



News Release

23 March 2011

SUNCORP BANK SPONSORS GOLD COAST AIRPORT MARATHON

Suncorp Bank has announced a new partnership with Events Queensland Gold Coast, coming on board as a major sponsor of the Gold Coast Airport Marathon to be held on 2 and 3 July 2011.

Suncorp Bank Regional General Manager of the Gold Coast, Michael Hall, said the Bank was proud to support an event of such high calibre and strong community focus.

"The Gold Coast Airport Marathon has grown since it was first staged in 1979 to become one of Australia's premier fun runs and we're pleased to partner with this iconic event," said Mr Hall.

"At Suncorp, we pride ourselves on supporting the communities in which we operate and feel this is a terrific way to do that here on the Gold Coast.

"We will sponsor the volunteer program, event information booths, chill out and left luggage areas as well as provide a shade bar and sunscreen via our SunWise program."

Suncorp Bank Community Ambassador Adam Gilchrist said he was delighted to be part of the Gold Coast Airport Marathon, particularly to spread the important SunWise message.

"I encourage racegoers to be SunWise and wear sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses to protect against sunburn while training for and participating in this event," said Adam.

"The onset of cooler weather often lulls people into a false sense of security when it comes to sun protection and many runners risk suffering long-term skin damage if they don't cover up. After years of playing sport and exercising outdoors I've learnt how important it is to protect your skin against the harsh Aussie sun.

"Whether you're running for half an hour or four hours on race day, make sunscreen part of your warm up routine."

Adam Gilchrist is a passionate supporter of Suncorp Bank's SunWise program designed to help educate the community about the dangers of sun exposure and provide support for valuable life-saving research.

Events Queensland Gold Coast General Manager Cameron Hart welcomed the major sponsorship from Suncorp Bank for the Gold Coast Airport Marathon.

"Suncorp Bank will be a great partner for the Gold Coast Airport Marathon with its community values and vision," said Mr Hart.

"Their support will bring tremendous value to our volunteer program, a program that is essential to make an event like this work.

"The Gold Coast Airport Marathon is the largest community sporting event on the Gold Coast and one of the largest in Australia so the partnership is a perfect fit."

Parliamentary Secretary assisting the Premier on the Gold Coast and the Commonwealth Games Ms Peta-Kaye Croft MP said the Suncorp sponsorship would help the growth of the major Queensland event.

"This great Gold Coast event continues to grow each year, not only in runners but also sponsors, and the Suncorp sponsorship will enable even greater services to be provided to all those that participate," said Ms Croft.



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"Events like this show how well the Gold Coast is prepared to host the Commonwealth Games in 2018".

The 33rd annual Gold Coast Airport Marathon will be held on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 July 2011, with more than 25000 people set to participate.

The Gold Coast Airport Marathon will feature an event for all ages and abilities including the full Gold Coast Airport Marathon, ASICS Half Marathon, Wheelchair Half Marathon, Southern Cross University 10km Run, Queensland Health 5km Challenge and Junior Dash over 4km and 2km.

To register and for information on the Gold Coast Airport Marathon visit www.goldcoastmarathon.com.au

For further information on the SunWise program visit suncorp.com.au/sunwise

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