



Glasgow 2014
XX Commonwealth Games

Queen's Baton Relay

Community Batonbearer Frequently Asked Questions

PASS THE BATON



Queen's Baton Relay

Community Batonbearer – FAQ's



GENERAL

1. When does the Queen's Baton Relay (QBR) take place?

The International sector of the QBR will be launched from Buckingham Palace on 9 October 2013 and the baton, containing the Queen's Message to the Commonwealth, will travel to all 71 Commonwealth nations and territories before arriving in Scotland on 14 June 2014.

The baton will then spend 40 days travelling through all 32 Scottish Local Authority areas before arriving for the Opening Ceremony of the XX Commonwealth Games in Glasgow on 23 July 2014.

2. Who do I contact if I have a batonbearer enquiry?

We are happy to help with any questions you have.

Our website, www.glasgow2014.com/baton-relay has lots of useful information.

You can email us at contactus@glasgow2014.com or give us a call on 0303 333 2014 for assistance.

3. How many batonbearers will take part in the Domestic Sector of the QBR and how far will they carry the baton?

The Domestic Sector of the QBR will take place within Scotland and require up to 4,000 batonbearers in total. Each individual batonbearer segment is approximately 200 metres.

4. How many batonbearers will take part each day in Scotland?

An average of approximately 100 batonbearers will carry the baton on a daily basis.

5. Do you have to be a certain age to carry the baton?

Yes, batonbearers must be 12 years of age or older at the date of their nomination, while those between the ages of 12 and 15 will require parent/guardian consent to participate.

6. What are the selection criteria for community batonbearers?

- Made a positive contribution to the lives of others through community sport
- Undertaken voluntary work or contributed to schools or youth organisations
- Contributed towards greater inclusion for disadvantaged or marginalised sectors of the community
- Been a role model or mentor to youth through sport
- Displayed a level of individual achievement against the odds
- Made a significant contribution to their local community

The criteria have an emphasis on sport, youth and community and are broad enough to appeal to a wide demographic and to generate interest throughout Scotland.

7. Why are there not more places for community batonbearers?

The QBR aims to encourage a blend of youth, sport and culture and the batonbearer allocations are designed to reflect this. We hope the Scottish public will enjoy the chance to see national and international sporting and cultural personalities participate as batonbearers and be given the opportunity to recognise their achievements.

8. Who are the batonbearers other than those nominated by the community?

Apart from those nominated through the community process, there will be a wide cross section of society included in the total of 4,000 batonbearers, including schoolchildren, athletes, celebrities and sponsor representatives.

9. Who will be chosen for the highest profile segments of the QBR?

Some parts of the QBR are particularly appropriate locations for our high profile personalities/athletes to carry the baton in recognition of their achievements. Allocating these segments appropriately will raise awareness of and help promote the Games.

10. Will athletes from other countries carry the baton in Scotland?

A small percentage of international athletes will be invited to carry the baton to further the spirit of the Commonwealth and to celebrate diversity.

11. Why do sponsors get batonbearer positions and do they get preference?

Sponsors of the QBR and the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games are allocated a limited number of batonbearer positions around Scotland. These places are given to reflect their investment, which will help ensure that the QBR and the XX Commonwealth Games achieve their maximum potential.

12. Does the QBR operate for 24 hours a day?

No. The QBR is operational in the public domain for around 10 to 12 hours a day, although it is a 24 hour logistical exercise requiring extensive support. Each day's activities will take place within one of the 32 Local Authority areas of Scotland. The average day on the road will commence in the early morning and finish with an evening celebration.

13. How can people become involved if they are not selected as a batonbearer and the relay will not pass through their town?

People can travel to the designated route within their Local Authority area to see the relay pass by or attend one of the evening celebrations. They can also visit www.glasgow2014.com/baton-relay to check for the date the relay will be in their local area.

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NOMINATION

14. How can I access the nomination form?

Nomination forms will be available from 09:00 on 10 October 2013 until 17:00 on 22 November 2013 by visiting our website at www.glasgow2014.com/baton-relay and making your nomination on-line.

