

New Zealand Gymnast in Youth Olympic Games Commercial

On 3rd February GSNZ was approached by a foreign company requesting a young gymnast of their required calibre to fly to Singapore for a commercial shooting for the Youth Olympic Games.

It sounded like a great opportunity for one of our top gymnasts and the accompanying coach. GSNZ did its homework around this company first, then based on the performances at the Commonwealth Games/World Championship/Pacific Rim Championship Eligibility Trials held on 6-7th February, GSNZ contacted the relevant gymnasts and received three applications. GSNZ then worked through its available video library, did some corrective editing and presented the three applicants to the production company. On 17th February GSNZ received the confirmation that the YOG Committee chose **Holly Moon** from **Christchurch School of Gymnastics** (CSG) and that she needed to be in Singapore by 24th February. Therefore a frantic organisation and late night calls took place among the production company, GSNZ, Holly and Avril Enslow (CEO of CSG) in order to ensure a smooth trip.

Here is what Avril has to say about their experience:

CSG GYMNAST STARS IN YOUTH OLYMPICS PROMOTIONAL VIDEO!

Where was Holly Moon a short while ago? She was in Singapore for a film shoot.

The producers were filming a promotional video about the Youth Olympics to be hosted by Singapore in August. The producers wanted a gymnast who was able to do some high level skills on beam with great form, and who was between the age of 14 and 17. There were quite a number of gymnasts from throughout NZ and Australia that were considered. It came down to a choice between Holly and a 14 year old gymnast from Brisbane. The Director chose Holly because the video that was sent to them showed that she had better stability, a broad range of skills, beautiful form and a great dismount.

A return ticket for two, full accommodation in an executive suite, a generous meal allowance plus a fee was offered.

One week's notice of confirmation that she was chosen was all Holly got. The shoot was done in a sports hall (no air-conditioning) and curtain call was 7am! Make up took an hour, as the colours needed to be changed after a change in leotard colour. From purple to cerise! Holly had to do beam skills in a long sleeve velvet leotard with cameras everywhere and bright lights. It was hot enough watching. The shoot went on to just after 4pm because they had problems with the overhead camera. It was an amazing experience.

Holly did a great job. We look forward to seeing the final cut. Well done Holly!

GSNZ has also received the following feedback from the production company:

"We thank you and Holly for making the whole YOG experience wonderful. It was a tough shoot, but Holly was just a great, great sport and such a trooper. We've really got some excellent footage of her.

There are a few versions that we did, the main version being a 60 seconder where we showcased a mixture of 5 sports including gymnastics. However, we also did a 20 seconder just on gymnastics, because the footage we had was simply awesome!"

The footage is expected to be finished soon and once it is on air, GSNZ will send out the link.

Finally, we would like to emphasise that GSNZ is very happy to support the New Zealand gymsports community in any way it can and is looking forward to organising more of these opportunities in the future.