

# Oceania Gymnastics OSFO/ONOC Annual Report 2017

	Clubs	Technical Members (Coaches & Judges)	Athletes	Participants	Development Tours
<b>Australia</b>	612	7102	220,245	775,740	-
<b>New Zealand</b>	108	257	42,299	166,113	-
<b>American Samoa</b>	2	7	20	100	1
<b>Cook Islands</b>	2	11	40	500	2
<b>Fiji</b>	7	28	200	5106	4
<b>Tonga</b>	3	12	40	150	1
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	3	15	60	60	2
<b>Samoa</b>	3	8	40	1030	1
<b>Guam</b>	3	8	250	N/A	-

## Oceania Gymnastics Development Group President's Message

It has been a year of significant achievement for the Oceania Gymnastics Development Group. Therefore, I would like to start by thanking Oceania Development Manager Brooke Kneebush and all the volunteers and committees in Fiji, Cook Islands, American Samoa, Tonga and Papua New Guinea for the amazing work and growth achieved, thank you.

It is exciting to welcome the Tonga Gymnastics Federation (TGF) and the Papua New Guinea Gymnastics Federation (PNGFF) to the Oceania family. Both newly formed federations have recently applied to the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) for recognition as the National Governing Bodies of gymnastics in their respective countries.

As well as these two new applications, work with Samoa and Guam has been progressing well. In May 2017, two coaches from Samoa attended the FIG funded Age Group Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport, followed by an immersion tour in Melbourne. A second development visit to Samoa was conducted in September, including coach and teacher education. Come and try sessions have been a huge success with over 1000 Samoans exposed to gymnastics in the space of a week. The Samoa Gymnastics Federation has been formed and an application for membership of the FIG is underway. Most recently a "sister-club" relationship has been established between Spirit Gym Sports in Western Australia and gymnastics in Samoa. They are providing lesson plans, session examples, advice and ideas regularly. With a large team of directors, managers, coaches and administrators, support to Samoa is never far away.

The Guam Gymnastics Federation was established in 2015; member clubs include dance and gymnastics' clubs that regularly compete on and off island. There is also a recreational gymnastics programme at the Guam naval base. Since the first Oceania Gymnastics Development visit to Guam in 2015, GA experts have been providing support to coaches, judges and gymnasts, including video feedback and analysis of skills and routines in preparations for competitions. Guam gymnasts aspire to compete at FIG events, including World Championships and the pinnacle of all events - the Olympic Games. Guam's application to the FIG is being finalised now, and we are confident that this will be sent soon, with the support of the Guam NOC.

I would like to extend our gratitude to the National Olympic Committees of both these countries for your support and assistance; we really appreciate all you have done so far.

Oceania has signed an agreement with OSEP to become an accredited training provider across the Pacific. This is a significant step toward the development of Oceania Gymnastics, one we know, will enable Oceania Gymnastics to grow the skills and expertise of all its federations and their member clubs.

In July 2018, the Gymnastics Federation of Fiji (GFF) in collaboration with Oceania Gymnastics will host the FIG Executive meeting. This is a significant event for both Oceania and Fiji and results from the hard work of both Brooke, and GFF President Darlene Underwood plus others from GFF in winning the bid to host. While the executive is in Fiji, we will also be holding the 2018 Oceania Gymnastics Congress. This will be a great chance for everyone to meet and discuss progress, etc.

While all the above has been eventful, the most pleasing aspect to the growth is the delight and enjoyment that all are receiving from their participation. This coming year will be another huge year for Oceania Gymnastics, as we continue to grow the sport and our reach in the Pacific.

President Dr Denis Mowbray FCIS, FGNZ



**Oceania FIG Age Group Camp AIS Canberra Australia**

A highlight for Oceania Gymnastics in 2017 was seeing 26 coaches representing 9 Oceania countries attend a FIG Age Group Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport in May (followed by an immersion tour to Melbourne). Another convergence of Oceania Federations took place when Gymnastics New Zealand National Community Sport Manager Danielle Halliday and Programme and Pathways Development Manager Margaret Wilton visited the Gymnastics Australia National Clubs Carnival in September with a view to participating in future events, conducting a similar event in NZ and to share ideas with GA staff and volunteers.

