement of reservation to the report. So are those opposite supporting it or are they not? It is a bit like their general persona in this House. If we said that the rain comes from the sky, they would want to argue that that is not the case. It is the same with the Premier. The Premier went to Japan to represent Brisbane to make our case for the bid to the IOC. She was howled down by those opposite for going there to present our case and then she was howled down for going to events and then howled down for not going to events. It was never good enough and yet those opposite stand here and go on and on and on, and I have to listen to the member for Theodore go on and on and on about the vaccination of the Premier. The Premier had her vaccination. She did the right thing. She has done the right thing.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Ms PEASE:** Again, thank you very much. The fact that those opposite are interjecting demonstrates exactly what I am saying and shows my point exactly. It is flip-flop—do we do it, do we not? They cannot say out loud whether or not they support mandatory vaccination, but I digress. I have always loved sport. The Olympics and the Paralympics were so much anticipated in my household with my two sisters and I because we were able to see females competing and being recognised for their achievements and their skill. Seeing female athletes on television then was practically non-existent and in fact almost a rarity back in the day, and I am giving my age away there because it was black-and-white TV of course.

The games really filled the void of seeing people who looked like me and the other females in the room on TV competing on a sporting field. It was great to see that. My canny and social justice campaigner Glaswegian mother also loved her daughters seeing the bigger world outside of the tiny rural farming community of Birkdale, which it was back then—again showing my age—not only the bigger community of the world but also female athletes. These social legacies of the games are one of the many benefits of a hometown games. I recall, like the member for Bundaberg, standing waiting for the Olympic torch at Birkdale and watching the torch bearers go past. I and my kids and the crowd cheered so hard for the torch bearers as they ran past, holding the flame high on its way to light the Sydney Olympic flame. We watched its progress until the opening ceremony when the wonderful Cathy Freeman stood proud to light the flame.

Queensland is poised to deliver an Olympic and Paralympic Games that will leave a lasting legacy of infrastructure and also memories for generations to come. Already there are young athletes who have been inspired to represent Australia in 2032. I know firsthand how this drive to make the games can ignite an aspiring athlete. My daughter, Audrey, was inspired watching the Hockeyroos win gold at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Audrey has since gone on to represent Australia at the Youth Olympics, where she won a gold medal, the junior world cup and the world championships. She

travelled around the world with the Hockeyroos until her retirement in 2017 when she got a job that actually paid. I am so proud of her and her achievements and I thank her for the great times that we had following and supporting her on her journey.

I also acknowledge the commitment of the parents of the athletes. I know firsthand the commitment from parents that goes into the making of an elite athlete—the training, the tears, the team selections, the losses and the wins. It is a roller-coaster ride for we parents. There is no training for the parents of athletes, nothing to prepare you for this important role that you play in a young athlete's life. Given that we get an opportunity to introduce a sport, we could perhaps introduce an Olympic event for parent support. It could be a tri series. We could have one event which was an early morning dash to training, a record and diary keeping event and, finally, supporting your young athlete emotionally.

Whilst I am being a bit lighthearted about this, I do genuinely acknowledge that the parents or support persons of our athletes play an important role in supporting their players. My daughter's friends are still playing in the Hockeyroos. The member for Bundaberg mentioned the Fitzpatrick girls. Audrey played with those girls, as well as many of the others who are still in the team. I know that their parents are continuing to support them. I acknowledge the great work that they do. I thank and acknowledge the current and future parents of the Olympic and Paralympic athletes. The games are nothing without you.

My family also has very fond memories of the 2000 Sydney Paralympics, as my brother-in-law, Roger Rynd, who sadly passed away in 2010, was the artistic director of the sensational showcase of Australian talent at the opening ceremony of this amazing event. The 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be an amazing event in the history of the great state of Queensland.

The bill before the House establishes the Brisbane Organising Committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. We know that these games will not only deliver opportunities for our athletes but also be an economic enabler, providing legacy infrastructure, employment and opportunities across Queensland. This bill establishes a corporation as an independent statutory body with a board of directors overseeing its operations. The size of the board, approximately 20 members, will be similar to the Sydney 2000 organising committee which had 15 members, the London 2012 committee which had 18, but will be less than half the size of the delayed Tokyo Games which had 45 members. There are provisions around those appointments, including that where they are elected members they are there at the behest of the government that is in power at the time.

There are also provisions in the bill to ensure that the Queensland Procurement Policy will apply to the corporation to the extent that is consistent with the Olympic host contract. This is welcome as it means the goods and services procured will, to as great an extent as possible, comply with measures such as maximising Queensland suppliers' opportunities to participate. I am already getting onto my local businesses and manufacturers to make sure they are getting involved as best they can. There will also be compliance with strong workplace health and safety systems and standards, a commitment to apprentices and trainees, best practice industrial relations and history of compliance and procurement tendering and other government policies.

As I have stated, the economic opportunities alone of these games will be substantial for our state. Over the next 20 years the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games is forecast to generate an estimated \$4.6 billion increase in international tourism and trade, approximately 91,600 full-time jobs will be generated and a 10-year pipeline of construction jobs and trade investment opportunities and legacy projects will benefit Queenslanders for decades to come. The 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games will be a games for all Queenslanders. It will trigger increased investment and opportunities that will benefit our regions through a 10-year pipeline of construction jobs and industry investment in new skills, capacity and supply chains, attraction of major sporting events and training pre and post games and investments in renewable energies to deliver a climate positive games.

We have already seen an example of attracting teams to the bayside. Prior to the Tokyo 2020 delayed games, the Paralympic cycling team and the Australian cycling team were based in Manly and did a lot of their training there. I am sure they will be coming back because they saw what a beautiful venue it was to train in. Many of my local traders benefited from having the Australian cycling team there, not only in terms of the accommodation providers but also through increased investment in the community. They shopped locally and they ate out locally. It was fabulous. They also inspired a lot of young local cyclists by going down to the local BMX track.

The bayside is incredibly excited about the venue for sailing being at Manly. It is a great opportunity. As a sailing community we already contribute greatly, with our sailors from the area having won many gold medals. Sailing being an Olympic event will highlight and showcase this most magnificent—and I believe the best—side of the bay. Baysiders are supportive and excited. Like the member for Bundaberg, I was at a P&C meeting on the night of the announcement of the awarding of

the games and I was so excited when it was announced. A cheer went up at our local P&C meeting. I am tremendously excited that we are not only getting the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games for Brisbane—it will be fabulous—but also getting sailing in the bayside and that in the lead-up to that we will have training events and other activities. As part of the lead-up, the whole of Queensland will be showcased to the world. I look forward to the games with great excitement.