Over 1,500 Cornish pupils showcase their talent in countywide sports competition

Last month budding sports stars across the county competed in the first Cornwall School Games as part of a new and exciting national opportunity, inspired by the 2012 Olympic Games, for young people to play more competitive sport in school.

Over 1,500 pupils competed in the 2011 Cornwall School Games on Sunday June 26, across a range of sports, including surfing, rugby 7’s, gig rowing, tennis, wheelchair basketball, netball, athletics and hockey; at Penryn College, Godrevy beach, Carn Brea running track and Stithians Lake.

Motivating and supporting students throughout the day were Cornish Olympic weightlifter Michaela Breeze, international rugby stars Thinus Delport and Chris Horsman, and Olympic-hopeful sailing duo John Pink and Rick Peacock.

The Cornwall School Games was one of nine pilot events taking place across the country this summer ahead of the launch of the full national School Games in September, which will allow schools across the whole of the country to be involved.

Click here for the full story

Schools’ free tickets to The Games – a reminder!

Schools outside London will be eligible for up to 50,000 tickets to the London 2012 Games. To qualify, schools have to be a member of the Get Set network, which is the reward and recognition scheme for schools committed to the Olympic and Paralympic values. Being part of the network gives schools unique and exciting experiences linked to London 2012.

Click here to check your school’s status
Click here to check the timeline for applying for your tickets
Celebrate a year to the Olympics with some Sporting Greats

Families are being challenged to have a go at beating the record times of Usain Bolt, Sir Steve Redgrave or Chris Hoy in a fun and free community event as part of the 2012 Open Weekend.

On Sunday 24 July a ‘Sporting Greats Challenge’ will offer people, of any age and ability, the opportunity to undertake three fun challenges that puts them up against three of the greatest Olympic Athletes the world has ever seen.

For all the family, the free event will run from 10am until 4pm and is open to anyone to come along and try out the following events: ‘Usain Bolt’ Challenge – running/walking 1000m in under 9 minutes, 58 seconds; ‘Sir Steve Redgrave’ Challenge – rowing 1000m in under 6 minutes, 20 seconds; ‘Sir Chris Hoy’ Challenge – cycling 1km in 6 minutes, 10 seconds.

Olympic mascot Mandeville helps promote the Cornwall Beach Games

Paralympic Mascot Mandeville dropped in recently to help promote the Cornwall Beach Games. Taking place on 15 July at Tolcarne Beach in Newquay, the event has been designed to help companies in Cornwall give their employees the chance to have fun and be active in the run up to London 2012.

Organisers are proud that the Cornwall Beach Games has been recently awarded the coveted Inspire Mark for events inspired by 2012.

The mascot also made another Cornish appearance...

Mandeville made sports day extra special for pupils at St Breock Primary School in Wadebridge on 14th June. The emphasis at sports day was on fun and exercise, with events ranging from running with a teddy bear to full-on sprinting, as well as bean bag and sack races.

Mandeville’s visit is the school’s prize for their winning entry to design outfits for the two London 2012 mascots. St Breock’s winning designs reflected their research work and they gave Mandeville wheels and kitted out Wenlock (the Olympic mascot) for surfing – to illustrate that cycling and surfing are not only fun and good exercise, but are also important to the economy of the region.

James Ross, St Breock sports coach, said: “The buzz of the design competition was terrific and built up to even more excitement for Mandeville’s visit. There are sports for every child and we are hoping that local athletes will come to tell us about their sports.”
There will also be the opportunity to have a go at judo, wheelchair basketball and fencing, and the Council’s New Horizons extreme sports instructors will also be running archery and mountain boarding taster sessions throughout the day. All of which will be free throughout the day!

For more information, please contact Newquay Sports & Community Centre on: 01637 875533

Volunteering at the Games

It’s not only tickets for the Games that have proved popular amongst the nation; applications for Games Makers (the volunteer helpers) positions have attracted 250,000 people for the 70,000 places available.

Rich Sporting Heritage begins to be revealed

Interest in the County’s sporting heritage amongst Cornwall’s Museums is growing. There may even be the chance of some funding to help local museums ‘team up’ with sports clubs to celebrate our sporting heritage.

If you’re interested, contact the Museum Development Officer for your area (see contact details below).

‘One Year to the Olympics - Celebrating St Ives Women in Sport’

Featuring 21 different sports, ranging from archery to trampolining, that women from St Ives have participated in over the years. Researched by volunteer Greta Williams, the exhibition will be on display at St Ives library during July.

The Library is open 9.30am – 6pm on weekdays but closed on a Wednesday. Saturday it is open 9.30am -12.30pm.

‘Cornish miners introduce football to Mexico’

At Poldark Mine, between Redruth and Helston, a Mexican Football Medal has a great story to tell...

Immediately after the Mexican War of Independence in 1824, Cornish miners were recruited to re-open the famous silver mines of Real del Monte and by 1874 there were 500 mines in Mexico. It was hence that Cornish miners introduced Mexico’s current national game, football, to the country! They established Mexico’s first team, Pachuca, and the first games were played on the patio of Mina Delores at Real del Monte. Today, not only does Pachuca Football club boast one of the world’s leading football universities, it is one of Mexico’s leading teams and is known as the Tuzos (moles) because of the city’s background in mining.
The medal on show at Poldark is from the first international football game in Mexico in 1902; it was awarded to J.M. Rule, a miner from Camborne.

What’s your sporting story? Help to reveal Cornwall’s sporting heritage by contacting your Museum Development Officer:

Jo Mattingly, Mid-Cornwall  
Email: joannamattingly@btinternet.com  
Tel: 01872 225254

Jo Warburton, West Cornwall  
Email: jowarburton@museumsincornwall.org.uk  
Mob: 07968 971848

Stephanie Meads, North & South East Cornwall  
Email: Stephanie.meads@btinternet.com  
Tel: 01208 851409

To find out how to contact your nearest local museum visit:  
www.museumsincornwall.org.uk/map

Fascinating fact:  
To build the 2012 Olympic Park 2,000 newts had to be moved to a new home!

Business Opportunities from 2012

The South West region is well placed to take advantage of procurement opportunities from the £700m worth of goods and services required from the Games. To date, 69 contracts have been awarded to businesses in the region via CompeteFor, the free brokerage service.

Recent contracts advertised for the Games have included:
- Supply of trees and containers
- Mobile automatic vehicle location
- Stadium stand hard fit out

Sign up to the service by clicking here

Broadcast your 2012 News!

Do you have any news about the London 2012 Games?  
Know of a mascot or athlete visit to the county?  
Or, have anything else happening related to 2012?

Let us know and we will help you broadcast it across the county.  
Contact us at the address below.
Team Cornwall

Cornwall Sports Partnership
Cornwall School Sports Partnerships
Cornwall Council Leisure
VisitCornwall
Cornwall Museums
Cornwall Development Company
Cornwall Council Economic Development

Working together to raise the profile and opportunities for the county to benefit from the London 2012 Games

Countdown 2012 enquiries, contact: info@cornwallsportspartnership.co.uk