



# Oceania AGM 2011

The Oceania Netball Federation (ONF) AGM was this year hosted by Papua New Guinea.

PNG were fabulous hosts and the accommodation at Lamana Hotel was outstanding!

PNG also hosted the 4th annual Pacific Netball Series, which saw Fiji, Samoa, Cook Islands and PNG compete for the overall winners title for 2011. More about the Pacific Netball Series on page 3 & 4.

At the AGM several new initiatives were reported, which have the potential to progress the Oceania region positively in the future:

The Region has established Game Development and High Performance Advisory Groups. The purpose of these groups is to lead the strategic direction for game development and high performance in the region. The advisory groups will be chaired and led by country delegates.

Year 1 of the Oceania High Per-

formance Umpire Development Plan was being implemented, with some great results and several potential umpires identified for future nurturing with a view to having 2 International Umpire appointments from within the Pacific in the near future.

The Pacific Netball Partnership funding and work plans in Samoa, Vanuatu and Cook Islands are providing solid platforms for these countries to build on in the coming few years.

Read on to find out more...



**Oceania Netball Federation Executive, Country Presidents & Delegates**

**Back:** Mata Tuatagaloa (Samoa), Patsy Hockin (Cook Islands), Frances Lasekula (Vanuatu), Tui Hicks (Samoa), Bev Barlow (Samoa)  
**Middle:** Alini Sovu (Fiji), Noelyn Luahiti (Solomon Islands), Julienne Leka (PNG), Hitolo Moka (PNG), Jeanette Yiu Hing (Vanuatu)  
**Front:** Carole Maddix (NZ - ONF Executive), Tina Browne (Cook Islands - ONF President), Briar Martindale (NZ - ONF Executive)

## Welcome Tonga Netball Association

In 2011 the Oceania Netball Federation membership increased to 10 countries.

We extend a very warm welcome to our new members Tonga Netball Association!

Unfortunately Tonga were not able to attend the 2011 AGM in PNG, but we look forward

to meeting 'Ungatea Kata (President) and other members of the Tonga Netball Association in the near future.



The Oceania Netball Federation membership is as follows:

**Full members:**

Cook Islands, Fiji, New Zealand, Norfolk Islands, PNG, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu

**Associate members:**

Niue, Solomon Islands

**Inside this issue:**

2011 AGM Summary	1
Welcome Tonga	1
Oceania High Performance Umpire Development Camp 2011	2
Pacific Netball Partnership & Oceania High Performance Advisory Groups	2
Oceania Umpire Development Program 2011 Summary	3
Oceania Tournament Squad	3
Pacific Netball Series 2011 highlights & 2012 Update	4
Donated uniforms distribution	4

**Special points of interest:**

- [IFNA World Rankings as at 10th July 2011](#)
- [Online Coaching Toolkit](#) - go online to develop your own skills as a Coach using the NNZ developed online toolkit
- [NetballSmart](#) - for off season and pre season training and fitness plans, nutrition & injury prevention tips
- [ANZ Champs](#) starts in March 2012
- [IFNA International Events Calendar 2011 - 2015](#)

# Oceania High Performance Umpire Development Program 2011

## Funding the program

In late 2010 the Oceania Executive developed a High Performance Umpire Development plan. The plan was submitted to IFNA through a net effects grant application process and £5000 was approved. In addition, the Pacific Netball Partnership General Professional Development Fund (funded by the Australian Sports Commission), was generously made available to those countries who were successful with their PNP applications in Year 1 ie; Samoa & Cook Islands.

## Phase 1: Umpire Dev Camp

Planning started for the implementation of the Oceania HP Umpire Dev plan in 2011, and the inaugural Oceania Umpire Development Camp was initiated in April.

A total of 11 potential High Performance Oceania Umpires and Umpire Coaches were selected in Year 1, to travel to the camp and spend time in training with NZ

Umpire Panel members and Umpires.



**Oceania Umpire Development Camp in Auckland, NZ**

**Back from left:** Sio Ainuu (Samoa), Luciana Matenga (Cook Islands), Ioane Iosefo (Samoa), Moape Ravudolo (Fiji), Louise Mataia (Samoa, Punanga Kaveao (Cook Islands), Raijieli Rabitu (Fiji), Janette Browne (Cook Islands)  
**Front:** Angela Jowitt (Samoa), Jona Saturu (Fiji), Dianne McTigue (NZ Umpire Dev Mng), Melaia Druani (Fiji)

## Oceania Pacific Umpire Squad (High Performance):

Angela Jowitt (Samoa)  
Ioane Iosefo (Samoa)  
Punanga Kaveao (Cook Islands)

## Oceania Pacific Talent Development Umpire Squad:

Luciana Matenga (Cook Islands)  
Jona Saturu (Fiji)  
Melaia Druani (Fiji)

## Oceania Pacific Umpire Coaches Squad:

Louise Mataia (Samoa)  
Janette Browne (Cook Islands)

At the conclusion of the Camp, 3 Oceania Umpire Development Squads were selected by the NZ Umpire Panel as follows:

Read more on Page 3 to learn about Phase 2 of the Umpire Dev Programme 2011.....

