

ITTF-Oceania 2010 OSFO/ONOC Annual Report

<u>SUMMARY</u>

Extremely active and very productive best describes 2010 for ITTF-Oceania.

No less than 20 development courses were conducted in twelve different countries throughout the year. Seven separate Olympic Solidarity Technical Courses were conducted in Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Fiji, Guam, Samoa, and Tonga. Additionally, three OTTF Development Courses were held in Tahiti, Guam (OTTF Women's Course), and New Zealand (Para Table Tennis Course). Also, two separate successful courses for Starting an Association were conducted in Tokelau, and Wallis & Futuna.

Two Basic Certified Umpires Courses were conducted in Palau, and Fiji. For the first time ever an ITTF Marketing Course was held in Oceania, on this occasion in New Zealand and gained participation from twelve Oceania countries. Also in New Zealand was an ITTF Racket Control Seminar, which again was the first of its kind in Oceania. Furthermore, an Oceania Sports Education Program Sport in Communities Administrator Course was conducted in Nauru.

Finally three multi-country training camps were held throughout the year in China (Oceania Talent Team), New Zealand (ITTF Global Junior Circuit) and New Zealand once again (Oceania Cadet's Team).

Over the course of 2010 no less than 3053 people were exposed to one of the ITTF-Oceania development courses. Of these 3053 people, 1752 (57.39%) were male and 1301 (42.61%) were female.

After ITTF-Oceania successfully established an association in both Tokelau and Wallis & Futuna in 2010, it took the total ITTF-Oceania membership to 24 countries/territories. This represents 100% membership from all Oceania countries/territories. This is significant as it means that ITTF-Oceania is the first Continental Federation within ITTF and also the first sport within Oceania to gain 100% membership.

On the television and marketing front, ITTF-Oceania became the first Continental Federation to enter into a tripartite agreement with ITTF and TMS International. This enabled ITTF-Oceania to adopt the brand name of ITTF-Oceania for marketing purposes and Oceania events, and it will also provide the financial stability necessary to increase the professionalism of Oceania events. Work on the 2011 ITTF-Oceania Cup has progressed steadily and already a Title Sponsor, an Equipment Sponsor, and a Flooring Sponsor have already been secured. Finally, 2010 was the first year of the agreement between Fox Sports in Australia and TMS International where five ITTF events and twelve episodes of a television program were broadcast in Australia.

Within Oceania the major events throughout 2010 were the Oceania Youth Olympic Games Qualification Event, the Oceania Cadet Challenge, the 2010 KVB Kunlun New Zealand Junior and Cadet Open, the ITTF Youth Olympic Games Qualification Event and the 2010 KVB Kunlun Oceania Championships. All these five events were held in New Zealand. Additionally, the Micronesian Games were held in Palau.

Oceania athletes also competed internationally at the African Youth Olympic Games Qualification Event, the 2010 Liebherr World Championships in Russia, the Youth Olympic Games in Singapore, the Commonwealth Games in India, Team Oceania competed at the Global Cadet Challenge in India, the ITTF Global Junior Circuit Finals in India, and the 2010 Volkswagen World Junior Table Tennis Championships in Slovakia. Additionally, an Oceania athlete was selected into the ITTF World Hopes Team (under 12 years old) for the first time and they attended competitions and training camps in France and Korea.

A plethora of equipment was also distributed throughout Oceania in 2010 thanks to our sponsors Butterfly Ariston and Tamasu Butterfly and our partners Tibhar and ESN, and Stag International. A total of 724 rackets, 22 gross (3,168) balls, and 30 nets were circulated throughout the ITTF-Oceania members. Additionally, full equipment packages were provided to both Norfolk Island and Tokelau – the first equipment package contained 6 tables, 6 nets, 80 rackets, 8 gross (1152) balls, and 6 scoreboards; the second equipment package contained 6 tables, 6 nets, 30 rackets, 3 gross (432) balls, and 6 scoreboards. On top of this no fewer than 97 ITTF-PTT Coaching Manuals were dispersed throughout the year.

2010 THANKYOU AND 2011 PREVIEW

Before concluding, special thanks must be given to those who have helped ITTF-Oceania to continue to flourish and expand. The Oceania National Olympic Committees, the International Table Tennis Federation, and TMS International provide the financial backing for the Oceania Development Program. Without their unwavering support over the past 12 years table tennis in Oceania would not be where it is today; ITTF-Oceania are forever grateful and will be forever indebted to all three parties for their backing.

