



NAMIBIA NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE & NAMIBIA COMMONWEALTH GAMES ASSOCIATION

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Did You Know? Namibia's Shape Can Be Traced With Your Own Hand - NNOC-CGA Announces the Winner of the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2026 Pin Design Competition

WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA, 2 April 2026 - Did you know that the unique shape of Namibia on the map can be recreated using only your own hand? Simply position your fingers in a particular gesture, and the silhouette you form mirrors the unmistakable outline of our beloved nation, a fitting reminder that Namibia is not just a place we come from, but a shape we carry with us, wherever in the world we go.

It is with this spirit of national pride, creativity, and identity that the Namibia National Olympic Committee & Commonwealth Games Association (NNOC-CGA) is proud to announce the winner of its Pin Design Competition for the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2026.

We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to every single individual who took part in this competition. From the moment submissions opened on 15 February 2026, we were moved by the extraordinary level of effort, creativity, and national pride that poured in from across the country, with submissions reaching us from as far as Oshifo (Ruacana), Omusati, some of the furthest corners of our nation. Every design told a story, and every submission represented a meaningful personal investment of time, talent, and heart. We see you, we appreciate you, and we thank you deeply. This competition was made special because of each and every one of you.

About the Competition

The Pin Design Competition ran from 15 February to 31 March 2026, inviting Namibians to contribute a pin design that would represent our nation at the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2026. The competition was open to the public as part of the NNOC-CGA's commitment to involving Namibians in the journey of our athletes — creating a sense of shared ownership and national pride in our country's participation on the global stage.

A total of 93 submissions were received from across the country. Following a thorough authenticity review process, which included formal authenticity checks and follow-up calls to select submitters for verification purposes, 12 submissions were confirmed as eligible finalists. These 12 designs then went forward for consideration by a distinguished panel of decision-makers, including representatives from the Sports Commission, our Deputy Minister of Sport, the Honourable Dino Balloti, NNOC-CGA Chief Executive Officer Anri Parker, and members of the NNOC-CGA staff. After extensive deliberation, a winner was selected.

And the Winner Is...

The NNOC-CGA is thrilled to announce that the winner of the Pin Design Competition is **Ms Patricia Lafewa Uapunduka**, aged 25, whose entry stood out for its deeply symbolic design and exceptional creative expression of Namibian identity.

Ms Uapunduka's design resonated strongly with the judging panel for its thoughtful representation of what it means to be Namibian, and its ability to communicate our nation's story and spirit in a single, powerful image. It is a design that Namibia can wear with pride on the world stage.



Ms. Uapunduka is awarded a prize of **N\$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand Namibian Dollars)** in recognition of her outstanding contribution.

What Happens Next

The winning design will now undergo a professional refinement process, during which select remodelling touches will be applied to ensure full alignment with Namibia's national brand guidelines as well as the Commonwealth Sport brand standards. Once finalised and approved, the design will be submitted for production.

The Tradition of Pin Trading at the Games

Pin trading is one of the most beloved and enduring traditions of the Commonwealth and Olympic Games. Athletes, officials from across the world bring specially designed pins representing their countries to each Games, exchanging them with one another as a gesture of friendship, goodwill, and global unity. This cherished tradition stretches back to the earliest editions of the modern Olympic and Commonwealth Games, and continues to be a symbol of the camaraderie and shared humanity that lies at the heart of international sport.

Our pin will carry Namibia's story into that tradition, traded in the corridors and gathering spaces of Glasgow 2026, and kept as a lasting memento of our nation's presence at the Games.

A Final Word of Thanks

To all 93 individuals who submitted a design, thank you, once more, from the bottom of our hearts. The enthusiasm and creativity shown throughout this competition are a testament to the incredible pride Namibians have in their nation and in their athletes. We are humbled and inspired by your participation.

And to our winner, congratulations, Patricia. Your design is a gift to Namibia, and we look forward to watching it represent our nation on the world stage in Glasgow 2026.

"This competition gave every Namibian the opportunity to be part of our athletes' journey to Glasgow 2026. The response was overwhelming, and the quality of submissions speaks to the depth of creativity and passion within our nation. We congratulate Patricia on a truly remarkable design, and we thank every participant for making this project a celebration of who we are as Namibians."

- Dr Ndeulipula Hamutumwa, President, NNOC-CGA

About the NNOC-CGA

The Namibia National Olympic Committee & Commonwealth Games Association (NNOC-CGA) is the supreme body responsible for the Olympic and Commonwealth Games Movement in Namibia. It is committed to the promotion of sport, the protection of athletes, and the upholding of the values of Olympism across the nation.

Issued by:

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