Activity Report
March 2004 — September 2006

‘an ocean of solidarity’
It gives me great pleasure to offer you a comprehensive account of the Oceania Football Confederation’s tasks and projects with the OFC Activity Report for the period March 2004 — September 2006.

The past two years have seen a transformation in the infrastructure of the game as the FIFA Goal programme together with our own infrastructure grants continues to improve the framework of the OFC Member Associations. These initiatives by FIFA and OFC have improved, promoted and strengthened development across the OFC region to an unprecedented level. We now have fully functioning offices and facilities in all of our Member Associations and this will help boost the development of the game in our region.

Since the departure of Australia from the OFC to the AFC, opportunities for our Member Associations to qualify for FIFA events has increased and I am pleased to see our presence heightened on the world stage. The New Zealand U-20 women’s sterling performance at the FIFA U20 Women’s World Championship in Russia, Auckland City FC qualifying for the FIFA Club World Cup in Japan, and the Solomon Islands qualification for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in Brazil rank as excellent achievements and signals OFC’s arrival at the highest level of the game.

Since assuming the Oceania Football Confederation presidency in 2004 I have made it my priority to focus attention on utilising football as a development tool for the youth in our region. To that end, I have met with representatives of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, EU, UN, and UNESCO, among others to discuss proposals that will see the OFC playing an active role in youth education, leaders training, and policies of public health, economic development, cultural exchanges and community development. Football has the power to make the world a better place and the response to these initiatives has been very encouraging.

As we look forward to the future the signs are good that the OFC will develop and mature into a force in world football in coming years.

Reynald Temarii
OFC President
The game in American Samoa is currently in a state of transition where a ‘Normalisation Committee’ continues to guide the future of football in the country. In September 2006 Pou Suapao was appointed as its new chairperson. This internal change within the ‘Normalisation Committee’ received full support from OFC and FIFA and is seen as another positive step of the ‘Roadmap Activities’ project that is in the process of reinstating football ownership to the American Samoan football community.

The inauguration of the FIFA Goal Project provided CIFA with a house of football and national academy and has played a significant role in football in the Cook Islands overtaking the traditionally popular codes of rugby and rugby league in terms of participation. CIFA continues to run its development programmes and regularly holds competitions on a national scale despite the geographical obstacles. A core of talented young players currently ply their trade in the Cook Islands.

Without doubt the pinnacle events of the 40th year of the OFC were the 2006 FIFA U-19 Women’s World Championship in Russia where the side performed with distinction. New Zealand’s competitive performances at the 2006 FIFA U-20 Women’s World Championship in Japan were nothing short of a winning record that saw them through to a semi-final against Tonga. The matches of the 2nd phase of the FIFA Goal Project new Women’s tournament incorporated national headquarters at the Tokelafoa JS Blatter Football Fields took place in August 2005 and gave Samoa high hopes that the continued improvement of the game continued at pace. Samoa’s performances at the 2006 OFC U-20 Women’s Championship on home soil were nothing short of excellent. Samoa dominated their group with an unblemished winning record that saw them through to a semi-final against Tonga.

Also in 2005 the Solomon Cup returned to the event calendar with crowds in excess of 5,000 attending every day of competition at Lawson Tama Stadium. Finally, the Solomon Bilikiki created history by qualifying for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup, the first Pacific Island nation to reach a FIFA world final event.

With the construction of the only specialised beach soccer pitch in the region, Tahiti can rightly claim to be the home of beach soccer in Oceania. The hugely successful hosting of the inaugural OFC Beach Soccer Championship, which doubled as a FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup Qualifier, should ensure Tahiti retain this title in years to come. Tahiti’s 1st Phase FIFA Goal Project got underway in July of 2006 with the construction of a pool technicians and five playing pitches in August 2005. Continued development will see further extensions added that include accommodation facilities and an education centre. The passing of long-serving VFF President Johnny Tinsley-Lulu was a blow for the nation and the Oceania football family as a whole. Tinsley-Lulu is credited with having qualified for the FIFA World Cup for the first time in 22 years. After a structural and constitutional reform the reborn Football Federation Australia undertook several key tasks including the launch of the new A-League, providing a platform for the senior national team to succeed, and entry into Asia. Australia continues to provide support to OFC despite their departure.

With five Associate Members to be admitted in 2006 OFC continues to maintain positive relationships with all Member Associations as the “Ocean of Solidarity” strengthens providing support and leadership when required but also allowing associations to keep their autonomy and grow.
**OFC Administration**

In order to meet the needs of the Member Associations and stakeholders it is essential that the OFC Administration is effective in its operations. OFC currently has a staff of nine and works closely with the FIFA Development Office.

The OFC President is supported in his role by the members of his executive office.

Under the leadership of General Secretary Tai Nicholas the OFC General Secretariat continues to grow and develop. The General Secretariat heads the OFC Administration and is responsible for implementing the decisions of the OFC Executive Committee.

The OFC General Secretariat has grown to include International Relations, Technical Development, Competitions, Media and Communications, and Finance.

Internal Relations are becoming increasingly important for OFC as partnerships between the confederation and international and regional bodies, as such a dedicated division has been established within the OFC administration.

Under the umbrella of technical development falls the organization of training courses for coaches and referees, and the promotion of women’s football, futsal and beach soccer. The technical department is at the forefront of many innovations for the confederation.

The competitions take care of the organisation of OFC championships and qualifying tournaments for FIFA competitions, making sure that all FIFA requirements are fulfilled, and working closely with local organizing committees and Member Associations in terms of their domestic competitions.

Finance takes care of incoming and outgoing payments, keep the accounts and produce financial strategies and budgets. In 2005 OFC introduced a Financial Assistance Programme based on the FIFA FAP model.

**International Relations**

The Oceania Football Confederation has a role to play in developing education, public health, cultural understanding, community development and economic development for all of its young stars of tomorrow.

With this in mind OFC has entered a series of formal discussions to develop partnerships with leading agencies and organisations with the view to improving the standard of life for the football family of Oceania.

Organisations such as UNESCO, the Secretariat of Pacific Community, the Secretariat of the Pacific Islands Forum, the European Union, Alliance Francaise, the French Government, the French Polynesia Government, and the United Nations have all signalled their intention to partner with football to achieve their key missions.

In a similar vein football bodies such as FIFA and the English FA have also pledged to lend a hand with a series of national and regional development policies designed to help football grow in the region.

In 2006 the OFC President initiated the OFC U-12 Festival of Football as a way to foster relations and understanding between Member Associations of the region. The Festival of Football concept was designed to use football as a learning tool, exposing the youth of the region to useful experiences within the South Pacific, helping them to become more aware of their surroundings and the differences and uniqueness of the region, through a four-day celebration of Oceania culture.

The first day of the Festival was dedicated to cultural exchange, where all participants are encouraged to share experiences and learn about each other, followed by a further three days of exchange on the football field.

With the assistance of the French Embassy in Fiji and the cooperation of the Fiji FA the Festival was an outstanding success.

The FIFA Ambassador Programme in OFC also continues to assist Member Associations reach out to the wider community with Wynton Rufer visiting Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Christian Karembeu visiting Tahiti and New Caledonia.

In July 2006 Karembeu, together with the OFC President and OFC Deputy General Secretary attended the South Pacific Youth Conference in Tahiti. Over 2,000 youth from 18 Pacific Island countries traveled to Papeete and with assistance from the FIFA Football for Hope fund OFC was able to provide a message of education and capacity building through football to the future leaders of the region.
Communications, Media and Marketing

Without doubt communications, media and marketing are all some of the most crucial areas of the organisation and areas of continued development and improvement for OFC.

The biggest demand is always for results from OFC competitions, with the help of technology information can be transmitted quicker than before. Despite this, as with many areas within the region, the lag for parts of the Pacific to "catch up" to the rest of the world is an issue that needs to be treated on a case-by-case basis.

