

# ECHO

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## **JUPITERS THE FIRST OFFICIAL PARTNER OF THE GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES**



*Image: Echo Entertainment Chairman John O'Neill AO and Chairman of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Nigel Chamier OAM*

Echo Entertainment Group is proud to announce its Gold Coast property, Jupiters Hotel & Casino, has become the first Official Partner of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The iconic Gold Coast landmark confirmed last week that a new six-star, 17-storey all-suite hotel tower – part of an overall \$345 million redevelopment – will open at the front of the existing hotel in the countdown to the Commonwealth Games.

Echo Entertainment Chairman, John O'Neill AO, said the synergies between the current transformation of Jupiters, and that of the Gold Coast through the Commonwealth Games, made for a natural partnership.

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“The timing is perfect on so many levels,” said Mr O’Neill. “The legacy of the Games will be to again position the Gold Coast as an Australian destination of choice for tourists and investors, for decades to come.

“As a long-standing member of the Gold Coast community, Jupiters is proud to partner with the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games to help take advantage of this once-in-a-generation opportunity to propel the Gold Coast forward.

“The Gold Coast is renowned for its bold, optimistic and enthusiastic character. It was built on a spirit of creativity, unbounded potential and inventiveness.

“Jupiters embodies that spirit, as does the Commonwealth Games, so the fit is really compelling. Just like the Games, Jupiters and the Gold Coast are truly places where anything is possible.”

Echo Entertainment Managing Director and CEO, Matt Bekier, said the partnership was also consistent with Echo’s determination to contribute substantially to the areas surrounding its properties.

“At Echo we support the communities in which we operate, and participate in the events that matter to those cities,” he added. “It’s an important part of who we are, and it is front of mind whether it’s the Gold Coast, Brisbane or Sydney.

“From a tourism and economic growth perspective, we see enormous potential here and the Commonwealth Games will provide further exposure for the Gold Coast to the international community.

“We look forward to the Games and to opening our doors to the international visitors heading this way to support up to 71 competing countries. It will be a fortnight that creates lifelong memories.”

GOLDOC Chairman, Nigel Chamier OAM, said he was delighted to welcome Jupiters on board and congratulated them for their commitment to the country’s biggest and most exciting event this decade.

“Jupiters have demonstrated their absolute confidence in GC2018 by embarking on such an early agreement,” he said.

“The contribution sponsors make to GC2018 will play an important role in its success. I am delighted that the engagement with Echo that commenced with sponsorship of the Australian Team back in 2014 has now come to a positive outcome for GC2018.”

The Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games, the Hon. Kate Jones MP, said Jupiters’ sponsorship signalled a strong vote of confidence in the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games’ success.

“The Commonwealth Games presents an incredible opportunity for Echo Entertainment to support a significant local event and promote the Gold Coast to the world,” she said.

“It’s great for the Games to have such a significant sponsor come on board so far out from the event. I congratulate GOLDOC on securing the Games first commercial sponsor and I’m sure Jupiters will play a key role in shaping its success.”

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Sally Pearson is a Gold Coast local, a gold medal collector and one of Australia's greatest ever Olympians after starting out with the Helensvale Little Athletics club on the Gold Coast at age 11.

Pearson was Olympic champion at the London 2012 Games in the 100m hurdles, world champion in 2011 in the same event, and has won the past two Commonwealth Games titles – in Delhi in 2010 and in Glasgow in 2014.

Pearson today attended the launch to celebrate Jupiters' partnership with the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Joining Pearson at the launch was fellow Queenslander Bronte Campbell, a triple gold medallist at the recent swimming world championships in Kazan, Russia.

Campbell won the coveted 50 metre-100 metre freestyle double and was part of the victorious 4x100 metre freestyle relay team.

Her international achievements also include two gold medals at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games partnership announcement rounds out an unprecedented month in the four-year history of Echo Entertainment since its demerger from Tabcorp:

- On 20 July, the Queensland Government unveiled Echo and its consortium partners as the preferred proponent to redevelop the Queen's Wharf precinct in Brisbane
- On 12 August, Echo announced its full year results for FY2015, including net profit after tax of \$169 million, up 53% on the previous year
- On 17 August, Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk turned the first sod for construction of the new six-star, 17-storey hotel tower at the front of Jupiters
- On 24 August, Jupiters is named as the first Official Partner of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games

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