To our long serving sponsors, Tamasu Butterfly and Butterfly Ariston, ITTF-Oceania offers its sincerest thanks once again. Without their generosity since 1999, where tens of thousands of dollars worth of equipment has been provided to the Oceania Development Program, it is sure that the development that has been achieved along the way would not have been possible.

An extra special mention must be given to the TV network Fox Sports in Australia. 2010 was the first year that ITTF-Oceania and Fox Sports have been in partnership and through their support ITTF-Oceania have a vehicle for increasing the exposure of table tennis in Australia. For the first time table tennis has broadcast guarantees in the region and this provides a mechanism for continuing to find new ways of moving forward.

Also, to our other partners Tibhar and ESN, and Stag International, ITTF-Oceania is always appreciative of the support provided.

We look forward to working together with all our sponsors and partners well into the future to create mutually beneficial agreements and to continue to strengthen our relationships.

Many thanks must always be offered to the National Olympic Committees in Oceania that supported the Oceania Development Program by allocating Olympic Solidarity Technical Courses throughout 2010. Supporting the Oceania Development Program via this means enables for a lasting legacy to be left in each country/territory and for table tennis to continue to grow. In 2010 there were seven Olympic Solidarity Technical Courses conducted, and much praise is offered to the following National Olympic Committees for their support (in chronological order) – Kiribati National Olympic Committee, Nauru Olympic Committee, Palau National Olympic Committee, Fiji Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee, Guam National Olympic Committee, Samoa Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee, and Tonga Sports Association and National Olympic Committee.

There are too many individual people who have assisted with the success of ITTF-Oceania throughout 2010, but a special mention must go to Mr. Glenn Tepper (Executive Director – ITTF Development Programmes) for his steady hand in guiding the Oceania Development Program. His vision and initiative has played the leading role in the growth and sustainability of the Oceania Development Program over the past 12 years and for this ITTF-Oceania are very appreciative. Also, Mr. Patrick Gillmann (ITTF-Oceania President) must be given acclaim for his professional and hands-on approach to the role. He has provided the push forward that the ITTF-Oceania needed in order to go to a new level. With an increase in television exposure and the creation of world class events within Oceania, his dreams are quickly becoming a reality. Additionally, many thanks must go to Mr. Steve Dainton (ITTF Marketing Director) for his guidance in improving the professionalism and marketability of table tennis within Oceania. Without his knowledge it is certain that the implementation of a television contract in Australia

and the possibility of creating world class events in Oceania would not be possible. Finally, recognition must go to Mr. Phil Males (ITTF-Oceania Executive Director) for his continued work from behind the scenes. He always manages to keep things running smoothly and without his work the ITTF-Oceania would not be able to operate successfully.

Looking ahead to 2011, it is a very exciting time. For the first time ever, an Oceania event will receive television broadcast – the Liebherr 2011 ITTF-Oceania Cup will be broadcast in Australia through Fox Sports. This will be one of the all time highlights for table tennis in Oceania.

There will also be plenty of activity once again throughout the year for the Oceania Development Program. To begin with, in January the Oceania Talent Team will travel to Chengdu, China for a high performance training camp. Following this an OTTF Development Course will be presented in Niue and an Olympic Solidarity Technical Course will be conducted in American Samoa. Next on the agenda will be an Olympic Solidarity Technical Course in the Solomon Islands and an OTTF Development Course in New Caledonia. An Olympic Solidarity Technical Course in Palau has been secured as well. Further visits in 2011 are also expected to be made to Guam, Papua New Guinea, Tokelau, Wallis & Futuna, Tuvalu, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands and New Zealand.

On the competition front, in addition to the Liebherr 2011 ITTF-Oceania Cup, there will be an ITTF Global Junior Circuit event held in Guam in April. This will be the first time that an international event has come to Guam which is an excellent step forward. Also, the World Championships will be played in Rotterdam, Netherlands. Additionally, the World Junior Table Tennis Championships will be played in Manama, Bahrain. Finally, the ITTF Global Cadet Challenge and ITTF Global Junior Circuit Final will both be played in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Throughout 2010 there has been a further increase in activity in terms of courses conducted, participants involved, competitions played, exposure gained, and action of ITTF-Oceania members. In 2011 this is set to continue which is very encouraging and ITTF-Oceania appears to be continuing to head in the right direction.

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