Not only has there been an effort to increase and improve communications from the confederation to the rest of the world, but also a push for Member Associations to do the same with OFC.

The OFC website is currently under review with a re-launch scheduled for late 2006. The success of the creation of websites for some Member Associations has been hit-or-miss with some utilizing it to its potential and others without the internal resource to maintain it.

A long-awaited e-newsletter is under construction, there is potential for the rebirth of the popular Wave magazine along with several other communications vehicles, as increased visibility and communication is the focus for OFC in the next 12 months.

Sponsorship is on the increase as the confederation looks to diversify its income sources, already fruitful partnerships have been forged with Lotto and Razorgator. Both were part of the family of sponsors at the 2006 OFC Beach Soccer Championship, the first self-funded OFC event.

In the youth sector, Australia continued their dominance at both U-17 and U-20 level capturing both titles in 2005. While the Young Socceroos and Josys monopolized places at FIFA tournaments it was the emergence of Fiji, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands as real contenders at youth level that caught the eye.

Like futsal, women's football still in its infancy within most Member Associations and it was Australia and New Zealand — both with a history in women's football development — who claimed FIFA spots in the Olympic Women's Qualifiers and Women's U-20 tournaments.

The geography and lifestyle of the region lends itself naturally to Beach Soccer, and in 2006 it was welcomed to the competitions calendar. The OFC premiere on the island of Moorea near Tahiti was proof to the potential packed into this attractive form of football. It was here that the Solomon Islands created history by becoming the first OFC Member Association from the Pacific Islands to qualify for a FIFA world championship.

OFC Competitions

In the youth sector, Australia continued their dominance at both U-17 and U-20 level capturing both titles in 2005. While the Young Socceroos and Josys monopolized places at FIFA tournaments it was the emergence of Fiji, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands as real contenders at youth level that caught the eye.

With futsal still in its infancy in the Oceania region, we are encouraged by its steady growth which has culminated in the return of the OFC Futsal Championship after a five year hiatus. Along the same lines another event that has been recently restored is the OFC Club Championship. Having debuted in 1999 in Fiji, the OFC Club Championship was successfully reinstated in 2005 after the announcement of the return of the FIFA Club World Championship Toyota Cup in Japan.

Without doubt the pinnacle events within the Oceania football family are the OFC Nation’s Cup and FIFA World Cup qualifying tournament. Previously held in stand-alone tournaments OFC introduced a new format which combined the two. Qualifiers were held in Samoa and the Solomon Islands, before a six-team round robin in Australia to find two teams to play in two home and away series for places in the FIFA Confederations Cup and FIFA World Cup — Germany 2006.
2004 OFC U-19 Women’s Championship

Australia breezed through the OFC qualifiers overwhelming the Solomon Islands 3-0 and hosts Papua New Guinea 5-1. Both Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands selected squads with a view to developing the best players. The Solomon made their debut on the women’s international scene by holding their most fancied opponents Papua New Guinea to a nil all draw in the opening match of the tournament.

While the Solomon Islands players lacked international experience, Papua New Guinea could boast only one player who had represented her country at senior level.

FIFA U-19 Women’s World Championship

Thailand 2004

The tournament raised the bar and set a new standard for age-group women’s football following the inaugural competition two years earlier. European heavyweights Germany continued to assert their dominance on women’s football. Australia opened with a 1-2 loss against Canada and a 0-4 defeat to eventual champions Germany. A resounding 5-0 victory over hosts Thailand guaranteed the Young Matildas place in the quarter-finals as one of the two top finishing third placed teams. The quarter-final against USA ended 0-2 with the Aussies resilient in defence but unable to effect their opponents goal. Sally Shipard continued to impress with her ability at international level as did leading scorer Collette McCallum.

Referee Appointments

Jacqui Nehoani — Australia

Assistant Referee Appointments

Sarah Miller — Australia
Michelle Treloar — Australia

FIFA Appointments

Carol Walker — New Zealand
Committee for Women’s Football and FIFA Women’s Competitions
Dr. Selina Fusetani — Tonga
Arati Aventure Committee

2004 OFC Olympic Women’s Qualifiers

Australia continued to pull away from their OFC rivals in women’s football as they comfortably qualified for the Olympic Football Tournament — Athens 2004 finishing as the only unbeaten team in the three team tournament with 10-0 and 7-0 victories over Papua New Guinea and Fiji respectively.

Papua New Guinea — the only island nation to have competed in every senior women’s Oceania qualifiers to date — defeated Fiji 2-0 in the other match. Regarded as the top performing island nation in the women’s game, Papua New Guinea selected an experienced side for the Olympic Women’s Qualifiers with the bulk of the side that featured in the 2003 World Cup Qualifiers and South Pacific Games where they finished third and first respectively. Many expect PNG to push New Zealand as Oceania’s number 1 women’s football nation after Australia’s departure.

To their credit the Fijians, big in physical stature and power, were a vastly improved side from previous tournaments. With the experience gained from hosting the South Pacific Games and the introduction of a women’s Inter-District Competition Fiji continue to improve amongst their peers.

FIFA Olympic Football Tournament — Athens 2004 (Women’s)

Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea

Group Stage

Australia 11/08/04 1-0 vs. Greece
Australia 17/08/04 2-1 vs. USA
Quarter Finals
Australia 21/08/04 2-1 vs. Sweden
Final Ranking 3rd
Goal Scorers
Lisa De Vanna (2)
Selin Kuralay (2)
Collette McCallum (3)

Referee Appointments

Dianne Alaghij and Cheryl Salisbury

Assistant Referee Appointments

Lisa De Vanna — Australia

FIFA Appointments

Benjamin Hack — Haiti
Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments

Tony Neheliam — Vanuatu
Michael Moea — Cook Islands

The Men’s Olympic Football Tournament was dominated by South America, with both teams from CONMEBOL fighting for the gold medal. Boasting a team featuring no less than 12 players who featured in previous FIFA youth events and backed by the experience of current Socceroos John Aloisi, Tim Cahill, and Craig Moore Australia caught the eye with attacking football.

A 1-all draw against Tunisia was backed up by the 5-1 thumping of Serbia and Montenegro, and they rounded out their group matches with a 0-1 loss to eventual gold medallists Argentina. The suspension of key players Moore, Cahill and Ahmed El Tirch — all standards according to the FIFA Technical Study Group — hurt the Australians chances in the quarter-finals against the tournaments surprise package Iraq where they missed several crucial chances. Solid defender Adrian Madaschi was also nominated for praise by the experts.

The strength of the Olympic side will form the basis for future Socceroos campaigns.

OLYMPIC FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS — ATHENS 2004

Final Ranking 7th
Goal Scorers
Lisa De Vanna (3)
Ahmed El Tirch (2)
Tim Cahill (1)

Referee Appointments

Jacqui Nehoani — Tahiti

Assistant Referee Appointments

Ivy Neheliam — Vanuatu
Michael Moea — Cook Islands

FIFA Appointments

Benjamin Hack — Haiti
Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments

Tony Neheliam — Vanuatu
Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments

Johnny Tinsley Lulu — Vanuatu
Reynald Temarii — Tahiti
Michael Mouauri — Cook Islands

2004 OFC ACTIVITY REPORT 2006
2004 OFC Nations Cup/FIFA World Cup
Germany 2006 Qualifiers

STAGE 1 (SAMOA, SOLOMON ISLANDS)

Due to logistical and financial issues the OFC Nations Cup and FIFA World Cup — Germany 2006 Qualifiers were held together for the first time in a three stage process. With Australia and New Zealand seeded through to Stage 2 the remaining Member Associations were drawn into two pools of five teams with the top two teams from each group advancing to the second stage in Adelaide.