15. How do I proceed if I do not have access to a computer

We have put an arrangement in place with the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) whereby you can drop into your local public library to get access to a computer and also advice on filling out the nomination form.

16. What information does the nomination form require?

The nomination form requires you to complete your own name and contact details and to provide your nominees' first name, surname, email address and to select the Local Authority area where the nominee has contributed to the local community. You will also be asked to write in 100 words or less the reasons why you consider that your nominee meets the selection criteria for a community batonbearer. This information will be considered by the judging panel in selecting the successful nominations.

17. What is the deadline for nominations to be received?

The deadline for nominations to be made and the application form details to be submitted is 17:00 on 22 November 2013.

18. Can I nominate more than one person as a community batonbearer?

Yes, there is no limit to the number of people that you can nominate as a community batonbearer.

19. Can I nominate myself as a community batonbearer?

Yes, although it is generally advisable to be nominated by someone who recognises your contribution to the local community.

20. Do I have to know the person I nominate?

Preferably the nominee should be someone you know from your local area, in order for you to tell us in 100 words or less why they meet the selection criteria for a community batonbearer. You will also be required to supply their email address.

21. Can I nominate someone for any of the 'other' categories of batonbearer?

If you email us at contactus@glasgow2014.com with your suggestions for the 'athlete' or 'celebrity' categories then we will take this into account during the selection process for these categories.

22. Will the person I nominate be notified of their nomination?

If you are the first to nominate this person then they will receive an email informing them that you have nominated them and asking if they are willing to accept this nomination as a community batonbearer. If they accept then they will be required to complete the batonbearer application form. If your nominee has been nominated previously they will not receive further communication as they will already have completed the process. However all testimonies for a particular nominee will be captured and submitted to the judging panel for consideration and to assist them in reaching a decision.

23. How many nominations do you expect to receive?

We have already received numerous enquiries regarding the QBR and which indicates there is great enthusiasm for this important Commonwealth tradition. We are confident that we will get a positive response from the public, both in terms of the number and the quality of nominations.

24. Can I complete several forms for one nominee and is selection based on the number of nominations a person gets?

You may only nominate a person once. However, a person may be nominated by different people and these multiple nominations will be consolidated and made available to the judging panel. The panel will make their decision based on the merit of the testimony (ies) received and whether or not they meet the selection criteria.

25. Will every nomination form be considered?

Every correctly submitted application received by the closing date and containing the information requested will be judged on the merit of the testimony provided by the nominator.

SELECTION

26. How many community batonbearers will be selected?

Up to 63% of community batonbearers will be selected through the public online nomination process. Members of the public will be able to nominate themselves or somebody they know from their local area to be a community batonbearer.

An additional 14% of batonbearer positions will be allocated to secondary school children with one position available for each secondary school in Scotland - taking the number of community batonbearers to around 77%.

27. How will the nominations be judged?

Nominations will be judged individually on a merit based system, with the judges looking to ascertain whether the nomination in question meets the selection criteria to be a community batonbearer. Judging will be conducted under the supervision of Commonwealth Games Scotland and supported by each Local Authority.

28. Will the information on the nomination form be verified?

As the nominations are being judged within the Local Authority area where the nominees have made their contributions, it is very likely that the judging panel will have knowledge of the nominees and their contributions.

29. Will there be background checks on nominated batonbearers during the selection process?

Yes. All selected batonbearers will be subject to background security checks.

30. Could more than one member of the same family be selected?

Community batonbearer nominations will be assessed on a merit basis. All nominees will be assessed on an individual, case-by-case basis, therefore it is possible that more than one person from the same family could be selected.

31. When will the selected community batonbearers be announced?

It is anticipated that the announcement of successful batonbearers will take place in March 2014.

32. What if someone who is selected as a community batonbearer does not accept the position or is unavailable?

Should a selected batonbearer be unavailable or prefer not to accept the position, a reserve batonbearer will be allocated by Glasgow 2014 from the same Local Authority judging panel list.

