

# CU Annual Report for 2024



***Aspiring  
Olympism  
and Peace***



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## 1. Highlights of 2024

### APRIL (July - Paris Olympic Games)

- Solomon Islands was granted the privilege of hosting the 2024 Oceania Olympic qualification tournament which was preceded by a training camp for Oceania athletes.



Seven (7) Oceania athletes from three (3) MNAs (Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea) qualified for the Paris Olympic Games.

Female -57kgs  
Female -67 kgs  
Female +67 kgs

Stacey Hymer (AUS)  
Lolohea Navuga (FIJ)  
Venice Traill (FIJ)



Male -58 kgs  
Male -68 kgs  
Male -80 kgs  
Male 80+ kgs

Bailey Lewis (AUS)  
Kevin Kassman (PNG)  
Leon Sejranovic (AUS)  
Gibson Mara (PNG)



#### APRIL (August - Paris Paralympic Games)

- Solomon Islands was granted the privilege of hosting the 2024 Oceania Olympic qualification tournament which was preceded by a training camp for Oceania athletes.



Six (6) Oceania Para athletes from three (3) MNAs (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands) qualified for the Paris Paralympic Games.

K44 Female -57kgs	Irene Mar (FIJ)
K44 Female -65 kgs	Junita Tonowane (SOL)
K44 Female +65 kgs	Manega Tapari (PNG)



K44 Male -58kgs  
K44 Male -70 kgs  
K44 Male 80+ kgs

Solomon Jagri (SOL)  
Herea Loi (PNG)  
James Gegeu (SOL)





## 2. List of CU-Promoted Championships

### APRIL (Honiara, Solomon Islands)

2024 PARIS OLYMPICS – Qualifications Tournament



2024 PARIS PARALYMPICS  
Qualifications Tournament

### SEPTEMBER (Brisbane, Australia)

AUSTRALIAN OPEN G2

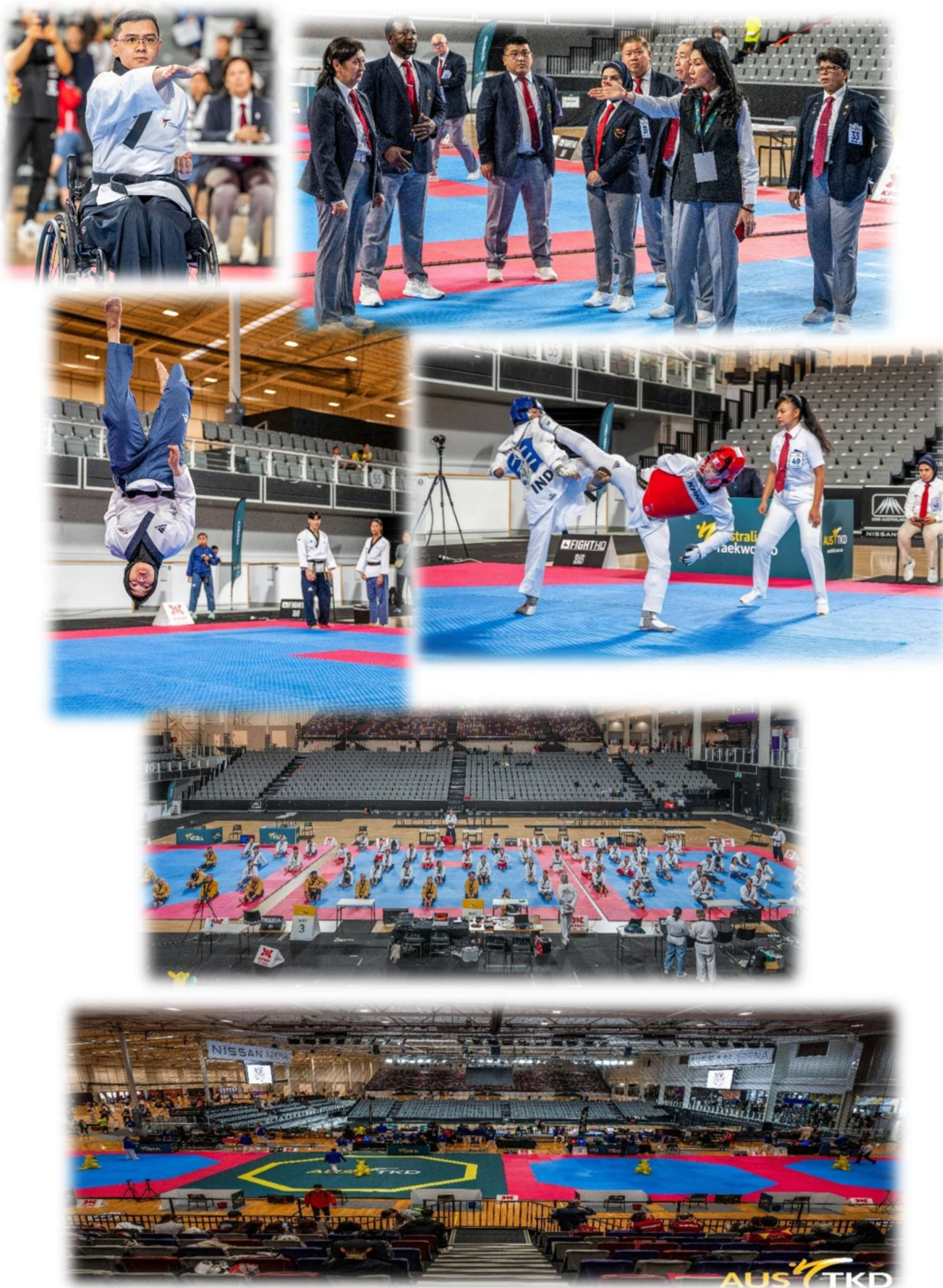
- Kyorugi – Cadets, Juniors & Seniors (G2) & Para (G4)
- Poomsae – Seniors (G2) & Para (G4)