Cook Islands, New Caledonia, Tahiti and Tonga traveled to the Solomon Islands in Group 1. It was the hosts and Tahiti who qualified for Stage 2 both boasting unblemished records. A 2-0 win by the Solomoners over New Caledonia securing Tahiti’s berth after the two French Territories had battled out a nil-nil draw.

STAGE 2 (ADELAIDE)

Ten days after the conclusion of the Stage 1 Qualifiers the six teams were in action. On paper the results went as expected in the opening eight matches of the Stage 2 Qualifiers, Australia had booked a place in Stage 3 with victories over New Zealand (1-0), Tahiti (9-0), and Fiji (6-1). New Zealand too, despite their opening loss to the Socceroos, were on track to join their neighbours in the playoffs until previously winless Vanuatu blew the competition open with a shock 4-2 victory over the All Whites.

With goal difference looking as though it would be the deciding factor between New Zealand and the Solomon Islands, the All Whites responded by thrashing Tahiti 18-0 and accounting for Fiji 2-0. The Solomoners edged Fiji out 2-1 before an unlikely 2-all draw with Australia.

With the Solomoners expected to roll over the Solomons the underdogs responded in kind to the lofty challenge with Commins Menapii the hero, scoring both goals for his side. Menapii opened the scoring and helped his team to shock 1-0 lead at half-time. However, the Socceroos maintained their composure to regroup with goals to Tim Cahill and Brett Emerton in the second half. But with a quarter of an hour left in regulation time, Menapii equalised with a well taken goal.

Handicapped by the sending off of defender Patrick Kisnorbo, the home team was unable to find the winner and the Solomoners held on for the draw and more importantly, a historic result to propel them into the final qualifying round for both the Nations Cup and the World Cup playoffs, denying New Zealand the runner up spot.

FIFA CONFEDERATIONS CUP PLAYOFF

Four months after the Stage 2 Qualifiers Australia and the Solomon Islands were playing for the OFC Nations Cup and a place in the FIFA Confederations Cup. Australia arrived to football fever in the Honiara, the Solomon team returned from Adelaide months earlier as national heroes amid scenes of unbridled joy. The feel-good factor was immeasurable and there was an air of anticipation that another boil over was possible.

Despite the cautious confidence before the match the Socceroos claimed a 5-1 victory at Lawson Tama Stadium in Honiara. The Socceroos team never looked like threatening the power of the Socceroos, despite a small light back in the form of a Baram Sriti goal.

Despite the long odds the Solomons fans certainly came out in force to cheer their national team, with a crowd estimated at 21,500 showing their support for the team that has done its country proud and helped reunify a nation.

In the return leg at Aussie Stadium in Sydney the Socceroos cruised to a 6-0 win to claim the OFC Nations Cup for the fourth time but their first since 2000.

FIFA WORLD CUP—GERMANY 2006

12 months later Australia and the Solomon Islands renewed their new rivalry in a second home and away playoff to determine who would go forward to represent the Oceania and continue the chase for a spot at the FIFA World Cup — Germany 2006 against the fifth placed South American side in another home and away fixture.

Both teams had a less than ideal build-up. A friendly match against New Zealand, three losses in the FIFA Confederations Cup, a new coach with a legendary reputation, and a four-day training camp in the Netherlands, was Australia’s preparation. In contrast, the Solomon Islands warmed up for the biggest match of their 26-year history without a coach until one month before the playoff and a one win, two loss mini-tour of New Zealand, their first competitive matches since the OFC Nations Cup final 11 months prior.

The Socceroos killed the tie in the first leg running out 7-0 winners at home in a match they completely dominated from start to finish and should have won by a larger margin.

Australia then won its last ever competitive match in the Oceania Football Confederation with a 2-1 win over the improved Solomon Islands side in a well-contested second leg at Lawson Tama Stadium, taking the tie 9-1 on aggregate.

Samoan hosted neighbours American Samoa, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Vanuatu. After receiving a bye on the first match day Fiji won three out of three matches to ensure their advancement from Samoa. The Fijians then suffered a 0-3 defeat at the hands of Vanuatu which pushed Papua New Guinea out of contention.

With Stage 1 of the OFC Nations Cup and FIFA World Cup — Germany 2006 Qualifiers completed Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, and Vanuatu joined traditional favourites Australia and New Zealand in Adelaide. Many expected the teams/Tasman rivals to prevail and face off in the home and away playoffs for the FIFA Confederations Cup and twelve months later for Oceania’s half a spot in the FIFA World Cup — Germany 2006, but it was not to be.
FIFA Confederations Cup

FIFA's decision to use its Confederations Cup as a dry run for the World Cup host country a year ahead of the main event proved to be a masterstroke as the 2005 tournament in Germany was a resounding success in every respect.

And while many fans left with an appetite whet for what would lay ahead in a year's time, Australia departed Germany with sour memories after losing all three games. Undoubtedly, it would have been an impressive feat for the Socceroos to progress in a group that contained Argentina and Germany, but they were bitterly disappointed with the 0-2 loss against Tunisia.

For the World Cup host country a year ahead of the main event, the Socceroos ended his six-year reign as national coach by mutual consent with John Aloisi (4) appointed that they failed to gain a positive result.

Immediately the tournament long-serving coach Frank Farina

2004 OFC Futsal Qualifiers

With the last Oceania qualifiers held in 1999, the 2004 edition was a highly anticipated event. The Solomon Islands made their futsal debut in Canberra but at the conclusion it was again Australia who confirmed their passage as OFC’s representative unchallenged and scoring 20 goals and conceding none in the process.

With the long gap between tournaments and given the developing status of futsal regionally, OFC brought in a Brazilian-born futsal expert Guillaume Costa, who was sent to Fiji, Samoa and New Zealand to assist in the preparation of the respective national squads. Coaching clinics were held for local officials and players.

Elsewhere, the Solomon Islands were loaned the services of a futsal coach from Sydney.

Traditionally Australia’s toughest foes, New Zealand is not as strong in futsal and lacks the numbers and profile which Australia enjoys. Without doubt the depth of Australian futsal with over 20,000 registered and active players at their disposal nationwide meant they would have an advantage. But with 1-0 victories over Fiji – runners up to Australia in 1999 – and Vanuatu the gap is closing.

As part of their preparation Fiji organised an Inter-District futsal tournament to select their squad with all the players brought in from the 11-a-side game due to futsal’s low profile. The use of national 11-a-side players in futsal was common throughout most teams with Samos and the Solomonists also using this method, in fact the latter selected a team of fringe national team players that trained on outdoor basketball courts due to the lack of facilities.

One country blessed with a dedicated facility is Vanuatu who as part of their preparation Fiji organised an Inter-District futsal tournament to select their squad with all the players brought in from the 11-a-side game due to futsal’s low profile. The use of national 11-a-side players in futsal was common throughout most teams with Samos and the Solomonists also using this method, in fact the latter selected a team of fringe national team players that trained on outdoor basketball courts due to the lack of facilities.

As part of their preparation Fiji organised an Inter-District futsal tournament to select their squad with all the players brought in from the 11-a-side game due to futsal’s low profile. The use of national 11-a-side players in futsal was common throughout most teams with Samos and the Solomonists also using this method, in fact the latter selected a team of fringe national team players that trained on outdoor basketball courts due to the lack of facilities.

One country blessed with a dedicated facility is Vanuatu who one of the teams that had only one match as they were banned from the 2004 FIFA World Championships due to an injury to their goalkeeper.

Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

With the last Oceania qualifiers held in 1999, the 2004 edition was a highly anticipated event. The Solomon Islands made their futsal debut in Canberra but at the conclusion it was again Australia who confirmed their passage as OFC’s representative unchallenged and scoring 20 goals and conceding none in the process.

With the long gap between tournaments and given the developing status of futsal regionally, OFC brought in a Brazilian-born futsal expert Guillaume Costa, who was sent to Fiji, Samoa and New Zealand to assist in the preparation of the respective national squads. Coaching clinics were held for local officials and players.

