

Sporting mega-events and their influence on the social and physical capital of communities in the host city: The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games experience

by Michael Jay Falla

Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for
the degree of

Master of Sustainable Futures (Research)

under the supervision of Jason Prior & Brent Jacobs

University of Technology Sydney
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Certificate of Original Authorship

I, Michael Jay Falla, declare that this thesis is submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Master of Sustainable Futures (Research) Part-Time, in the Institute for Sustainable Futures at the University of Technology Sydney.

This thesis is wholly my own work unless otherwise referenced or acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

This document has not been submitted for qualifications at any other academic institution.

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Thesis Format

This is a Master's Thesis-by-Compilation. There is no prescription about the specific structure of sections or the number of papers to be included in a thesis-by-Compilation. The word length is agreed with supervisors and my Responsible Academic Officer at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). This thesis-by-Compilation is broken into the following sections:

Section 1: Introduction.

Section 2: A literature review.

Section 3: Research design and methodology.

Section 4: Draft journal paper (in press).

Section 5: Expanded discussion and industry contribution.

Section 6: Conclusion.

Section 7: Appendices.

Section 8: Bibliography.

List of Papers/Publications Included

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Statement/Declaration of Contribution of Authors

I hereby declare;

Title, authorship and publication outlet of paper:

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Abstract

Over the past decade, there has been increasing research on how sporting mega-events such as the Olympic and Commonwealth Games are developing strategies, norms, and rules (institutions) to govern how these events impact the host nation, city, and communities; and on how mega-events impact the host's economic, social, physical, human, and cultural capital. This thesis addresses a gap within these interconnected fields by examining the associations between how a set of institutions are used to govern a mega-event, and how it impacted the physical capital (PC) and social capital (SC) of communities in the host city during and following a mega-event. These associations are revealed through a novel methodology which used the Institutional Grammar Tool (IGT) and the Community Capitals Framework (CCF) to analyse policy documentation and 11 in-depth interviews on the refurbishment of the Broadbeach Lawn Bowls Club (BLBC) as a venue for the 2018 Commonwealth Games (the Games) in Gold Coast City, Australia. The thesis concludes with a discussion of the diverse impacts the Games had on the PC and SC of the BLBC, the institutions the various Games authorities used to govern these impacts and finishes with a contribution to the industry recommending guidance for improvement within the field of research.

Keywords: Mega-event, social and physical capitals, governance, community impact, and Commonwealth Games.