



Oceania Council of Associated Wrestling Styles (OCAWS)



2010 OSFO / ONOC ANNUAL REPORT

The following report summarizes activities in wrestling that took place in 2010.

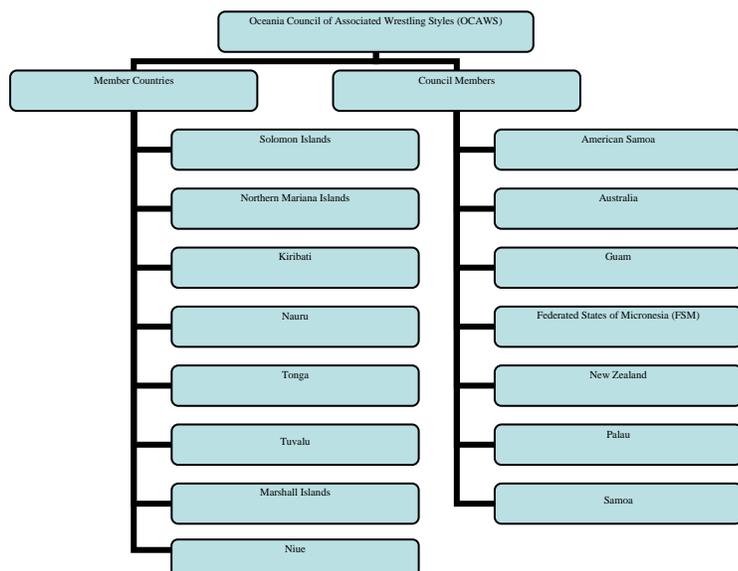
OCAWS

The Oceania Council of Associated Wrestling Styles (OCAWS) was only able to meet once a year and this was during the Oceania Annual Meeting held in Apia, Samoa. Throughout the year, our members stayed in contact with one another mainly by email.

Membership

We currently have 15 member countries. Most recently, Niue applied to FILA seeking membership in late 2010 and was recently accepted as an Associate Member to FILA. Congratulations to Niue.

Organizational Chart & Structure:



The OCAWS General Assembly

The Annual General Assembly Meeting was held at the Multi Sports Complex Gymnasium (Tuanaimato) in Apia, Samoa on April 06, 2010. In attendance were 10 delegates from American Samoa, Australia, FSM, Guam, Palau, New Zealand, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. Everyone welcomed Kiribati and Tuvalu to this meeting since this was their first time to attend. Tarkong read his report covering all aspects of activities by the Oceania Council in 2009. Treasurer Brian Stannett read his report and presented a statement of bank account activities to the meeting. Mr. Saul, Vice

President, briefed the members on his attendance at the ONOC and OSFO Annual Meeting held in Nadi, Fiji. Members recognized the technical assistance provided by FILA to include wrestling mats for Tuvalu, Kiribati, and American Samoa as well as the \$10,000 subvention. OCAWS would like to thank ONOC for providing \$13,500 grant to facilitate the coaching workshop held prior to the Oceania Championships in Samoa.

The Oceania Council Members provided an update and report on all activities undertaken in their home countries. While some countries were able to make real progress in their development programs, other countries continue to struggle while Tuvalu and Kiribati were seeking ways to jump start their programs.

Both Samoa and FSM bid for the hosting of the 2011 Oceania Championships but it was Samoa that won the bid for 2011. Guam and Australia both bided for the hosting of the 2012 Oceania Championships but it was Australia that won the bid to host in 2012. Samoa once again demonstrated their willingness to host the event for the last time as they would receive support from their Government to host the Championships again. Congratulations to Samoa as they stand firm to their commitment in developing and promoting wrestling in the pacific region. Australia will host the 2012 Oceania Championships.

Members agreed that Samoa would be the Oceania Training Center (OTC) over the next 4 years and to begin in 2011.

Members agreed that we should develop grappling. FILA endorsed Grappling as it is growing considerably. Grappling is very popular and including grappling has proved to be beneficial.

It should be noted that FILA has actively worked towards the recognition and development of non-Olympic disciplines in order to achieve one of the main missions set forth in its Constitution, namely the governing and promotion of all wrestling styles practiced around the world. FILA has focused mainly on the following: Beach Wrestling, Belt Wrestling, Pankration, Grappling, and Combat Grappling.