Elsewhere, the Solomon Islands were loaned the services of a futsal coach from Sydney.

Traditionally Australia’s toughest foes, New Zealand is not as strong in futsal and lacks the numbers and profile which Australia enjoys. Without doubt the depth of Australian futsal with over 20,000 registered and active players at their disposal nationwide meant they would have an advantage. But with 1-0 victories over Fiji – runners up to Australia in 1999 – and Vanuatu the gap is closing.

As part of their preparation Fiji organised an Inter-District futsal tournament to select their squad with all the players brought in from the 11-a-side game due to futsal’s low profile. The use of national 11-a-side players in futsal was common throughout most teams with Samos and the Solomonists also using this method, in fact the latter selected a team of fringe national team players that trained on outdoor basketball courts due to the lack of facilities.

One country blessed with a dedicated facility is Vanuatu who as part of their preparation Fiji organised an Inter-District futsal tournament to select their squad with all the players brought in from the 11-a-side game due to futsal’s low profile. The use of national 11-a-side players in futsal was common throughout most teams with Samos and the Solomonists also using this method, in fact the latter selected a team of fringe national team players that trained on outdoor basketball courts due to the lack of facilities.

One country blessed with a dedicated facility is Vanuatu who

FIFA Futsal World Championship Chinese Taipei 2004

Australia went to Chinese Taipei determined to make the second phase of the tournament for the first time in their fifth appearance in the FIFA Futsal World Championship. Prior to the tournament the Futsalroos embarked on a 14-day, nine match preparation tour of Brazil.

Having not recorded a win at the world showdown since 1992 when they defeated Costa Rica 8-6 in Hong Kong, the Aussies again failed to secure a point, scoring two goals but conceding 18. Unsurprisingly goalkeeper Gavin O’Brien caught the eye with his impressive performances.

Australia opened with a predictable defeat the heavyweights to Brazil (0-10) and went on to lose to the Czech Republic (0-5) which ended their hopes of advancing to the second stage of the competition for the first time in their appearances at the FIFA Futsal World Championships.

However, a 3-2 loss against Thailand in their final game of the tournament should be looked at fairly positively considering their move to Asia, with the Thais rated fairly highly in the region.

2004 FIFA FUTSAL QUALIFIERS

22 November – 5 December 2004

AUSTRALIA

Group Stage

22/11/04 0-10 vs. Brazil

Group Stage

24/11/04 0-5 vs. Czech Republic

Group Stage

26/11/04 2-3 vs. Thailand

Final Ranking

15th (18)

Goal Scorers

Ivan Singleton (1)

Adrian Vizzari (1)

Referee Appointments

Robert Porritt — Australia

FIFA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

— CHINESE TAIPEI 2004

21 November – 5 December 2004

Australia

Group Stage

22/11/04 0-10 vs. Brazil

Group Stage

24/11/04 0-5 vs. Czech Republic

Group Stage

26/11/04 2-3 vs. Thailand

Final Ranking

15th (18)

Goal Scorers

Ivan Singleton (1)

Adrian Vizzari (1)

Referee Appointments

Robert Porritt — Australia
FIFA World Youth Championship — Netherlands 2005

Representing Oceania for one of the last times, the Young Socceroos failed to advance to the FIFA World Youth Championship, held in the Netherlands. The tournament was significant for Oceania as it had produced many of its top youth talent in recent years. However, the tournament also marked a coming age for several Member Associations.

The OFC U-20 Championship was one of the most competitive and entertaining tournaments in recent years, with 19-0 (Tonga) and 9-2 (Vanuatu) being the scores of the opening match. In the Group Stage the team was grouped with Benin and New Zealand, and with each team having produced a strong performance, the tournament was set to be an exciting one. However, as with many tournaments in recent years, the result was sealed in the last minute with a 1-0 win for New Zealand in the final group match.

The tournament was eventually won by Australia, who went on to claim three consecutive goals to seal their place in the tournament. The final was a hard-fought affair with Australia holding Benin to a 1-0 win in Noumea. Australia then faced off against their Dutch hosts, the Netherlands, in the final, a match that was stopped 14 minutes before full-time due to crowd trouble. Australia went on to win 0-3, with a late, late equalizer by the Netherlands just 8 minutes from full time.

As with the OFC U-20 Championship a three-month period prior, teams from the Pacific Islands rose to the fore but were unable to topple the traditional powerhouses of youth football in the region. The tournament was rocked with recurrent champions Australia. The tournament was yet another example of the growth of youth football in the region, with the tournament's future promising a lot for the nations of Oceania.

FIFA U-17 Championship — Peru 2005

As with the OFC U-20 Championship, the U-17 Championship was another example of the growth of youth football in the region. The tournament was held in Peru, and Australia continued their monopoly of places at FIFA age group tournaments with victory at the 2005 OFC U-20 Championship, but the tournament also marked a coming age for several Member Associations.

The OFC U-20 Championship was one of the most competitive and entertaining tournaments in recent years, with 19-0 (Tonga) and 9-2 (Vanuatu). Naturally the Solomon Islands were expected to perform well in front of a hostile home-crowd upwards of 10,000 on most match days and peaking at just over 20,000 for home matches. The hosts qualified for the final against the Young Socceroos eventually going down 0-3 in a match that was stopped 14 minutes before full-time due to crowd trouble. Fiji showed ominous glimpses of their potential for the future with a 1-0 win over New Zealand in the opening match.

In January it was the Solomon Islands who captured the imagination of the football family of Oceania with their displays at the U-20's and in March it was the turn of neighbours Vanuatu to threaten the established hierarchy, but it was not to be with Australia claiming a 1-0 win in Noumea.

Budding star David Williams was the hero for the Young Socceroos, scoring the all-important goal just 8 minutes from full time. Williams, who also finished as the tournament’s top scorer, headed home after his side had dominated lengthy periods of the game. The Solomon Islands, led by another emerging talent in Judd Molea, claimed third place ahead of hosts New Caledonia.

As with other youth age groups within Oceania this crop of U-17’s will shine in the future with a very competitive U-20 Championship set for early 2007 where New Zealand will return as hosts.
**2005 OFC Club Championships**

After a five-year absence from the OFC events calendar the premier club competition for the Oceania region returned in 2005 with eight clubs representing seven Member Associations battling for a place at the prestigious FIFA Club World Championship.

The launch of the A-League in Australia added extra gloss to the tournament with the pre-competition favourites Sydney FC winning a quick-fire shootout to earn a place in Tahiti for the club championship.

Boosting World Cup winner Pierre Littbarski at the helm, Sydney FC continued Australian clubs dominance of the OFC Club Championships with a 2-0 win over surprise-package AS Magenta of New Caledonia.

Vanuatu’s Tafea FC, champions each year since 2000 despite the country not running an organised national league, continued their impressive history in the competition achieving third place in the country not running an organised national league, continuing their impressive history in the competition achieving third place.

Prior to the final competition in Tahiti a series of preliminary qualifiers involving all Member Associations were held to determine who would join AS Manu Ura and AS Pirae. Several matches during the process highlighted the varying levels of club football within the region.

During the OFC Club Championships – Japan 2005 Australia was still buzzing after the Socceroos had qualified for the FIFA World Cup. Sydney FC were flying high atop the fresh A-League and at the helm was ‘maquisagye’ former Manchester United star Dwight Yorke was also celebrating leading Trinidad and Tobago to Germany and impressing in his new role as creative midfield playmaker.

The FIFA Club World Championship was Australian football’s final honour as part of OFC, which ironically took Sydney FC to Asia. Australia was ready to become a member of the Asian Football Confederation on the first day of 2006 and the ties were already strong at national level and also at Sydney FC.

Sydney FC officials then pulled a masterstroke by signing iconic Japanese international Kazuyoshi Miura as a guest player in the A-League, and including him in their squad to travel to Japan.

