

Guam Gymnastics Federation recognized globally

Daily Post Staff

May 9, 2019 Updated May 9, 2019



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– **Jayne Flores, president, Guam Gymnastics Federation**

The Guam Gymnastics Federation, following the endorsement by International Gymnastics Federation (FIG), officially joins the global gymnastics community. As a provisional affiliated member, the GCF’s induction came to fruition at the FIG council meeting which was held on May 3 in St. Petersburg, Russia.

The FIG is the sport's governing body.

The GCF, an associate member of the Guam National Olympic Committee, becomes the eighth National Federation in the Oceania Gymnastics Union – the newest FIG Union just ratified in December 2018.

The GGF, established in 2015, includes six member clubs that encompass competitive gymnastics, dance, and cheerleading.

According to information provided in a press release, GCF’s endorsement follows significant work over many months by their board of directors and Secretary General Brooke Kneebush.

“Becoming a member of the FIG and OGU will create a platform to make the sport more empowering for Guam’s gymnasts, dancers, and cheerleaders,” said Jayne Flores, GGF

president. "FIG and OGU membership will allow the GGF access to regional and international training, coaching, and funding opportunities. We are thrilled to have been granted this membership."

OGU President and FIG executive committee member Kitty Chiller said the endorsement of Guam's membership highlights the growing interest in Oceania gymnastics.

"On behalf of every National Federation in the OGU, we welcome Guam to the Union and to the broader international gymnastics community," Chiller said. "President Jayne Flores and the Guam gymnastics community have worked very hard to ensure the sport has the best potential to develop and offer broad benefits to the region's passionate and growing gymnastics member base."

"Being part of the FIG is a significant step to achieving their longer-term goals, and we wish them all the best as they work towards obtaining full FIG membership at the next FIG Congress, in 2020," she added.

Since Oceania Gymnastics Development first visited Guam in 2015, Gymnastics Australia experts have been providing support to stakeholders.

Support has included video feedback and analysis of skills, and feedback and analysis of gymnastics routines in preparations for competitions.

Guam gymnasts aspire to compete at FIG events, including future World Championships and Olympic Games.