There were major concerns that the future Pacific Games & Mini Pacific Games do not have wrestling in the games. New Caledonia (2011) and PNG (2015) will host and they don't have wrestling either. This leaves us without major competitions in this major Pacific Competition.

2010 Oceania Championships (Apia, Samoa) & Youth Olympic Qualifier for the 2010 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Singapore.

The 2010 Oceania Championships was held in Apia, Samoa from April 7-9, 2010. The Championships was also the Youth Olympic Qualifying event for Oceania. Attending the competitions this year were American Samoa, Australia, Guam, FSM, New Zealand, Palau, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands,



and Samoa. Tuvalu and Kiribati attended as observers for the first time as they took part in the Coaching Course. During the first day of competitions there were over 120 matches for the Greco Roman event and about the same for Freestyle on the second day. On the third day of competitions were the Beach Wrestling events.

As with last year, much focus for this year's competition was on the inclusion of the cadets and juniors and of course female wrestling. Aside from Greco Roman and Freestyle Wrestling, Beach Wrestling event was also held for both male and female wrestlers that competed in the light and heavy weight division.

The 2010 Oceania Championships was also an Olympic Qualifier for the 2010 YOG for Freestyle Male Cadets and Female Cadet Freestyle. There were 5 boys and 4 girls that qualified and they included athletes from Australia, American Samoa, Guam, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and New Zealand. Congratulations on a job well done in Singapore.

Oceania Training Center (OTC)

Based on the proposal received from Samoa Wrestling Association and the level of support from OCAWS, FILA agreed on September 23, 2010 to participate in the implementation of the Training Center in Apia, Samoa. ONOC agreed as well to provide support. Preparations are underway to see it up and running in 2011. Having an OTC in the Oceania region will provide our younger wrestlers, coaches, and officials an opportunity to improve their skills. With the full support from FILA, ONOC, and Samoa's other partners, to include the Samoa Government, I can see great expectations for this OTC.



Oceania Coaching Clinic / Training Camp

The Coaching Clinic and Training Camp was held from April 01-05, 2010. Conducting the course was FILA Instructor Ivan Ivanov of Bulgaria. The course was held throughout the week and involved lots of coaching techniques, physical training workouts, games, drills and activities. There were approximately 15 coaches that took part in the course and about fifty athletes. Upon completion of the course, the participants received their certificates. None of this would not have been possible without the support from FILA and ONOC. Again, thank you.



Referees Clinic

The referees clinic was held on April 06, 2010 prior to the start of the Oceania Championships with referees from Australia, Palau, New Zealand, and Korea attending the clinic. Tuvalu, Solomons, Kiribati, Guam, FSM, American Samoa, and Solomons took part as observers. The session was conducted by FILA Instructor Mr. Kim, Ik Jong.



Mr. Kim provided an overview of the rule changes for officials.

2012 Olympic Qualifications

At the OCAWS Annual Meeting, members reviewed the qualification criteria for the 2012 Olympic Games and raised concerns about the qualification system in place. According to the Qualification System set for the London Games, the 2011 Oceania Championships will be compulsory for our athletes to attend the 2011 World Championships (1st Phase / Olympic Qualifier). Only wrestlers whose NOC has taken part in the 2011 Continental Championships will be able to take part in the 2011 World Championships.

As for the Continental qualification tournament, the date has been set for March 14-18, 2012. The rules state that only wrestlers of the continent concerned whose NOC has taken part in the 2012 Continental Championship will be able to take part with the same number of participants per style in the continental qualification tournament.

As for the 2nd phase: 2012 Continental Qualification, wrestlers from Oceania and Africa will participate together in one tournament. The first two male and two female wrestlers of each tournament of each Olympic weight category will qualify. The total number of athletes to qualify will be 36 athletes.

All the other countries of all the continents who did not qualify in the Olympic Qualification Tournaments may participate in this 3rd and 4th International Qualification Tournaments. In the 3rd Phase, the first three male and three female wrestlers in each Olympic weight category ranked at this tournament will qualify for the 2012 Olympic Games. The 4th phase, the first two male and first two female wrestlers in each Olympic weight category ranked at this tournament will qualify for the 2012 Olympic Games. Three tripartite commission invitation places will be made available to the eligible NOCs.