Coach Pierre Littbarski was similarly well regarded in Japan having spent many years coaching in the J-League, adding to that was experienced midfield duo Steve Corica and Matthew Bingley also played in the J-League and it was easy to understand why Sydney were so popular in Japan.

Sydney FC turned heads with their performances at the FIFA Club World Championship Toyota Cup – Japan. A spirited performance against CONCACAF’s Costa Rican representatives Deportivo Saprissa was undeniably a result which denied them a glamour tie against Liverpool.

But despite the setback the Australian bounced back with a 2-1 win over African champions Al Ahly (Egypt) to claim fifth place.

**2006 OFC U-20 Women’s Championship**

The 2006 OFC U-20 Women’s Championship marked the beginning of a bright new era for women’s football in the region. Now more than ever the dream of our women’s talent has the opportunity to shine on the world stage. New Zealand proved worthy winners of the championship scoring 53 goals in the process and conceding just one.

In 2006 we welcomed New Caledonia and Vanuatu to age-group women’s football, indeed this was the highest number of participating teams at any OFC women’s tournament clearly indicating the popularity of the sport amongst the female football family.

Tonga were the surprise package of the tournament downsing the host nation Samoas 3-2 in the semi-finals in one of the more entertaining matches of the championship. It seemed no coincidence the top four places at the tournament – New Zealand, Tonga, Papua New Guinea and Samoa – were filled by teams that had a pre-tournament training and game schedule.

The event calendar shows there are many varied opportunities for these players to participate in both FIFA Women’s World Cup and the Olympic Football Tournament in the near future. In truth, some of the competitors will still be eligible for both the 2008 OFC U-17 Women’s Championship and 2008 OFC U-20 Women’s Championships.

**FIFA U-20 Women’s World Championship — Russia 2006**

New Zealand were faced with the daunting task of qualifying out of a group containing Australia, Russia, and Brazil.

Teams/Taasim мячи в 6:02 и забивала ударом на ворота Сбербанка. The Young Matildas claimed the match 0-3.

In truth, some of the competitors will still be eligible for both the 2008 OFC U-20 competition and New Zealand hosting the inaugural FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup in 2008.

**FIFA U-20 Women’s World CHampionship**

Russia
17 August – 3 September 2006

NEW ZEALAND

Group Stage 17/08/06 6-3 vs. Australia

Group Stage 20/08/06 2-3 vs. Russia

Group Stage 23/08/06 1-1 vs. Brazil

Final Ranking 13th (15)

Goal Scorers

Emma Humphries (1)

Abby Craig (1)

**FIFA APPOINTMENTS**

General Secretary — Samaya

Organising Committee for the FIFA U-20 & U-17 Women’s World Cups

Carol Weller — New Zealand

Organising Committee for the FIFA U-20 & U-17 Women’s World Cups

Anah-Perd Loglan — New Zealand

Women’s Football Trainer

Dr. Selina Fustatotu — Tonga

Sports Medical Committee

Vernon Daris — Samaya

Assistant General Coordinator

Connie Selby — OFC

Technical Study Group

**Goal Scorers**

Abby Craig (1)

Emma Humphries (1)

**Disciplinary Committee**

**Referees’ Fitness Trainer**

Alejo Perez Legizamon — New Zealand

Carol Waller — New Zealand

**Sports Medical Committee**

Dr. Selina Fustatotu — Tonga

Sports Medical Committee

Vernon Daris — Samaya

Assistant General Coordinator

Connie Selby — OFC

Technical Study Group
Nevertheless, with the absence of an Australian presence and the substantial financial windfall at stake for the winner, the competition was fierce. Culminating in an exciting exhibition of club football unfortunately played in the worst weather conditions that Auckland had seen in the month of May for years. Days of continuous driving rain left the North Harbour Stadium surface unplayable for several match days causing massive disruption to tournament organizers.

The six highest finishing National Associations club champions were seeded through to the final competition along with a second host team. Prior to the final tournament a preliminary competition was held in Fiji to find the final club for the tournament. Despite the adverse conditions, hometown Auckland City FC managed to oust the challenge of 2005 nemesis AS Pirae of Tahiti 3-1 in the final earning the right to attend the 2006 FIFA Club World Cup in Japan. Auckland City’s gain would also benefit their rivals in the New Zealand Football Championship as a percentage of the prize-money would be split between the remaining seven franchises.

AS Pirae were entertaining in their performances in New Zealand and their semi-final with second kiwi representatives Youngheart Manawatu was undoubtedly the match of the tournament. Nokia Eagles Nadi of Fiji also impressed in the group stages but were crushed in their final four match with Auckland City.

Due to time restrictions following the 2006 event the leading six National Associations from the tournament would nominate their representatives for the inaugural OFC Champions League. The initial line-up will feature the champion clubs of Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, and Vanuatu.

The purpose-built beach soccer facility at the picturesque Temae Beach on the island of Moorea off Tahiti proved the ideal backdrop for the tournament. Four teams – Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Vanuatu – all with little or no formal beach soccer experience put on a display that captured the imagination of the watching public and showcased the enormous potential the new form of the game has in the Oceania region.

The natural geography of the confederation lends itself to this form of the game, and resource wise it provides an attractive alternative for some of the smaller Member Associations, especially in terms of required equipment and ground maintenance.

During the tournament a FIFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Seminar was held in order to facilitate development of the sport in Member Associations. The seminar provided a chance to exchange experiences and best practices between countries and see how FIFA and OFC could provide assistance in establishing or strengthening beach soccer activities.

Perhaps most importantly, the seminar gave all parties an opportunity to promote and develop a long-term approach to the relatively new form of football.
FIFA World Cup — Germany 2006

**FIFA WORLD CUP — GERMANY 2006 PLAYOFF**

Australia had been here before and it had ended in tears. In the 1997 campaign against Iran the away leg was drawn 1-1 and it looked like the Socceroos would qualify for the finals in France, taking a 2-0 lead in the home game in Melbourne, Iran managed to score two late goals to shatter those dreams. Four years later Australia took a 1-0 lead to Uruguay however, the 2002 qualification campaign ended unsuccessfully as they lost 3-0 in the away leg in Montevideo.

For the 2006 FIFA World Cup playoff the Socceroos were to face Uruguay again. The first leg of the playoff was always going to be a tough one with memories fresh from the last campaign. A goal from Darío Rodríguez separated the teams in an open and attacking match as Australia were defeated 0-1 by in Montevideo in the first leg playoff.

In the return leg in Australia the Socceroos beat its old nemesis, in a pulsating penalty shootout in front of a magnificent crowd of 83,000 at Telstra Stadium in Sydney. Mano Bresciano was the hero leveling the tie with a 34th minute goal, after 90 minutes the aggregate score was tied 1-1 and the match headed into extra-time. Neither team scored after two entertaining periods, bringing the game to a penalty shootout. The Socceroos won the shootout 4-2 with Australian goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer made two saves.

It was a night to remember and a night that will long live in the memory of Australian sports fans.

**FIFA WORLD CUP — GERMANY 2006**

Farewelled by a record breaking crowd of 95,183 in a friendly against European champions Greece. Australia entered their first FIFA World Cup in 32 years full of confidence, steady determination and hoping to progress to the Round of 16 from a group containing Japan, Croatia, and defending champions Brazil.

With a core of experienced professionals under the guidance of experienced coach Guus Hiddink, who took Korea to the semi-finals in 2002, Australia exceeded the expectations of many outsiders.

Victory over Japan (3-1) in their opening match sent the nation into raptures coming from behind with three goals in the final eight minutes. The ramifications of the victory were intriguing as the two nations now shared a confederation, and presumably, would battle for a place at the 2010 installment of the FIFA World Cup.

In their second group match with Brazil (0-2) two second-half goals ended their hopes of gaining a draw. But already the football family had begun to sit up and take notice.