**SEPTEMBER (Brisbane, Australia)**

**PRESIDENTS CUP (Oceania) G2**

- Kyorugi – Cadets, Juniors & Seniors (G2) & Para (G4)
- Poomsae – Seniors (G2) & Para (G4)





### 3. List of Major CU Meetings and Outcomes

#### **MARCH - Meetings with President Oceania Para Olympic Committee – Paul Bird**

21 March 2024, Nadi, Fiji

OTU has worked closely with the Oceania Paralympic Committee, the OPC, to review its development strategy with a view towards Brisbane 2032.

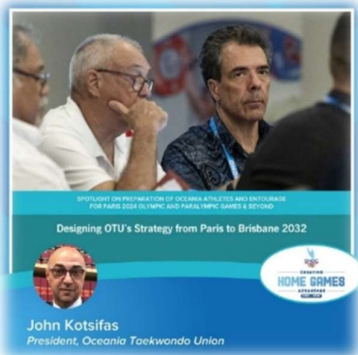
We are engaged with close collaboration with National Olympic Committees and National Paralympic Committees as we work together to elevate the athlete performances of Oceania athletes in both Olympic and Paralympic competition.

#### **2024 Oceania National Olympic Committee and Organization of Sports Federations of Oceania** 21 – 23 March 2024, Nadi, Fiji

The conference convened key representatives from sport and the development sector in Oceania, to share best practice of what works, present the latest evidence-based approaches, and create a shared agenda for action to strength Pacific sport as we take the next steps towards defining and leading Brisbane 2032 legacies in and for the Pacific Islands.

The Brisbane 2032 Games taking place in Oceania gives the OTU an important anchor to connect our agenda for transforming Pacific sport with every milestone along the road – from Paris to Los Angeles in 2028 and then on to Brisbane come 2032 recognizing that we also have critical milestones in our region including the Pacific Games and other significant events.

The OTU has engaged with key stakeholders across the Oceania region to invest in our journey towards Brisbane 2032.