2010 Micronesian Games

Palau hosted the 2010 Micronesia Games in the Senior Greco Roman (Men), Senior Freestyle (Men & Women), and Senior Beach Wrestling (Men & Women). There were a total of 7 Micronesian Islands that competed in wrestling during the Games. The teams included Guam, Marshall Islands, Chuuk (FSM), Yap (FSM), Kosrae (FSM), Ponape (FSM), and Palau. Kiribati, CNMI and Nauru were unable to attend.



FILA Technical Assistance – Subvention, Mat, Coaching Assistance

FILA provided \$10,000 subvention to OCAWS in order to assist with activities during 2010. OCAWS is grateful to FILA for such assistance. In addition, FILA agreed to allow members during the upcoming 2010 Oceania Championships a choice to either pay the 130 CHF or to find cheaper accommodations/meals. At the request of their NOC's, both Palau and Solomon Islands received technical assistance from FILA for their Wrestling Sports Development Officer (SDO) for 2010.

FILA Bureau Meeting

The FILA Bureau Meeting was held on June 05, 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland. John Tarkong Jr. attended this important meeting. In attendance at the meeting were Mr. Raphael Martinetti, FILA President, Michel Dusson, FILA Secretary General, the four Vice Presidents, FILA Bureau members, and the Oceania Committee Presidents.



Members approved the minutes from the last meeting in Rome 2009, reviewed the candidates for the elections of Bureau at the 2010 Moscow Congress, national federation proposals for the 2010 Congress, budget, 2008-2009 Balance Sheet, Information on the Youth Olympic Games 2010, Combat Sports Games, Information on the 2012 London Olympic Games, Bureau proposals for the Congress, FILA's Anti-doping Regulations, Preparations for the World Championships & Congress in Moscow, 2011-2012 Calendar and other issues.

OSFO / ONOC Meeting (Nadi, Fiji)

Mr. John Saul, OCAWS, attended the 2010 Olympic Sports Federation of Oceania (OSFO) General Assembly and Oceania National Olympic Committee (ONOC) meeting held in Nadi, Fiji.

FILA Congress Meeting in Moscow, Russia

The FILA Congress took place in Moscow, Russia on September 4th prior to the start of the World Championship. There were about 110 delegates that participated in the Congress Meeting and in the Calendar Congress Meeting that followed. John Saul (Australia) and John Tarkong Jr. (Palau) attended both meetings. Tarkong in his capacity as Oceania Continental President also served as a FILA Bureau Member during the meetings. Aside from the regular business, the highlight of the Congress was the elections of the Bureau where six outgoing members were nominated while seven other new candidates were aiming at the six available seats.

2010 World Championships, Russia

The Senior World Championships was held in Moscow, Russia from 05 to 12 September 2010. Among the 142 countries taking part in the 2010 World Championships Australia, Guam, FSM, Solomon Islands, Palau and New Zealand. As to date,



all of the wrestlers, men and women, competed and gave it their very best. To have the Oceania Countries present the countries at the World Championships meant that they had to wrestle their hardest against the best wrestlers in the world. For Australia, New Zealand, and the Solomon Islands this was very good preparation for their teams before moving on to the Commonwealth Games month in New Delhi, India. It was fun seeing all the athletes and coaches at the Championships and I hope we can continue to build our teams to be even stronger in preparation for the Oceania Championships and Olympic

Qualifications that are yet to come. We would like to thank FILA for providing technical assistance for our athletes from Guam, FSM, Palau, and the Solomon Islands.

2010 Commonwealth Games

Among the Commonwealth Countries that participated in the games, Australia did exceptionally well with Emily Bensted (Aus) winning a silver medal in the female freestyle 55kg; Hassa Shabsavan (Aus) winning a bronze medal in the Greco Roman Style 74kg; Kumar Anil (Aus) winning gold medal in the 96kg Greco Roman Style; and Ivan Popov (Aus) winning gold medal in the 120kg Greco Roman Style.

Oceania Website

Members were encouraged to update information on their Oceania Sport Website in order to share information within the Oceania Region and around the world.

IOC Scholarship

Two athletes were awarded the IOC Scholarship in 2010 through their NOC's. Elgin Elwais (Palau) who is currently training at the U.S. Olympic Education Training Center (USOETC) in Northern Michigan University and Keitani Graham (FSM). Congratulations to both wrestlers.

Conclusion

These are the activities taken during 2010. I would like to thank FILA, ONOC, OSFO and most of all our members and their respective NOC's for their continued support.

John Tarkong Jr.
President, OCAWS