

2017 Athletic Facts

Fact File 59

Commonwealth Games Medals for England

Background. As we enter our sixth year of Fact Files ABAC continues to scrutinize the activities of the sport's NGB's. We note that England Athletics has recently published a 44 page 'glossy' Strategic Plan for 2017 and beyond. It is big on words and colour photographs, but very short on facts. See

<http://www.englandathletics.org/about-england-athletics/england-athletics-mission-and-values>.

We recommend the reader downloads the Strategic Plan from this Home Page.

In 2017 ABAC intends to examine the claimed 'facts' in this and other England documents. Here we go.

Claim 1. Medals in Commonwealth Games. On page 10 the following claim is made:-

27 medals at 2014 Commonwealth Games– Highest medal count for England*

Once again ABAC called in the services of Rob Whittingham to check this claim. He concluded that this is **clearly not** the highest medal count. He provided us with details of the medals England has won at all the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games starting from the inaugural event in 1930.

Because the number of medals has changed over the years he also calculated the percentage of total medals that England has won at the various games compared to the total on offer. Here is what he found.

	Eng Medals	Total Medals	England %
1930	25	63	40%
1934*	40	90	44%
1938	14	84	17%
1950	14	84	17%
1954	25	87	29%
1958*	22	87	25%
1962	20	93	22%
1966	19	99	19%
1970*	31	108	29%
1974	29	114	25%
1978	33	115	29%
1982	32	117	27%
1986*	48	124	39%
1990	40	127	32%
1994	35	126	28%
1998	33	138	24%
2002*	29	140	21%
2006	18	142	13%
2010	23	134	17%
2014*	23	133	17%

Games which were held in Britain are identified with *. As can be seen 2014 was far from the highest medal count and the percentage of medals won was the lowest ever for a Games held in Britain. ***This England Athletics claim is clearly incorrect and misleading.***

It will be noted that whereas 27 medals were claimed only 23 have been included in this table. That is because 4 medals won by disabled were added in by England Athletics.

Claim 2. 10 medals at the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games – Highest Count for England.

Again Rob counted the medals for this Championship which has been held since 2000.

	Eng Medals	Total Medals	England %
2000	29	90	32%
2004	26	102	25%
2008	11	102	11%
2011	21	102	21%
2015	10	90	11%

So 2015 is the worst medal total ever and equal the worst % ever. Not the best as claimed.
This England Athletics claim is clearly inaccurate and misleading.

Comments.

1. Many of the so called facts in the England Athletics are not backed by source reference
2. Those that can be independently checked will be scrutinised by ABAC in 2017.
3. The first figures we looked at for Commonwealth Senior and Youth Games medals are inaccurate and misleading.

More Fact Files on this subject of inaccurate claims to follow.