Needing a point to qualify for the knockout phase against Croatia (2-1), they came from behind twice to score the point they needed. The match was packed with passion with seven members of the Socceroos squad with Croatian roots. Meanwhile, three of the Croatians, were born and raised in Australia, but chose to play for the land where their parents were born.

A mixture of euphoria and disbelief that Australia had qualified for the second round shook the nation following the Croatia result. In the Round of 16 match against Italy, an upset looked as it was on the cards with the Italians down to 10-men. However, the Socceroos were denied by a last-minute penalty. Surveys in Australia claim that 6.7 million Australians (1 in 3) watched the match and the ramifications of the victory were felt in the image of football within the region. Their performances showed that Australia could hold their own against some of the world’s finest footballing sides and even do better against teams who had more recent FIFA World Cup™ experience under their belts.
The creation of national training academies, national headquarters, education centres, grass and artificial playing pitches, regional technical centres, stadium renovation and upgrades have taken place throughout the Confederation and ensure a future of good health for the game in the South Pacific.

The first phase of the American Samoa Football Association Goal Project began in earnest in September 2006 with significant support from OFC as part of the Infrastructure Grant Scheme. Pago Park will see a major transformation with the construction of international standard football pitches, national Headquarters and a technical centre. With construction to start immediately and a completion time frame of six months, planning for the Inauguration in January 2007 is already underway.

Following construction the benefits of the facility to the sport will be significant, with increased participation for boys and girls, men and women, increased competition opportunities at all levels, educational courses and hopefully a catalyst to assist in taking national teams to a competitive level in the Oceania region.

The Cook Islands Football Association first phase Goal Project saw the construction of the headquarters, new national academy and two grass-of-the-art, international caliber pitches and represents an eye-popping focal point for a bright footballing future in the picturesque environs of Matarava on the main island of Rarotonga. The second phase will commence in October 2006 with the creation of facilities for players, officials and medical facilities with a mini-brandstand.

The Dr. MS Suhu Khan National Football Academy in Suva represents the initial success of the first phase Goal project. Second phase development will see the addition of a regional technical centre near Suva with work commencing in early 2007.

Federation Caledonienne De Football’s first phase Goal Project will see the upgrade of player amenities and pitches finished by November 2006.

Ground breaking FIFA Goal Project Tahiti
Papeete, Tahiti — 29 May 2004

Rarotonga, Cook Islands — 2 April 2004

Inauguration FIFA Goal Project Tuvalu Port Vila, Vanuatu — 31 July 2005

FIFA GOAL PROJECT ACTIVITY MARCH 2004 — SEPTEMBER 2006

Papeete, Tahiti — 29 May 2004

Pago Pago, American Samoa — 13 July 2006

Pago Pago, American Samoa — 13 July 2006

Tonga's GOAL Project consisting of building a “House of Football” comprising national headquarters and football academy and four natural-turf playing fields which grace a 23-acre area, making a proper home for the beautiful game in picturesque Tonga. The second phase will see the upgrade of player amenities and pitches finished by November 2006.

The National Football Academy and two playing pitches at the Vanuatu Football Federation were inaugurated in November 2006. Work has been underway since July 2006 to provide Federation Tahitienne De Football with a Technical Centre that will incorporate two floodlit playing pitches. The facility will be inaugurated in November 2006.

The renovation and upgrade of Lawson Tama Stadium in Honiara heralded the inception of the first phase GOAL Project in the Solomon Islands which kick-started a whole host of new domestic and international sporting activities. This success was followed up by the second phase of the GOAL project which was to erect a national football academy and Federation Headquarters. The building includes administration headquarters, an education centre, dining hall, player’s changing facilities, and accommodation for 32 players and also for 2 coaches.

The facility will be inaugurated in late November 2005.

Tonga's GOAL Project Project Director, Jim Selby – a member of the FIFA Technical Study Group at the 2006 FIFA World Cup - has identified a raft of key challenges his department faces in furthering the development of the game in the region. Some of these challenges include developing Education Programmes to provide high quality training and education to coaches, instructors, referees, medical support personnel and administrators throughout the region. Development programmes to foster community football and participation at clubs and schools; attracting men and women into coaching and refereeing.

Additional activities have included the formation of the first OFC Technical Study Group and Technical Report for the 2006 OFC U-20 Women’s Championship. The OFC Academy is now equipped to host and provide visiting national teams with state-of-the-art equipment. Video testing and data collection of physiological traits of international players across all age groups is being undertaken.

“Present the OFC Technical Department is currently in the process of submitting a series of proposals that will provide a structured framework from grassroots level through to advanced senior level of ability.

At present the OFC Technical Department is currently in the process of submitting a series of proposals that will provide a structured framework from grassroots level through to advanced senior level of ability.

The arrival of new OFC Technical Director, Jim Selby, heralded the beginning of a new phase in the progress and development of football in the region. Prior to Selby’s appointment, a technical programme existed but was fragmented and in need of an overhaul.

Selby – a member of the FIFA Technical Study Group at the 2006 FIFA World Cup - has identified a raft of key challenges his department faces in furthering the development of the game in the region. Some of these challenges include developing Education Programmes to provide high quality training and education to coaches, instructors, referees, medical support personnel and administrators throughout the region. Development programmes to foster community football and participation at clubs and schools; attracting men and women into coaching and refereeing.

Additional activities have included the formation of the first OFC Technical Study Group and Technical Report for the 2006 OFC U-20 Women’s Championship. The OFC Academy is now equipped to host and provide visiting national teams with state-of-the-art equipment. Video testing and data collection of physiological traits of international players across all age groups is being undertaken.

The FIFA Goal Programme has had a profound on the ongoing development of OFC and its Member Associations. Unlike other confederations, OFC takes an active role in facilitating the development of the FIFA Goal Projects through infrastructure grants and other assistance.

The Papua New Guinea Football Association sports a new national academy and playing pitches in Lae due to the work of their first phase Goal Project. The second phase project will see the creation of two regional technical centres and the upgrade of playing pitch two at the national academy.

The creation of the first ever dedicated football pitches at the Toalea JS Blatter Football Fields laid a foundation for future football success for Samoa. The inauguration of a new National Football Academy incorporating national headquarters took place in August 2005 as the second phase.

The renovation and upgrade of Lawson Tama Stadium in Honiara heralded the inception of the first phase GOAL Project in the Solomon Islands which kick-started a whole host of new domestic and international sporting activities. This success was followed up by the second phase of the GOAL project which was to erect a national football academy and Federation Headquarters. The building includes administration headquarters, an education centre, dining hall, player’s changing facilities, and accommodation for 32 players and also for 2 coaches. One of the outstanding features within the eight-acre site was the ‘state-of-the-art’ laid pitch – a fully drained and irrigated international standard playing field. The new academy with facilities for women’s and youth teams was inaugurated in late November 2005.

Work has been underway since July 2006 to provide Federation Tahitienne De Football with a Technical Centre that will incorporate two floodlit playing pitches. The facility will be inaugurated in November 2006.

Tonga’s GOAL Project Project Director, Jim Selby – a member of the FIFA Technical Study Group at the 2006 FIFA World Cup - has identified a raft of key challenges his department faces in furthering the development of the game in the region. Some of these challenges include developing Education Programmes to provide high quality training and education to coaches, instructors, referees, medical support personnel and administrators throughout the region. Development programmes to foster community football and participation at clubs and schools; attracting men and women into coaching and refereeing.

Additional activities have included the formation of the first OFC Technical Study Group and Technical Report for the 2006 OFC U-20 Women’s Championship. The OFC Academy is now equipped to host and provide visiting national teams with state-of-the-art equipment. Video testing and data collection of physiological traits of international players across all age groups is being undertaken.

“Present the OFC Technical Department is currently in the process of submitting a series of proposals that will provide a structured framework from grassroots level through to advanced senior level of ability.”

