




Speech By
Ray Stevens

MEMBER FOR MERMAID BEACH

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ADJOURNMENT

2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Gold Coast Clay Target Club

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (7.00 pm): On Sunday just past the Gold Coast Clay Target Club celebrated the 70th anniversary of its establishment. As a proud and long-serving life member of this club, I was pleased to attend and participate in this Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games discipline. The sport has many women, juniors and disabled people participating at the same level as the men and it is a sport that can be continued into later years—as long as your eyesight holds up. It is a sport that requires instantaneous reaction, undivided concentration; and safety, respectful manners and strict adherence to shooting rules make it a sport that families can share, as evidenced by several grandparents, mothers and fathers shooting with their children on the weekend.

The Gold Coast Clay Target Club is one of the largest clubs in Queensland and has shared four different homes over its 70 years of existence due to Gold Coast development encroaching on previous sites. However, the current site, established in 1991 with the help of the Albert shire—I used to be mayor of the Albert shire in case honourable members did not know—looks like being the permanent home to this noise-sensitive hobby. It is to the great credit of many volunteers of the club over those 70 years that the Gold Coast Clay Target Club is thriving in the 21st Century. It is with this success story for the club that I implore decision-makers for the operation of the 2032 Olympic Games that all clay target events in the 2032 Olympic Games be held at the Gold Coast Clay Target Club.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr STEVENS: I will get to that. Media reports have suggested winning the 2032 Olympic bid as a mere formality for Brisbane, Queensland and Australia and it is only fair and just that if the 2032 games are to be for all Queenslanders, as espoused by the Premier, then the Gold Coast Clay Target Club should be the host for all of the Olympic clay target events.

The greatest benefit of hosting the Olympic Games is the legacy of leaving lasting infrastructure behind for the respective sports. The Brisbane Gun Club had their facilities upgraded for the Commonwealth Games in 1982 and again for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games in 2018. It is now the turn of the Gold Coast Clay Target Club to have their facilities upgraded to Olympic standard in the fastest growing city in Queensland. By 2042 the Gold Coast is projected to have a population of one million people, so a lasting legacy of the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games could be, and should be, a fantastic legacy facility for the sporting shooting fraternity on the Gold Coast. The athletes village is on the Gold Coast, and that fits in perfectly.