## **Affiliated Member Federations**

### **Australia**



**Emily Little (AUS) FIG World Cup Melbourne Feb 2017**

2017 was a year of firsts for Gymnastics in Australia. For the first time in the sport's history, Gymnastics Australia (GA) recorded over 200,000 athlete members, in fact finishing the year well above this number, with total registered athletes numbering 220,245.

International gymnastics also returned to Australia for the first time in 12 years, with Melbourne's Hisense Arena hosting the inaugural World Cup Gymnastics Melbourne. As a stop on the FIG's new Individual Apparatus World Cup circuit, Melbourne will host this event for the entirety of the 2017-2020 Olympic Cycle, with the events to be staged in 2019 and 2020 to also serve as Olympic qualifiers. Hosting an event of this scale for the first time has also opened up new broadcast opportunities for Gymnastics in Australia, and GA looks forward to signing a broadcast agreement with Fox Sports Australia in the near future.

Following Peggy Liddick's 20-year reign as Australia's National Coach of Women's Artistic Gymnastic (WAG), US super-coach, Mihai Brestyan was appointed to the helm of Australia's WAG team in 2017. Results from Mihai's new training program began to show throughout the year, highlighted by Georgia Godwin making the All-Around Final at the 2017 Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Montreal, Canada, placing 13<sup>th</sup> in the Final.

World Championships were also held for Men's Artistic, Rhythmic and Trampoline Gymnastics in 2017. Our Trampoline Gymnastics team had a particularly successful World Championships, with Jack Penny and Blake Rutherford making the Men's Synchronised Trampoline Final, Dominic Clarke advancing to the Men's Double Mini Trampoline Final, and Braida Thomas advancing to the Women's Double Mini Trampoline Final. The highlight of the Championships for the Aussies however was the Men's Double Mini Trampoline team of Dom Clarke, Ryan Hatfield, Jack Petrie and Jarrod Spear taking home the Bronze Medal.

### **New Zealand**



**Daniel Stoddart New Zealand Championships 2017  
– photo credit Willem Delpont**

The 2017 year was an important one for New Zealand as we changed our name back to Gymnastics NZ (GNZ). This was an important if symbolic change, as it better reflects who we are, and what we do. Our participation numbers have grown significantly. So much so that some clubs are not able to fulfil demand. Importantly, our competitive memberships have also grown significantly, reaching 42,000 in 2017. Alongside this, there have been new clubs formed.

A key focus for 2018 will be the implementation of programmes and other initiatives that will assist in driving significant increases in Gym for All (GfA) participation.

A number of major strategic projects were initiated, including our National Facilities Strategy. The foundation document for our future facility's planning. This document provides clubs, funders and local government with an

outline of our facilities needs for the foreseeable future; it will be the guiding document used by our clubs as they look forward to expanding and developing their facilities.

GNZ's commitment to the education and ongoing development of our member's skills and knowledge has seen a wide range of courses offered, in the areas of; administration, coaching, health and safety and participation programmes, to mention some. These have been exceptionally well attended. GNZ believes that the provision of opportunities for continuing education of our clubs and volunteers is the key to developing strong, vibrant and sustainable clubs.

Following what was GNZ's best Olympics for some time, our international athletes have continued to develop, posting some excellent results in 2017. Three of our best female athletes are now on scholarship in the USA. The training and competitive environment will greatly assist in their development as they work towards their ultimate goal. Dylan Schmidt continues his stellar run in the world of elite men's trampolining. Dylan has followed up his 7th place in Rio with three World Cup finals, finishing 6th in Belarus in August and in September finishing 4th in Portugal, before he won silver in Valladolid, Spain in October.

With the Commonwealth Games in 2018, it was a real pleasure to announce that NZ are sending a men's team to the Games. Glasgow Commonwealth Games bronze medallist David Bishop and Olympian Misha (Mikhail) Koudinov are among the team. Joining them are Devy Dyson, Kyleab Ellis and Ethan Dick. The Women's Artistic and Rhythmic selections are being selected in early 2018.

It will be another big year for Gymnastics NZ as we look forward to continued growth and success in all the various aspects of our sport.

### **American Samoa**

- Three Gymnastics Federation of American Samoa (GFAS) coaches attended the FIG Age Group Camp and Immersion tour to Melbourne.
- GFAS Directors attended OSEP Governance and SiC training
- In 2017 GymSchools activities were conducted for the first time, with teachers and students at Pacific Horizons School.
- A GA development visit was conducted in August including coach training, gymnast clinics and event planning.