## Oceania HP & GD Advisory Groups

In 2011 the Oceania Executive lead the inception of the first ever Oceania High Performance and Game Development Advisory Groups.

The purpose of the Oceania Netball Federation (ONF) High Performance Advisory Group (HPAG) is to assist the ONF Executive to develop strategies, pathways, competitions and resources for the development of high performance advancement in the Oceania Region.



The purpose of the Oceania Netball Federation (ONF) Game Development Advisory Group (GDAG) is to assist the ONF Executive to develop strategies, pathways, competitions and resources for the development of the game of Netball in the Oceania Region.

The HP Advisory Group members are:

- Wainikiti Bogidrau (Fiji)
- Tui Hicks (Samoa)
- Lynette Hagai (Cook Islands)

- Gaylene Eyre (NZ)

- Tina Browne (ONF Executive)

The GD Advisory Group members are:

- Jeanette Yiu Hing (Vanuatu)
- TBC (Solomon Islands)
- Boe Lahui-Ako (PNG)
- Briar Martindale (NZ)
- Carole Maddix (Oceania Executive)

The Advisory Groups will meet at least once annually - with regular communication via email & skype.

## Pacific Netball Partnership Update

Samoa, Vanuatu and the Cook Islands are 2/3rds the way through their first year as recipients of the Pacific Netball Partnership, generously funded by the Australian Government.



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Sports Commission**  
**AusAID**

Each country has employed full time employee's to manage the operational

arm of their respective national netball organisations.

Samoa and Cook Islands have also undergone full "governance" reviews, ensuring their structure and governance are strong and able to lead and drive the strategic direction of their organisations in the future.

The Cook Islands have made good progress to date, introducing a new governance and netball delivery structure; coaching in schools; training of coach & umpire development facilitators; netball development training occurring in 3 of the islands to name a few successes.

Congratulations to PNG & Tonga, who were successful in their application for PNP funding in 2012.

# Oceania High Performance Umpire Development Program 2011 continued

## Phase 2: Umpire Development Program

Following the selection of the Oceania Umpire Development Squads, the Squad members were appointed to NZ hosted events - enabling them to gain valuable experience and expose them to a higher level of competition.

### NZ AGC - U19/U21

First up was the NZ Age Group Champs (U19/U21 ages) held in Nelson in July. Ioane Iosefo and Louise Mataia were appointed to this event. Ioane performed well and gained a 4th tier banded grading at the conclusion of the event.

Louise received daily training in Umpire Coaching from the NZ Umpire Panel members, for the entire week of the event. Valuable insight was provided and will enable Louise to implement an Umpire Coaching/Panel concept suitable for Samoa in the future.

### NZ AGC - U17

Punanga Kaveao, Jona Saturu and Janette Browne were appointed to the NZ Age Group Champs (U17 age) held in Hamilton in July. Punanga and Jona also performed well, with reports from the NZ Umpire Panel members that Jona improved each day throughout the competition and Punanga receiving appointment to a B Grade Final - an outstanding achievement! Jona gained a 3rd tier banding placement and Punanga a 2nd tier banding placement.

Janette similar to Louise, received daily training in Umpire Coaching from the NZ Umpire Panel member, for the entire week of the event. Janette has al-

ready started implementing her learnings in her local community in the Cook Islands.

Punanga returned to Cook Islands and



*Punanga Kaveao (Cook Islands) in action*

successfully completed the NZ Theory Exam in September, and was subsequently appointed to the NZ Secondary School Champs held in Napier in October. More about Punanga's success at NZSS later in this article.

### Upper North Island Secondary School Champs

The annual Upper North Island Secondary School Champs was hosted by Netball Bay of Plenty and held in Tauranga. Luciana and Melaia were appointed to this event, with Raijieli Rabitu (Fiji) and Jackie (Sio) Ainuu (Samoa) also provided with the opportunity to attend this event.

Luciana who had successfully achieved a NZ Regional Theory pass in August, was assessed and awarded the NZ Regional

(Oceania) practical badge at this tournament - a fabulous effort and wonderful outcome for Luciana!

Melaia, Raijieli and Jackie also performed well, and each were provided with individual umpire assessments from NZ Umpire Panel member, Pam Clayton.

The NZ Secondary School Champs held in Napier in October was the final NZ event for 2011, which saw two Oceania Umpires represented and undertake further training and gain more experience.

Punanga Kaveao and Angela Jowitt (Samoa) attended this event - which is considered the beginning tier to the Netball New Zealand High Performance pathway. Both umpires performed very well, with Punanga receiving commendations from the NZ Umpire Panel members and being awarded a NZ C Award at this tournament!

Overall a fantastic effort by all Oceania Umpires selected to Year 1 of the Oceania Umpire Development Plan.



