The International Olympic Committee (IOC) OFFERS THE FOLLOWING VIDEO NEWS RELEASE TO ALL NEWS AGENCIES, BROADCASTERS AND ALL ONLINE PLATFORMS FREE OF CHARGE.

**Story Headline**: Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018: One year to go

**Location**: Buenos Aires, Argentina will be the location of the Youth Olympic Games 2018 (YOG).

**Date**: The Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 will take place between 6-18 Oct 2018.

**STORY SCRIPT**

**ONE YEAR TO GO #BuenosAires2018**

It's exactly one year to go to the opening ceremony of the Youth Olympic (YOG) Games Buenos Aires 2018, which gets under way on October 6th 2018.

It's the third summer edition of the YOG event, and will run until 18th October.

**New sports**

Four exciting new sports have been added to the Buenos Aires 2018 programme: dancesport (breaking), karate, roller sports and sport climbing.

Breaking makes its first ever appearance in Buenos Aires. It's also the first time in Olympic History that online video submissions were part of the qualification process. Budding young ‘b-boys’ and ‘b-girls’ from around the globe will be whipping up a storm of headspins, windmills and jackhammers for the judges.

Ahead of Tokyo 2020, karate is also set to makes its debut at the Youth Olympic...
Games in Buenos Aires 2018 - specifically the discipline of ‘Kumite’ which translates as ‘Grappling Hands’. According to the World Karate Federation, there are more than 100 million karate practitioners worldwide.

In roller sports 24 athletes (12 women and 12 men) will contest the roller speed discipline, with men’s and women’s combined events featuring races of 500m and 1000m, plus a 5000m elimination. The combined results from these races will determine the medallists. Due to similarities in the disciplines it is not uncommon for roller speed athletes to also compete in speed skating on ice.

Finally, sport climbing makes its first appearance on the Olympic programme. There will be a combined format featuring three disciplines - speed climbing, lead climbing and bouldering - with the winner decided by the highest cumulative score. Forty athletes will take part (20 girls and 20 boys). Speed climbs are against the clock while lead climbing is more technical. Bouldering involves climbing on low, short routes without a safety rope. Sport climbing was part of the highly successful Nanjing 2014 Sports Lab.

New disciplines have also been included in existing sports including futsal, beach
handball, BMX freestyle and kiteboarding.

Buenos Aires 2018 will be the first edition of an Olympic event with the same number of male and female participants, contributing to gender equality.

Construction and legacy

The Youth Olympic Park, a major social and urban city project accelerated by the YOG in the South of the city – one of the poorest areas of Buenos Aires, and the main construction project of the Games, is well underway and on schedule for delivery in April 2018.

The Youth Olympic Village and the different venues will be immersed in four parks, each with its own visual concept and identity: Urban Park, Green Park, Technopolis Park and Youth Olympic Park. Access to all four parks will be free of charge.

The Youth Olympic Village comprising 31 buildings and 1200 apartments will host around 7000 people during the Games, including 3998 athletes. More than 50 per cent of athletes will be able to walk to their venues.
After the Games, the apartments will become affordable housing for the local community. The Youth Olympic Centre facility will be repurposed as the Argentinian centre for high performance (CENARD) after the Games and other venues and existing infrastructure will also be reconditioned for competitions and training sessions.

**Bringing sport to the people**

Sports initiation, where guests can try out sports, will be on offer in 30 youth-focused disciplines such as urban table tennis, bossaball and roller freestyle. Participants will even have the opportunity to access some YOG fields of play after competitions, and free “Train with Champion” sessions will be on offer with Olympians.

Over 1000 pre-YOG events have already taken place across the city, delivering sport and cultural activities in schools and neighbourhoods to 400,000 participants. Recent examples include the unveiling of a 55-metre-high mural of Olympic judo champion Paula Pareto, which involved local schools, and the Olympic Day festival which offering 44 different sports for the public to try out.

With innovation key to the Games, the Opening Ceremony will be held for the first time
in a city street around the iconic Obelisco landmark. The event will be free and inclusive for the public.

Ambassadors

Argentinian sporting legends Luis Scola and Luciana Aymar have been appointed Ambassadors for the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018.

Olympic basketball champion Luis Scola won an Olympic gold in Athens in 2004, bronze at Beijing 2008 and was the Argentinian flag bearer at the Olympic Games Rio 2016. He also has 10 NBA seasons under his belt.

Luciana Aymar is a four-time Olympic medallist and eight-time FIH Player of the Year. The youngest Argentinian athlete to play for the national hockey team, her nickname is “The Magician” (“La Maga”).

Both were chosen by the IOC for their international sporting achievements and willingness to support the next generation through the YOG in their home nation. The IOC chooses Olympians to be Ambassadors for each edition of the YOG to help
reach and inspire young people to get active. Sporting legends such as Usain Bolt, Michael Phelps, Yelena Isinbaeva, Michelle Wie, Yao Ming and Chad le Clos have all supported previous summer YOGs. Their promotional campaigns have been shared with the IOC’s 60 million social media fans.

End

News Desk
www.rumsey.tv
UK Tel: +44 (0) 207 183 1792
Making digital Video News Release isn’t part of our business it is our business.