Hidden reasons for inquiry delay

By Shona Robison

COMMONWEALTH GAMES AND SPORT MINISTER

NINE days from the start of the Commonwealth Games, a long-running and bitter row over the future of the Games’ governing body, the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), is as intense as ever.

The row was triggered on New Year’s Day when, in an extraordinary move, Commonwealth Games Minister Alistair Carmichael removed his ministerial responsibility for the Games, only to be reinstated the following day.

The controversy has been reignited this week by the news that Lord Coe, the former Olympic 1500 metres champion, has been appointed to chair the Independent Panel investigating the claims of alleged corruption at the Games by the CGF and its Commercial Operations.

The claims, made in a recent book by former CGF President Craig Reedie, have been rejected by Reedie himself.

But the new appointment has reignited the controversy, with many arguing that Lord Coe is too close to the sport to lead the panel.

The timing of the appointment is also significant, as it comes just days before the start of the Games, which are the largest multi-sport event in the world.

The Games, which are due to start on July 23, will be the 20th edition of the Commonwealth Games, which were first held in 1930.

The Games are held every four years and bring together athletes from 71 nations and territories, including those from the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, India and South Africa.

The Games are also seen as a key opportunity for Scotland to showcase its sporting talent and promote its culture and heritage.

But the controversy over the future of the CGF has cast a shadow over the Games, with many questioning whether the Games will be able to proceed without the involvement of the CGF.

The appointment of Lord Coe is likely to exacerbate this concern, with many arguing that he is too close to the sport to lead the panel.

The controversy is likely to continue throughout the Games, with many expecting it to reach a head well before the end of the competition.

The Games are due to end on August 8, with the closing ceremony scheduled for that day.

But the controversy over the future of the CGF is likely to continue throughout the Games, with many expecting it to reach a head well before the end of the competition.

The appointment of Lord Coe is likely to exacerbate this concern, with many arguing that he is too close to the sport to lead the panel.

The controversy is likely to continue throughout the Games, with many expecting it to reach a head well before the end of the competition.

The appointment of Lord Coe is likely to exacerbate this concern, with many arguing that he is too close to the sport to lead the panel.

The controversy is likely to continue throughout the Games, with many expecting it to reach a head well before the end of the competition.

The appointment of Lord Coe is likely to exacerbate this concern, with many arguing that he is too close to the sport to lead the panel.

The controversy is likely to continue throughout the Games, with many expecting it to reach a head well before the end of the competition.

The appointment of Lord Coe is likely to exacerbate this concern, with many arguing that he is too close to the sport to lead the panel.

The controversy is likely to continue throughout the Games, with many expecting it to reach a head well before the end of the competition.