The FIFA Goal Programme
Courses and Education

Continuing education and upskilling members of the Oceania football family are elements crucial to the development of the region.

Four OFC Member Associations have been fortunate enough to host FIFA Com-Unity Courses and all have received huge spin-offs from them. Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu all benefited from having representatives from the Member Association, government, media, current and potential sponsors, NGO’s together in one room with FIFA acting as a “referee”. For many stakeholders outside the existing football family it was an insight into the power of football and the potential it has to touch all people in all areas of life in their country.

Oceania benefits with the FUTURO III programme due to its philosophy of “teaching the teachers”. The courses increase the number of skilled people within the region able to pass on the expertise gained at the courses to their colleagues in their respective countries expanding the knowledge base at each Member Association. FUTURO III courses and refreshers held in the region include referee instructors and coaching instructors.

OFC has also been the site of several FUTURO III ‘pilot’ courses including Administration and Management and the Football Medicine Instructors’ courses. Another first held in the region was a FIFA organized seminar on the development of women’s football where the representatives of the member nations of OFC met in Rarotonga, Cook Islands and unanimously agreed to promote women’s football according to a jointly agreed declaration.

A number of countries have utilized the various Member Association courses available in FIFA’s selection to develop specific areas of their organisation, key areas concentrated on by OFC nations include women’s coaching, refereeing and futsal.

Supplementing and building the variety of courses available at Member Associations’ disposal has been the introduction of OFC-based qualifications and courses to further develop key areas within the region. The rationale is to develop a set of whole-of-confederation standards to promote best-practice and streamline teaching methods. The first of these were launched in Papua New Guinea (Senior Coaching Certificate) and Solomon Islands (Junior and Youth Coaching Certificate). Courses for match officials have also been held within Oceania.

Courses and Education March 2004—September 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSES AND EDUCATION</th>
<th>MARCH 2004—SEPTEMBER 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFC Referee Instructors Course</td>
<td>Apia, Samoa 3 – 4 June 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFC Junior Coaching Course</td>
<td>Lae, Papua New Guinea 9 – 11 August 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA FUTURO III Referee Instructors Course</td>
<td>Apia, Fiji 1 – 7 November 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Com-Unity Course</td>
<td>Honiara, Solomon Islands 24 – 26 November 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Financial Assistance Programme Seminar</td>
<td>Auckland, New Zealand 15 – 30 June 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA FUTURO III Administration and Management Course</td>
<td>Auckland, New Zealand 24 – 30 April 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA FUTURO III Coaching Instructors Course</td>
<td>Apia, Samoa 12 – 22 July 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Member Association Women’s Coaching Course</td>
<td>Port Vila, Vanuatu 8 – 13 August 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Com-Unity Course</td>
<td>Apia, Samoa 17 – 19 August 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Com-Unity Course</td>
<td>Port Vila, Vanuatu 24 – 26 August 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA/FUTURO Symposium on Women’s Football</td>
<td>Rarotonga, Cook Islands 27 – 29 September 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Member Association Women’s Coaching Course</td>
<td>Port Vila, Vanuatu 27 – 29 September 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Member Association Futsal Coaching Course</td>
<td>Noumea, New Caledonia 24 – 26 November 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFA Member Association Futsal Coaching Course</td>
<td>Port Vila, Vanuatu 28 November – 2 December 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFC New Referees Course</td>
<td>Buka, 3 – 10 February 2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The appointment of Connie Selby as OFC Head of Women's Football has supported the progress of the women's game in the region. Selby is a former Australian women's international captain with 10 caps and boasts an impressive coaching pedigree that includes FIFA Instructor for Women's Coaching Courses conducted in Oceania since 2001.

New Zealand U20 women's achievement in qualifying for the 2006 FIFA Women's World Cup in Russia and the announcement that the inaugural FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup will also be hosted by New Zealand in 2008 have provided an even bigger boost for the game within the Oceania region.

With increasing opportunities available for the region's top female football players, representatives from all Member Associations met in Rarotonga, Cook Islands for a FIFA organized seminar on women's football in the region.

Many women's development programmes still in their infancy around the Pacific, the delegates together with OFC and FIFA unanimously agreed to promote women's football according to a jointly agreed declaration.

The key points to emerge from the three-day workshop included the confederation establishing an OFC Women's Football Committee and management department operating out of the secretariat in Auckland. In addition, ten FIFA/ OFC Women's Football Coaching Courses will be conducted in every national association and a marketing plan to encourage and foster women's participation in football will be developed.

Each member nation has also agreed their own individual requirements based on their current situation, but all agreed to ensure women's representation on their Executive Committee and in each of their standing committees, to set up a women's football committee, and nominate a person to coordinate and lead the development process.

In terms of competitions and structure, it was agreed to promote mixed football for children (up to 12 years) to challenge cultural barriers and ensure good technical physical development principles. It is also essential that positive female role models are readily accessible and visible.

Each member nation recorded their own commitment to the task and set their own objectives for women's football.

Key challenges for the women's game in the OFC include technical development for coaches, instructors, referees, medical support personnel and administrators at all levels. Currently, the women's game in Oceania faces several key challenges such as the lack of facilities to sustain the growth of the increased popularity of the sport amongst women. The increase in opportunity to progress in coaching and other high performance areas of football is seen as a key area for improvement.

Without doubt the match officials of the region have benefited from the expertise of New Zealand-based OFC/ FIFA Referees' Instructor Alejo Perez Legizamon. Legizamon has put all FIFA-listed officials through their paces on the FIFA Fitness Test and provided valuable resource and information on nutrition, fitness, and mental preparation for match officials.

19 OFC match officials have been nominated to officiate in FIFA competitions in the period March 2004—September 2006.

Referee Development

Developing world-class match officials in the Pacific region is a driving factor for Oceania Football Confederation. The development of match officials is defined by three key objectives; the recruitment of more referees; improved knowledge and skills of Referee Development Officers in National Associations; and an increase in OFC referee's at FIFA competitions.

In line with these objectives and under the guidance of the Technical Department, OFC has embarked on a series of courses and seminars to upskill the match officials of the region. To add an element of practicality to the modules, the courses are held in conjunction with OFC competitions.

To this end, a New Referees Course was held with the 2006 OFC Club Championships — Preliminary in Fiji and Samoa hosted the Women's Referee Course during the 2006 OFC U-20 Women's Championship.

Women's Football

The appointment of Connie Selby as OFC Head of Women's Football has supported the progress of the women's game in the region. Selby is a former Australian women's international captain with 10 caps and boasts an impressive coaching pedigree that includes FIFA Instructor for Women's Coaching Courses conducted in Oceania since 2001.

New Zealand U20 women's achievement in qualifying for the 2006 FIFA Women's World Cup in Russia and the announcement that the inaugural FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup will also be hosted by New Zealand in 2008 have provided an even bigger boost for the game within the Oceania region.

With increasing opportunities available for the region's top female football players, representatives from all Member Associations met in Rarotonga, Cook Islands for a FIFA organized seminar on women's football in the region.

Many women's development programmes still in their infancy around the Pacific, the delegates together with OFC and FIFA unanimously agreed to promote women's football according to a jointly agreed declaration.

The key points to emerge from the three-day workshop included the confederation establishing an OFC Women's Football Committee and management department operating out of the secretariat in Auckland. In addition, ten FIFA/ OFC Women's Football Coaching Courses will be conducted in every national association and a marketing plan to encourage and foster women's participation in football will be developed.

Each member nation has also agreed their own individual requirements based on their current situation, but all agreed to ensure women's representation on their Executive Committee and in each of their standing committees, to set up a women's football committee, and nominate a person to coordinate and lead the development process.

In terms of competitions and structure, it was agreed to promote mixed football for children (up to 12 years) to challenge cultural barriers and ensure good technical physical development principles. It is also essential that positive female role models are readily accessible and visible.

Each member nation recorded their own commitment to the task and set their own objectives for women's football.

