

## 2020 GVG Update – Announced 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020



The Organising Committee of the 2020 Greenwich Village Games have been consulting with Team Committees to consider the impact the public health initiatives to suppress the spread of the COVID-19 virus are having on the ability to prepare for and deliver a successful Games.

First and foremost our concern has been to, at all times, protect the health and well-being of our community and games participants by fully complying with the essential social distancing requirements and restrictions on public gatherings. While there is uncertainty as to how long these restrictions will be in place, the public messaging from the Prime Minister and NSW Premier have consistently indicated the community should prepare for an extended period of restrictions on public gatherings in order to "flatten the curve" of COVID-19 infections.

In light of this advice, and taking into account the broad demographic participation in the Games within our community, the Organising Committee and Team Committees have unanimously agreed it is necessary to postpone the 2020 Games until December 2021. This is in keeping with the tradition that the Games are staged on the first weekend of December in each Olympic year.

Our decision has not been taken easily or lightly. Even though the Games weekend seems far away in December, the months leading up to it involve countless training/practice sessions and team social and organising events.

We are also mindful that there will be many families in our community who will be confronting financial pressures as a result of COVID-19 impacts on their employment, and discretionary expenses such as registration, catering etc for the Games may be unmanageable at this time.

We are all immensely disappointed, but the community faces a more important task - which is to do what we must to help defeat this pandemic. The Games will be back with great gusto and give us all even more reason to celebrate the community spirit that makes Greenwich special for so many.

Sandy Calder  
Chairman  
GVG Organising Committee