

Pacific Games Sports Committee Report

The Pacific Games Council Sports Committee met via Zoom on the 8th of March 2020. Following are resolutions put forward by the Sports Committee to the PGC.

The SPR agreed to invite Australia and New Zealand to the next Pacific Games (and Pacific Mini Games where applicable) in nine sports: Archery, Athletics, Beach Volleyball, Karate, Rugby 7s, Sailing, Table Tennis (Para), Taekwondo and Weightlifting and left open the possibility of invitations in the following sports, where an update is hereby provided:

- * Baseball - the WBSC Oceania remains in discussion with its Australian and New Zealand members to seek interest in being invited to the CNMI 2022 Pacific Mini Games.
- * Boxing - the Oceania Boxing Confederation remains "in favour of Australian and New Zealand boxers participating in the Pacific Games with the goal of the Pacific Games Boxing Championships becoming a Continental Qualification Event for future Olympic Games". This will need to remain under negotiation so that excessive costs are not imposed on the Games Organising Committee, especially international technical officials.
- * Indoor Volleyball - OZVA are still considering this matter as part of its review of the playing schedule (and possible quotas) as noted above.

CNMI2022 Sports Program Update

Last October, the Council officially endorsed the postponement of the next Pacific Mini Games in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) to 17-25 June 2022 due to COVID-19. The Games Organising Committee (GOC) has formed and has commenced regular meetings and are currently in the market for a CEO. No new venues are needed to host the Games, although grants from the US government will be utilised to repair some of the facilities damaged by the Typhoon, in particular the Baseball venue's fencing and sections of the Athletics track.

Solomon Islands 2023

The Solomon Islands 2023 sports program was locked in at the time of its successful bid in 2016, however given the popularity of Football as its "national sport", the hosts have since requested the addition of both Futsal and Beach Football to the 2023 Pacific Games program. The Indonesian Government have commenced building a Futsal Centre to be completed by the end of 2021, although it will have a multi-purpose function to enable other sports (notably Indoor Volleyball and combat sports) to be played there during the Games.

Preparations for the 2023 Pacific Games remain on track with the National Hosting Authority overseeing the infrastructure program. The bulk of the venues will be built by China, whose plans include the Stadium, Swimming pool, Tennis, Hockey, Multi-purpose Hall and a second Stadium.

Despite COVID-19 delays, the conceptual design phase has been completed and the project is now out to tender. Oceania Federations have been consulted as part of the concept design phase. Construction is due to start in May, with completion scheduled for June 2023. Donors are being sought to build a new water complex to house Sailing, Va'a/Kayak, Open Water Swimming and Triathlon, although if none are forthcoming existing sites will be used.

The Games Organising Committee (GOC) has formed and has commenced regular meetings and are planning for the Games to be held from 16-29 July 2023.

Yvonne Mullins – OSFO Representative