PARTICIPATION

33. How do batonbearers know where to go and what to do for their segment of the relay?

We understand that people may be anxious about their participation in the relay, but there is no need to worry. Batonbearers will be sent detailed information on the exact location where they will carry the baton, their Collection Point, what to wear and what to bring etc. This information will be provided to batonbearers by mail approximately four weeks prior to their participation in the relay. On the day, members of the relay team will meet you at your designated Collection Point. You will be provided with instructions about your participation, a demonstration on how to carry the baton and what to do in case of any problems. A member of the relay team will accompany you at all times.

34. Where can my friends and family watch me carry the baton?

Your relay segment location will be detailed in your batonbearer positioning letter. We will also provide an estimated starting time for your segment of the relay which you can pass on to your friends and family.

35. Do batonbearers get a uniform and when is this provided?

The QBR will provide a free uniform, consisting of t-shirt and trousers. Batonbearers will be asked to provide their own training shoes and white socks. Except for shoes, no visible company logos or brand names can be worn e.g. sweatbands, hats etc. This uniform will be sent to batonbearers by mail approximately four weeks prior to their participation in the relay.

36. Will it be possible to wear Scottish National Dress?

The wearing of a traditional knee length Scottish Kilt made using an official tartan recognised by the Scottish Register of Tartans will be allowed. The official uniform t-shirt would still be required to be worn with the kilt. Appropriate kilt socks and shoes/boots will also be acceptable.

37. Does a batonbearer have to run for their entire allocated distance?

No. It is not necessary to actually run for their allocated segment. Batonbearers will be asked in advance to estimate the time it will take them to complete their segment and are encouraged to progress at their own pace and will be permitted to walk or rest briefly if necessary. However, some walking or other gentle exercise is a sensible way to prepare in advance of the day itself.

38. How will I get to my batonbearer segment?

Batonbearers are responsible for their own transportation to and from their designated Collection Point on the date and time assigned. The relay team will provide transport from your Collection Point to your relay segment, we will also collect you after your relay segment and return you back to your Collection Point.

39. Will people selected as batonbearers be able to carry the baton in their own town?

Batonbearers will be allocated to carry the baton in the Local Authority area where they have made a contribution in line with the selection criteria. During the nomination process they will be asked where they have made such contribution and will be judged and if selected, participate within this Local Authority area.

40. Can a batonbearer move their segment or location to another day or town?

No. No negotiation will be entered into regarding transferring a batonbearer position to another day or location.

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41. Will a batonbearer be able to complete their section of the relay in a wheelchair?

Yes. Batonbearers will be given the opportunity to advise the organisers in advance of any special support requirements. They do not need to concern themselves with the logistics of attaching the baton to their wheelchair, as this has already been taken into account.

42. If a batonbearer requires wheelchair access or assistance to carry the baton, can they choose the person to assist them?

Police Scotland officers will be on hand to offer assistance as required. Only under special circumstances and with the written permission of Glasgow 2014 will anyone else be allowed to accompany the batonbearer.

43. If it is raining will I still carry the baton?

Yes, in the case of poor or inclement weather the relay will proceed as planned. In cases of extreme weather conditions i.e. flooding, lightning, etc. you will be notified of any changes to the schedule.

44. Can batonbearers' friends and family run with them?

No, friends and family may follow the relay but only by staying on the side of the route and following the directions of the relay representatives or accompanying Police Officers.

45. Can batonbearers have a pet accompany them?

No pets are allowed to participate alongside the batonbearers with the exception of assistance dogs where prior permission has been granted by Glasgow 2014.

46. Can a family member or friend take my position as a batonbearer?

No. A batonbearer position is not transferable under any circumstances.

47. How do batonbearers get back to where they started?

At the end of each allocated section, batonbearers are transported back to their original Collection Point by a shuttle bus.

48. Do batonbearers get a memento or certificate in recognition of their participation?

Batonbearers will get to retain their official QBR uniform and will also receive a batonbearer certificate after completion of the QBR.