Key challenges for the women's game in the OFC include technical development for coaches, instructors, referees, medical support personnel and administrators at all levels. Currently, the women's game in Oceania faces several key challenges such as the lack of facilities to sustain the growth of the increased popularity of the sport amongst women. The increase in opportunity to progress in coaching and other high performance areas of football is seen as a key area for improvement.
Football Medicine

Football Medicine remains an area in need of increased development as standards differ greatly within the region.

A desire to improve football medicine standards led FIFA to organize the “pilot” FUTURO III Football Medicine Programme in Auckland, New Zealand from February 8 – 12 2006.

The FUTURO III Football Medicine Programme was dedicated to sport doctors from all Oceania countries and dealt with a series of topics in football medicine ranging from practical sessions such as the role of the team physician, to injury prevention and doping control.

The entire course was recorded on video, for the production of a DVD resource forming a key learning tool that the participants can utilize on their return to their Member Associations. The participants also received all the educational material from the course to take back to their respective countries including the Football Medicine resource kit, videos and the course presentations themselves.

All participants will now become members of the international network of FIFA medical officers linked to the FIFA data source for continuous education.

New Zealand was an ideal choice to host the inaugural course due to its leading role in the development of the worldwide FIFA injury prevention programme, “The 11”.

Doping control was carried out in several OFC competitions as the confederation looks to up its professionalism and come inline with worldwide standards. The logistical challenges of the developing region make it difficult and costly to undergo doping control in all islands but OFC is hopeful this challenge will be met in future years.

In the future OFC will use football as a vehicle to launch public awareness campaigns against health issues prevalent in the region including obesity, HIV/AIDS, alcohol, drugs and smoking, promoting good nutrition and physical fitness.

Also planned for future years is the supply of football medicine equipment such as massage tables and stretchers, along with a greater number of football medicine courses in a bid to fast-track the development of this aspect of football.

Futsal and Beach Soccer

The picturesque setting at Temae Beach on the island of Moorea off Tahiti proved an ideal afternoon off for the participants at the FIFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Seminar. The trip was not an excuse for fun in the sun as it provided an opportunity for the course participants to see beach soccer live for the first time in the region.

FIFA is committed to developing futsal and beach soccer into a global phenomenon and the popularity of both continues to soar in all corners of the world. Oceania is no different and the impending arrival of the first Pacific Island nation at the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup — with the Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, and Vanuatu fighting to represent OFC — provided added impetus and interest in the course content.

Following comprehensive assessments by the FIFA Development Office based in New Zealand investigating the current and planned activities in both forms of the game technical and administration staff from around the Pacific region descended on Papeete, Tahiti for the 1 to 4 September seminar.

The four days in Tahiti gave FIFA the opportunity to inform the Member Associations of OFC their development plans for futsal and beach soccer. In a similar sense OFC was able to present its plans on the two forms of football.

For many of the course participants, and indeed their Member Associations, it provided a chance to exchange experiences and best practices between each other and see how FIFA and OFC could provide assistance in establishing or strengthening futsal and beach soccer activities.

Perhaps most importantly, the seminar gave the parties an opportunity to promote and develop a long-term approach to the relatively new forms of football.
### OFC Office Bearers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC GENERAL SECRETARIAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy General Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Women's Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Competitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (As At November 2006)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC HONORARY MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honorary President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OFC Standing Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC EMERGENCY COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC REFEREE’S COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC WOMEN’S COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFC SPORTS MEDICINE COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# OFC representation on FIFA Standing Committees 2005–2007

## Executive Committee
- **Member**
  - Ahongalu Fusimalohi
  - Tonga
- **Observer**
  - Reynald Temarii
  - Tahiti

## Emergency Committee
- **Member**
  - Ahongalu Fusimalohi
  - Tonga

## Finance Committee
- **Member**
  - Ahongalu Fusimalohi
  - Tonga

## Internal Audit Committee
- **Member**
  - Tautulu Roebeck
  - Samoa

## Organising Committee for the FIFA World Cup
- **Member**
  - Titimaua Solia
  - Samoa

## Organising Committee for the FIFA Confederations Cup
- **Member**
  - Jacques Tronquet
  - Vanuatu

## Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments
- **Member**
  - Tautulu Roebeck
  - Samoa

## Organising Committee for the FIFA U-20 World Cup
- **Member**
  - Lee Harmon
  - Cook Islands
- **Member**
  - Thierry Ariiotima
  - Tahiti

## Organising Committee for the FIFA U-17 World Cup
- **Member**
  - John Numaga
  - Cook Islands
- **Member**
  - Karl Reimann
  - Papua New Guinea

## Committee for Women’s Football and the FIFA Women’s World Cup
- **Member**
  - Michele Cox
  - New Zealand
- **Member**
  - Selina Fusimalohi
  - Tonga

## Organising Committee for the FIFA U-20 and U-17 Women’s World Cups
- **Member**
  - Viana Saia
  - Samoa
- **Member**
  - Carol Walker
  - New Zealand

## Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee
- **Member**
  - Nairu Niana
  - Tahiti
- **Member**
  - Johnny Tinakley Lulu
  - Vanuatu
  *(Replaced by Matlick Lambert, Vanuatu)*

## Organising Committee for the FIFA Club World Cup
- **Member**
  - Max Burgess
  - New Zealand

## Referees’ Committee
- **Member**
  - Ken Wallace
  - New Zealand
- **Member**
  - Johnny Tinakley Lulu
  - Vanuatu
  *(Replaced by Massimo Ravainis, Vanuatu)*

## Technical and Development Committee
- **Member**
  - John Morris
  - New Zealand
- **Member**
  - Michael Paille
  - Tahiti

## Sports Medical Committee
- **Member**
  - Dr. Tony Edwards
  - New Zealand

## Players’ Status Committee
- **Member**
  - Tai Nicholas
  - OFC

## Legal Committee
- **Member**
  - Dr. MS Sahu Khan
  - Fiji
- **Member**
  - Tevita Tapoi
  - Tonga

## Committee for Ethics and Fair Play
- **Member**
  - Mohammed Yasef
  - Fiji

## Media Committee
- **Deputy Chairman**
  - Ahongalu Fusimalohi
  - Tonga

## Associations Committee
- **Member**
  - Claude Frommer
  - New Caledonia
- **Member**
  - David Chung
  - Papua New Guinea

## Football Committee
- **Member**
  - Wynton Rufer
  - New Zealand
- **Member**
  - Marc Kamyn
  - New Caledonia

## Strategic Studies Committee
- **Member**
  - Reynald Temarii
  - Tahiti
- **Member**
  - Tai Nicholas
  - OFC

## Marketing and Television Advisory Board
- **Member**
  - Olivier Huc
  - Tahiti

## Goal Bureau
- **Member**
  - Reynald Temarii
  - Tahiti

## FIFA Medical Assessment and Research Centre
- **Member**
  - Dr. Tony Edwards
  - New Zealand

## FIFA Club Task Force
- **Member**
  - Ivan Vekich
  - New Zealand

## Disciplinary Committee
- **Member**
  - Dr. MS Sahu Khan
  - Fiji
- **Member**
  - Charles Ashley
  - Solomon Islands

## Appeal Committee
- **Member**
  - Allen Parker
  - Cook Islands
Acknowledgements
Compiled by Seamus Marten. Special thanks to Barry Smith, Ben Campbell Photography, Bob Patterson, Carles Fontada, David Brawl, FIFA, Frances Plunkett, Football Federation Australia, Glen Price, Glen Furness, Gordon Glen Warren, Jeremy Illman, Kent Gray, Kevin Clarke Photography, Kevin Clarke Photography, Lyn Shirley, Marc Parnell-Milner, Moses Stevens, New Zealand Soccer, Peter Rees, Olivier Hu, Shane Wenzlick, Solomon Islands Football Federation and Vivian Wickham.