**Pacific Games Council Annual Assembly report to OSFO**

**ELECTIONS:**

The Council held its quadrennial Executive Board elections and I am pleased to advise that President Vidhya Lakhan, Secretary-General David Boyd and Treasurer JohnTierney were all returned to office. With James Tobin retiring from the Executive Board, Marcus Stephen from Nauru was elected as the Council’s new Vice President.

**GAMES UPDATES FOR SPORT FEDERATIONS:**

The General Assembly also considered a wide range of Constitutional reforms and amendments to the Games Protocol and Regulations. Many of these proposals stemmed from the quadrennial Sport Program Review, conducted by the Council’s Sport Committee in the aftermath of the New Caledonia 2011 Pacific Games, of which OSFO was an active and constructive participant.

In summary, the major decisions taken by the General Assembly as they affect sport were as follows:

 Reduction in the maximum size of the Pacific Games from 28 to 26 sports;

 Reduction in the maximum size of the Pacific Mini Games from 15 to 12 sports;

 Desire for long term sport program consistency with a majority of 14 of the Pacific

Games sports to now be compulsory;

 Consequent elevation of three sports to the compulsory list: Boxing, Judo, Taekwondo;

 Promotion of further gender equity in elevation of Women’s Rugby 7s and Women’s

Boxing to join their male counterparts on the compulsory list;

 Expansion of Para-Sport events to include Table Tennis (in addition to Athletics);

 Deferral until 2013 of a decision on the conversion of the Pacific Mini Games to a Pacific

Youth Games pending further consultation with potential host governments;

 Ratification of Sailing to conduct its Oceania Championships at the 2013 Pacific Mini

Games and to join Weightlifting as two sports on the eight sport program which will host

their Oceania Championships and consequently Australian and New Zealander athletes;

 Appointment of a sub-committee to study the further expansion of Australian and New

Zealander participation at future Pacific Games; and

 Agreement to provide the International Federation Delegate with single room

accommodation and greater authority over arrangements for their sport, including:

o Direct nomination of Technical Officials where they cannot be supplied by the

host Organising Committee; and

o Formal authority to approve all technical arrangements, including the sports

equipment, the appointment of all local Technical Officials by the host

Organising Committee, and the development of the competition format (draws, start lists, seedings and schedules).

The last aforementioned bullet point mentioned was designed to better recognise and regularize the role of International Federations in the Pacific Games, in much the same way that is recognised at other multi-sport Games like the Olympic and Commonwealth Games. In its tireless advocacy for these proposals, OSFO can claim considerable credit for their adoption by the Pacific Games movement, which will undoubtedly strengthen the role of the International Federations in the Pacific Games and in its wider work in the Pacific region.

**2019 GAMES**

General Assembly awarded the 2019 Pacific Games to Tonga, who defeated Tahiti Nui by a vote of sixteen to six. A Host City Contract was signed with the Tongan Government and the Tongan Pacific Games Association, and preparations will begin immediately to form the Games delivery organs which will construct the required venues to host the following 26 sports which are now confirmed on their Games program:

**Compulsory List** **Optional List**

1. Athletics Men Women 15. Archery Men Women

2. Basketball Men Women 16. Baseball Men Women

3. Boxing Men Women 17. Body Building Men Women

4. Football Men (Women) 18. Cricket Men Women

5. Golf Men Women 19. Hockey Men Women

6. Judo Men Women 20. Lawn Bowls Men Women

7. Rugby 7’s Men Women 21. Netball Women

8. Swimming Men Women 22. Power lifting Men Women

9. Table Tennis Men Women 23. Rugby League 9’s Men

10. Taekwondo Men Women 24. Softball Men Women

11. Tennis Men Women 25. Surfing Men Women

12. Va’a Men Women 26. Triathlon Men Women

13. Volleyball - Beach & Indoor Men Women

14. Weightlifting Men Women