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Story script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: OLYMPIC CHAMPION AND YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES AMBASSADOR CHAD LE CLOS HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF BEING A ROLE MODEL TO YOUNG ATHLETES AT BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 10 October, 2018

LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina

LANGUAGE: English

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: <http://iocnewsroom.com>

STORY SCRIPT:

South African swimming sensation Chad Le Clos has been taking in the next generation of sporting talent at the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) Buenos Aires 2018.

The Olympic champion is in Argentina in his role as a YOG Ambassador, along with Olympic basketball champion and Buenos Aires local Luis Scola, and Argentinian hockey legend Luciana Aymar. He was also a YOG ambassador four years ago, when the second edition of the event took place in Nanjing, China.

Reigning world champion, Le Clos rose to prominence at the inaugural YOG at Singapore 2010 by taking home five medals, before setting about dethroning his sporting idol Michael Phelps at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Lining up against the two-time defending Champion in the 200m Butterfly final in London, Le Clos stole victory by just 0.05 of a second to confirm his meteoric rise which started at the 2010 YOG.

Now in Argentina as an Ambassador, the 26-year-old has highlighted the importance of being a positive role model for the next generation of athletes who are competing at Buenos Aires 2018.

Le Clos, who's now appeared at all three Youth Olympic Games, said: "I've got a few projects back home making a difference - the Chad Le Clos Academy - so it's all about giving back and being a positive role model. I think the world of sport needs more of them."

After using the YOG as a springboard for reaching the heights of his sport, the World and Commonwealth champion sees his future competition shining brightly at Buenos Aires 2018, including the Russian Federation's Andrei Minakov who claimed the men's 100m Butterfly gold.



Le Clos said: “The times at the moment are way faster than I was doing eight years ago. One of the boys I’m going to be racing against at the Olympics, he’s actually faster than me as we speak so it’s going to be amazing to see how that develops in the next two years. It’s great to see youngsters coming through and it’s really great for the sport going forward.”

The IOC chooses Olympians to be Ambassadors for each edition of the YOG to help reach and inspire young people to get active through sports activity. Sporting legends such as Usain Bolt, Michael Phelps, Yelena Isinbaeva, Michelle Wie and Yao Ming have supported previous summer YOGs.

Buenos Aires 2018 is the third edition of the Summer Youth Olympic Games (YOG) to be held, bringing together the world’s best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of males and females competing in the 32-sport programme.

Almost 4,000 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees will be competing for 1,250 medals. The Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 feature new sports and many new disciplines and events, reflecting the passions of the ‘Game Changers’, a new generation of athletes and fans.

The event offers a glimpse into the future of the Games as the new programme will introduce several innovations that will be replicated at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The first Summer Youth Olympic Games took place in Singapore in 2010. The second edition was held in the Chinese city of Nanjing in 2014.

SHOTLIST:

00:06 Chad Le Clos walking and talking to Kit McConnell, IOC Sports Director

00:18 Close up of Chad Le Clos laughing

00:22 Shot of YOG Athlete Role Model laughing

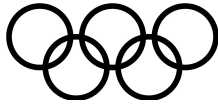
00:24 SOUNDBITE: Chad Le Clos, Olympic champion and YOG Ambassador (English Language)

“The significance of the YOG going forward for young athletes is very important. For me personally, it gave me the opportunity to experience things which I’d never experienced at a Commonwealth Games or World Championships, because you have to deal with a lot of outside pressures; walking around the village, a big dining hall with a lot of different athletes not just swimming, a lot of media, drug testing, which is a different ball game altogether. So it kind of prepares you for that next step which is then the Olympics. Obviously, it’s not on the same level but slightly below that – it’s amazing to mix with the cream of the crop so to speak with junior athletes in the world, so for me, it was a massive thing to go to the Youth Olympic Games in 2010.”

01:08 Chad Le Clos shakes hands with Thomas Bach, IOC President

01:14 SOUNDBITE: Chad Le Clos, Olympic champion and YOG Ambassador (English Language)

“I mean, I really enjoy it. To be here as an Ambassador for the YOG is a dream come true really, when you look at how many billion people there are around the world and I was



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luckily chosen. Like my dad says, he's very proud of me and this is the dream to still be competing at the highest level and be an ambassador and make a difference and make changes. I've got a few projects back home making a difference - the Chad Le Clos Academy - so it's all about giving back and being a positive role model. I think the world of sport needs more of them."

01:43 Chad Le Clos posing inside the Urban Park

01:49 SOUNDBITE: Chad Le Clos, Olympic champion and YOG Ambassador (English Language)

"The times at the moment are way faster than I was doing eight years ago. I mean, I would barely make the final so these guys would kick my ass easily, and girls. Swimming has definitely improved and it looks like all sports have improved and become more professional, I think that's just the way it's evolving every time. One of the boys I'm going to be racing at the Olympics next year, he's actually faster than me as we speak so it's going to be amazing to see how that develops in the next two years and of course I'm confident I'm going to get the win but it's great to see youngsters coming through and it's really great for the sport going forward."

02:25 Andrei Minakov, Russian Federation gold medalist in the men's 100m Butterfly, being awarded his mascot by Chad Le Clos

02:35 Wide shot of the crowd watching Sport Climbing

02:40 Competitor on the climbing wall

02:44 Chad Le Clos watching the Sport Climbing

02:49 The crowd cheering

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For more information, please contact the IOC Media Relations Team: Tel: +41 21 621 6000, email: pressoffice@olympic.org, or visit our web site at www.olympic.org.