**Oceania Umpires at UNISS:**

*From Left: Jackie Ainuu, Melaia Druani, Elaine Curtis (NZ Umpire), Luciana Matenga & Raijieli Rabitu*

## Pacific Netball Series 2011 - Oceania Tournament Squad

Keeping in tune with many other "firsts" which seems to be the theme for 2011 in the Oceania Region - the first ever "Oceania Tournament Squad" was selected and named at the 2011 Pacific Netball Series in Papua New Guinea.

The named Squad members were considered the '12 top performers' by the selectors, who this year were the Oceania Executive: Tina Browne, Carole Mad-dix and Briar Martindale.



**2011 Oceania Tournament Squad:**

*From Left: Paula Te Huna (Cooks), Afa Rusivakula (Fiji), Lua Rikis (PNG), Seruwaia Vonolagi (Fiji), Ritua Aliivaa (Cooks), Nisha Omi (PNG), Mere Rabuka (Fiji), Fay Karatau (Samoa), Luciana Matenga (Cooks), Matila Waqrandrola (Fiji), Curly Taripo (Cooks), Vaiti Waqatabu (Fiji)*

The Squad is the first of several initiatives that the Oceania Executive have in negotiations to highlight the many talented netballers we have in the region and to provide more opportunities for High Performance Players in the future. More about these initiatives will be discussed at the 2012 AGM in Fiji.



#### OCEANIA NETBALL FEDERATION

c/- Pacific Partnership & Oceania  
Manager  
Netball New Zealand  
PO Box 99 710  
Newmarket 1149  
New Zealand

Phone: +64 21 243 3908  
E-mail: briarm@netballnz.co.nz

*"Providing opportunities to promote and develop netball in the Oceania region."*

## PNS & Bench Officials Success 2011

Congratulations to Papua New Guinea Netball Federation for hosting the hugely successful Pacific Netball Series in June this year.

Fiji's performance at the PNS 2011 was outstanding, as they dominated their fellow Oceania Region teams, coming out on top to take 1st place in the series. Cook Islands placed a solid 2nd, Samoa 3rd and hosts PNG in the rebuilding phase to place 4th.

In addition, the PNG NF through assistance of its sponsors and the Pacific Netball Partnership General Professional Development fund, successfully arranged the training of PNG bench officials in the week prior to and during the PNS. A total of 22 PNG bench officials were these trainees selected to PNS. Five PNG Bench awarded Regional Bench with many coming creditation and are sure the very near future. (Samoa) also attended achieved the National accreditation, Tereapii (lands) re-endorsed with tion as well.



*PNG Bench Officials in training*

Two Oceania National Bench Officials were enlisted to train the 22 PNG benchies one week prior to the PNS. Autiare Luke (Cook Islands) and Louise Mataia (Samoa) did a sterling job, working to very tight deadlines and showing their flexibility as little challenges arose. These two ladies were assessed by NZ Bench Official, Nina Smith to determine their ability to be Bench Official assessors for the Oceania Region in future - and at the completion of the PNS, Nina announced both Louise and Autiare as extremely competent Bench Official trainers and assessors. A simply outstanding achievement for the Oceania Region ladies - congratulations!

## Pacific Netball Series 2012

The 4th Annual Pacific Netball Series will be held in Fiji during the week of 20th June 2012.

The Pacific Netball Series is an annual competition, lead and coordinated by the four partners in the PNS MOU:

- Cooks Islands
- Fiji
- Papua New Guinea
- Samoa

At the 2011 PNS meeting, Vanuatu requested assistance with improving the

standard of its Netball, and is at the stage of much needed competition against some of its Oceania friends.

The South Pacific Games is usually a way to make a comparison between Oceania countries, but with New Caledonia not choosing netball to be a sport within the 2011 SPG and Wallis Futuna in 2013, Vanuatu faced the prospect of having to wait a full 8 years before having the opportunity to have international competition again.

Thankfully the PNS MOU partners have

agreed to assist with this issue. As part of the lead-up to the 2012 PNS, Vanuatu has been given the opportunity to travel to Fiji to play in some "training matches" against the PNS countries.

Although these games will not be part of the official competition, it will give Vanuatu a great idea of where the team fits into the Oceania region competition standards.

Vanuatu are working hard to finalise their national squad with a view to training and preparation for the 2012 PNS in Fiji.

## Donated Uniforms distribution 2012

The NZ Netball community has once again generously donated preloved uniforms to be distributed to the ONF countries.

The ONF with the continued generosity of Air New Zealand and Netball New Zealand, will arrange delivery of these uniforms in December 2011.

The ONF will be in touch with Oceania members shortly to arrange delivery of the donated uniforms.

The ONF is also working with the Olympic Sport Federations of Oceania (OSFO) to try to reduce the 'freight' charges our members are incurring to



gain access to the uniforms when they are delivered in country.

Members should report all cases where you are being charged 'customs fees' or 'freight handling' fees in country, in order to release the uniforms for distribution. Information provided should be

accompanied by copies of all invoices pertaining to fees charged by customs or airports accordingly.



*Solomon Islands villagers receiving donated uniforms*