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## Story Script and Shot log

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**STORY HEADLINE:** Singapore Ice Hockey player Matthew Hamnett fulfills Olympic dream as part of global Ice Hockey team at Lausanne 2020

**LOCATION:** Lausanne, Switzerland

**DATE:** January 13, 2020

**LANGUAGE:** English

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

### **STORY SCRIPT:**

One of the features of Singapore's first-ever, three-member team at a Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG), in Lausanne, is a sole ice hockey player, who could only fulfill his Olympic dream due to another "first" at these YOG.

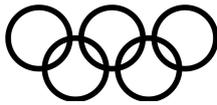
Matthew Hamnett is part of the new Mixed National Olympic Committee (NOC) 3x3 Ice Hockey event, which sees players from all different nations put together in teams to compete in a tournament.

The 15-year-old is a member of the "Orange" team and his teammates come from Belarus, Mexico, Hungary, Germany, Poland, Japan, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland, Russia, Republic of Korea and Austria.

That might normally lead to issues with language, but Hamnett says that's not a problem for him and his teammates. "Everyone understands our game plan, which is to just take shots because if you don't shoot, you can't score, and if you can't score, you can't win the game. If we want a pass, if we want the puck, we will call for it, tapping our sticks or just saying something to tell your teammates that you are open and you want the puck. So I don't think the language barrier is much of an issue."

The mixed NOC events are unique to YOG - with both summer and winter editions of the Games giving athletes from smaller nations the opportunity to compete, even if they would not normally be able to send a full Olympic team.

Hamnett carried the flag for Singapore at the opening ceremony at Lausanne 2020 and is embracing the whole experience, although he admits the competition is a step up from what he is used to.



## Story script and Shot log

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He said: "I'm loving it so far. The game itself is more intense that's for sure, compared to Singapore. It's more fast-paced, it's more intense, it's more physically demanding. Not just physically, it's more mentally demanding because, you know, a lot of intensity, so you get tired easily and when you're tired, your split second decisions have to be good, so it's a lot different to Singapore in terms of physicality and the demands."

Lausanne 2020 is the third edition of the Winter YOG, bringing together the world's best young athletes between the ages of 15 and 18. For the first time in Winter Olympic history the Games will have gender equality, with equal numbers of male and female competitors in the 81 medal events.

1,872 athletes from 79 National Olympic Committees will be in action in Lausanne, 12 of those NOCs for the first time at a Youth Olympic Games - Albania, Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Haiti, Hong Kong, Kosovo, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Trinidad & Tobago..

Lausanne 2020 features five new events, Women's Nordic Combined, Individual Normal Hill/4km, Women's Doubles Luge, Ice Hockey Mixed NOC 3x3 Tournament, Freeski Big Air, Snowboard Big Air. One new sport has also been added to the programme, Ski Mountaineering that includes five events: Women's and Men's Individual, Women's and Men's Sprint and Mixed NOC Relay.

The first Winter Youth Olympic Games took place in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012. The second edition was held in the Norwegian city of Lillehammer in 2016.

### **SHOTLIST:**

00:05 Matthew Hamnett carrying Singapore's flag at the Lausanne 2020 opening ceremony (January 9)

### **00:16 SOUNDBITE: Matthew Hamnett, Singapore. Ice Hockey player (English Language).**

*"You know, it's an honour to play or give back to Singapore, I guess, in terms of playing in the Olympics and representing them. So yeah, I think it will be to represent the country and to give back to them, yeah."*

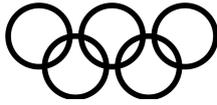
00:32 Matthew Hamnett walking

00:38 People walking near Olympic Village with Lausanne 2020 signage in background ending on Matthew Hamnett

### **00:45 SOUNDBITE: Matthew Hamnett, Singapore. Ice Hockey player (English Language).**

*"I think it's a very big thing because Singapore is known to be a tropical, hot, small country yeah, but the Winter Olympics especially, it's for a tropical country, we are located near the equator, to be part of a winter event it's a real big thing. It's a big stepping stone for Singapore into the Olympics."*

01:09 Matthew Hamnett taking to the ice for practice with his Mixed NOC 3x3 Ice Hockey team



**01:20 SOUNDBITE: Matthew Hamnett, Singapore. Ice Hockey player (English Language).**

*"Yeah I'm loving it so far. The game itself is more intense that's for sure, compared to Singapore. It's more fast-paced, it's more intense, it's more physically demanding. Not just physically too, it's more mentally demanding because, you know, a lot of intensity, so you get tired easily and when you're tired you need the split-second decisions to, not...Your split second decisions when you are fatigued has to be good, so yeah it's a lot different to Singapore in terms of the physicality and the demands, yeah."*

01:58 Matthew Hamnett training on the ice

**02:04 SOUNDBITE: Matthew Hamnett, Singapore. Ice Hockey player (English Language).**

*"When we go to the rink, on the ice especially, I joke with my teammates a bunch because we all gel together with the same common purpose, or the common identity, in the competition I guess. You know differences like language barrier, like differences...racism, anything like that, any differences, no-one cares because we're all just here to play our favourite sport hockey and we are all here to win."*

02:32 Matthew Hamnett training on the ice

**02:48 SOUNDBITE: Matthew Hamnett, Singapore. Ice Hockey player (English Language).**

*"We are going to have limited time, or limited resources, to strategise because, you know, not everyone understands each other's languages, but everyone understands our game plan which is just take shots, because if you don't shoot, you can't score, and if you can't score, you can't win the game. If we want a pass, if we want the puck, we will call for it, tapping our sticks or just saying something to tell your teammates that you are open and you want the puck. So I don't think the language barrier is much of an issue."*

03:23 Matthew Hamnett in locker room with teammates listening to coach

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