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## **KING'S BATON RELAY**

### **MEDIA BRIEFING**

The King's Baton Relay is one of the great traditions of the Commonwealth Games. The Relay is a long-standing tradition that has been part of the Commonwealth Games since 1958, initially known as the Queen's Baton Relay. Over the years, the Relay has revolved into a powerful symbol of unity and diversity of the Commonwealth of Nations. With each Games, the tradition of the Relay grows in scale and significance – visiting more Nations, involving more participants and creating more excitement than ever before.

The Relay for the 2026 Commonwealth Games commenced in March this year from Buckingham Palace and will culminate at the Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in the host city of Glasgow, Scotland on July 23, 2026. This marathon event involves travelling through 74 nations and territories in a little less than a year.

The Relay and activities again aim to unite communities, celebrate culture and promote sustainability initiatives and at the same time celebrate the values of the Commonwealth Sport which is Humanity, Equality and Destiny.

Namibia as a Commonwealth Nation is delighted to be hosting the King's Baton Relay and activities from September 25 – 27, 2025. As mentioned, for the first time, each Nation and territory received its own baton, and we have customized it to represent our Namibian culture and heritage. Our involvement in this exciting event provides the entire community with the opportunity to highlight and promote Namibia to the rest of the world.

Therefore, the entire event will be captured on video that will be shared globally within the Commonwealth Sport and beyond.

An essential part of the King's Baton Relay includes activities that focusses on ocean conservation. On September 25, Commonwealth Sport Namibia and Ocean Conservation Namibia will ensure that we uphold Namibia's commitment to sustainable development and environmental conservation to protect our unique biodiversity and natural resources. This will be done through several ocean conservation education and awareness sessions that involves schools from Walvis Bay.

The King's Baton Relay will commence in Windhoek on September 27 at the British High Commission. The Relay will go through Independence Avenue in the City Centre and the contact the Olympic House and participate in the fun and enjoyment of the King's Baton Relay. The Relay will end at Liv Padel at SKW where Namibians will continue celebrating the Baton through other activities such as Teqball, Traditional Sport, E-Sport, Chess and Padel. Other exhibitions include Rhythmic Gymnastics, Karate Kata and Cultural Dancing.

Dear Namibians, come and join us in a day filled with activities for the entire family! Meet our Olympic and Commonwealth athletes and para-athletes and capture memories with them, your family and the King's Baton!

September 16, 2025