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media alert

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Layne Beachley beats the drum for Diabetes NSW in the 2009 NSW Corporate Games

Seven Time ASP World Surfing Champion Layne Beachley, is swapping her surfboard for a tennis racquet in a bid to raise funds for Diabetes Australia-NSW.

Recognised internationally as the greatest female surfer of all time, Layne once harboured aspirations of following a pro. tennis career (she was about 10 at the time), but soon realised she was even more capable in the water than on land. She of course went on to become one of Australia's greatest ever athletes.

Layne is teaming up with her old tennis coach in the Open Mixed Doubles event, representing online sports community www.doubledrummer.com - a search and social networking site that connects people through sport. Double Drummer struck up an alliance with the NSW Corporate Games and Diabetes Australia-NSW in 2008 – a natural fit with both organisations looking to promote an active lifestyle to reduce the obesity rate and therefore resultant diseases such as Type 2 diabetes.

The NSW Corporate Games is one of Australia's largest multi-sport championships, with organisers expecting **up to 7,500 competitors** this year. All entry fees go directly towards **supporting the vital work of Diabetes Australia-NSW** - Australia's largest charity organisation for people with diabetes.

From an initial team entry of 31 competitors last year, the 2009 Double Drummer team has more than doubled, currently consisting of 63 athletes across eight different sports. The largest contingent (21) will join Layne on the courts of the Geoff Poillard Tennis Centre at Macquarie

University, while other Double Drummers will compete in the swimming, squash, dragon boat racing, triathlon, track running and basketball events, with one brave DD representative among the expected 200-strong field for poker! The DD team has been drawn from a wide and diverse group of people – government employees, self-employed entrepreneurs, staff from some of the large corporates not submitting a team this year, students, retirees (and one World Champion!) ... all coming together to have fun playing sport.

Those wanting to witness Layne's prowess on the tennis court can see her play in the Open Mixed Doubles at the Corporate Games at Macquarie University on **Sunday 22nd March**. The Pre-Medal Round Robin matches kick off at 9:00am.

Layne commented on her participation, saying: *"I'm competing in the NSW Corporate Games because I love the whole philosophy of the Games, which mirrors my own values and that of the Beachley Athletic brand, as well as fitting perfectly with the three pillars that also make up Double Drummer's values - (i) participation in an active and healthy lifestyle (ii) meeting people and having fun and (iii) helping a good cause."*

NSW Corporate Games: Tennis Doubles Events

date: Sunday, 22nd March 2009
time: from 9:00am
venue: Geoff Pollard Tennis Centre
 Cnr Talavera & Culloden Rds, North Ryde (Macquarie University)
cost: free

for further information contact: (02) 9474 1000 or www.doubledrummer.com
for the NSW Corporate Games: www.corporategames.net.au/nsw
for Diabetes Australia-NSW: www.diabetesnsw.com.au

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Accompanying photo:

Download from: <http://www.doubledrummer.com/imageloads.aspx>

Caption: Seven time World Surfing Champion, Layne Beachley will represent Double Drummer at her other favourite sport, tennis, in the NSW Corporate Games on Sunday March 22.