### **Fiji**



### **Freestyle Gymnastics Fiji**

- The third annual Gymnastics National event was conducted at the YMCA Suva. Acrobatic Gymnastics was introduced for the first time. Fiji's first regional gymnastics event was held. A total of 300 entrants including at least 10 with Disabilities participated in the events.
- GFF was supported by two Australian Government funded projects in 2017: An Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) six month assignment and Pacific Sports Partnerships (PSP) project AeroGym Fiji which uses Aerobic Gymnastics as a vehicle to develop the capacity of the GFF and tackle development issues including high levels of non-communicable diseases and inequalities. 3000 participants were introduced to the sport of gymnastics through these programs.
- Development Visits were conducted by GA Experts in February, March, April, and November including introducing Freestyle Gymnastics as a pathway to the FIG's newest Discipline – Parkour.
- GFF coach and Sport Development Officer (SDO) Melaia Lutunauca participated in a three week immersion visit to Melbourne. Michelle Lassen and Stino Lebaiwasa participated in a FIG Age Group Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport followed by an immersion tour to Melbourne.
- Coaches participated in OSEP Strength and Conditioning Training and Development Coach Training.
- GFF personnel participated in Child Protection Training provided by FASANOC in partnership with DFAT, PSP, Fiji Ministry of Sports and Fiji National Sports Commission (FNSC).
- St. John Association of Fiji First Aid Training was undertaken by coaches in Suva.
- Well over 1000 school students were introduced to Fundamental Movement Skills Gymnastics via GFF SDOs collaborating with FNSC Kids in Community Sports Programs.

## Cook Islands



### **Cook Islands Judges National Competition October 2017**

- Three Cook Islands Gymnastics Federation (CIGF) coaches attended the FIG Age Group Camp and Immersion tour to Melbourne.
- GA Development Visits were conducted in February and October including coach and judge training, come and try sessions and gymnast clinics.
- GymSchools programs were delivered in 3 Preschools and 3 Primary Schools impacting 452 children.
- 4 SDOs were trained and mentored in conducting the GymSchools program
- 16 teachers attended GymSchools Teacher Training
- CIGF SDOs conducted activities in the monthly Just Play Village Festival series, with gymnastics regularly voted the most popular sport.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual CIGF Competition was conducted with a significant growth in numbers.
- CIGF Secretary Teina Taulu attended OSEP MiSO training.
- In 2017 CIGF was supported by CISNOC Olympic Solidarity and AllSports Junior Development Grassroots Programs grants

## Tonga

- Two TGF coaches attended the FIG Age Group Camp and Immersion tour to Melbourne.
- A GA development visit was conducted in February including coach training, come & try sessions, school and preschool activities and youth beach gymnastics.
- The TGF was formed and a membership application submitted to the FIG.

## Gymnastics Development Countries

### Papua New Guinea



### **Papua New Guinea Coach Training Balance Beam**

- GA development visits were conducted in February and September.
- A coach training workshop was conducted by PNGGF Gymnastics coach Judy Addis upon her return from the FIG Age Group Camp in Australia.
- The PNGGF was established and has applied for FIG membership.
- PNGGF conducted gymnastics activities at the PNGOC Olympic Day events.
- Judge training was conducted for the first time, with a competition planned for 2018.
- A shipping container full of gymnastics equipment was donated by a Queensland School.

## Guam

- Judge training was conducted by Gymnastics Australia's Women's Artistic Gymnastics Technical Director Jill Wright with three GGF members.
- A training workshop for dance and gymnastics coaches was conducted by Guam Gymnastics coach Monique Williams-Duenas with a focus on new techniques and injury prevention upon her return from the FIG Age Group Camp and Melbourne Immersion Tour.

## Samoa



**Samoa Gymnasts**

- Two Samoan coaches attended the FIG Age Group Camp and Immersion tour to Melbourne.
- A GA Development Visit was conducted in September including coach training, come & try sessions, gymnast clinics, cross training functional movement sessions, teacher education and over 1000 students participating in primary and preschool fundamental movement sessions.
- The Samoa Gymnastics Federation was formed in 2017 and will apply for membership of the International Gymnastics Federation in 2018.