#### **APRIL - Meeting with OSFO – OTU's 2032 Development Plan**

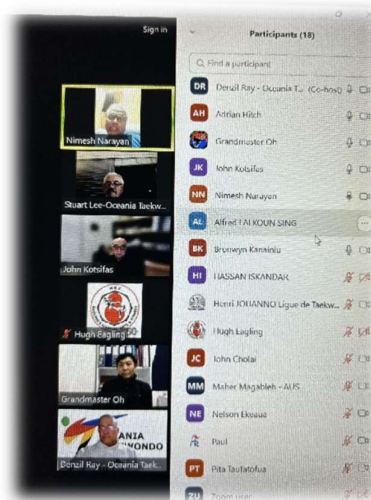
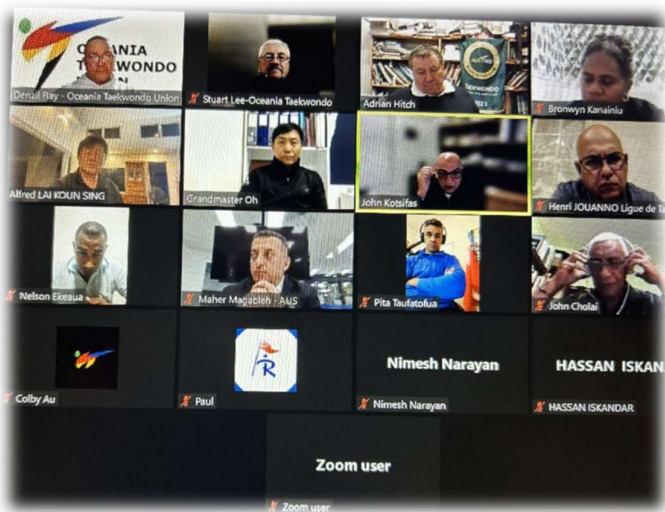
26 - 28 April 2024, Brisbane. Australia

Mr Atma Maharaja, Program Lead for Brisbane 2032

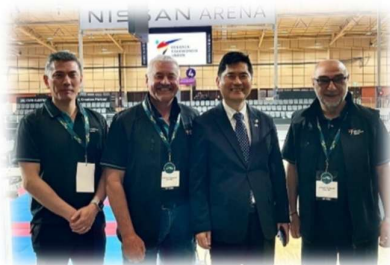
The development of a strong partnership with the Oceania Olympic Committee to prepare the OTU's Brisbane 2032 Strategic Plan



**JUNE- 2024 OTU Annual General Meeting**  
5 June 2024 (virtual Meeting)



**SEPTEMBER - Australian Open / Presidents Cup (Oceania)**  
19 – 22 September 2024, Brisbane Australia



**SEPTEMBER – World Taekwondo General Assembly**  
30 September 2024, Seoul. Korea





#### 4. Para Taekwondo Activities



APRIL 6

- 2024 Paris, Paralympic Qualification Tournament conducted in Solomon Islands



MAY 16 - 19

- Provision of financial assistance to prepare para-athletes to the Paris Paralympic Games was provide to athletes and coaches to attend the 2024 Asian Open Para Championships Vietnam in May 2024



JULY 2 - 5

- Provision of financial assistance to prepare para-athletes to the Paris Paralympic Games was provide to athletes and coaches to attend the World Para Open challenge event held in Korea in July 2024.



## 5. Development & Social Contributions

JUNE 21 - 24

- OTU provided critical mentorship for regional referees from Solomon Islands and French Polynesia who attended the WT International Referee Course in Malaysia/



SEPTEMBER 30

- The OTU subsidized several MNA's to attend the WT General Assembly held in Korea in September 2024.



OCTOBER 1 - 6

- The OTU subsidized athletes from Tahiti to attend the World junior championships held in Korea in October 2024



NOVEMBER 4-7

- OTU gained a WT certified Educator in Technical Poomsae in Korea in November 2024.



DECEMBER

- A large OTU education seminar was held in Tahiti in November 2024 covering competition rules and regulations for referees, judges and officials with coaching principles, and competition management and technical matters.



## 6. Challenges

### GOVERNANCE

Governance in many of our MNAs face several unique challenges, which can vary by country but generally include the following:

All of our MNAs are islands, many of which are remote and have limited infrastructure. This geographic diversity can complicate coordination, logistics, and communication for MNAs to govern efficiently let alone try to host regular cost-effective events.

Many countries have limited financial resources, which simply affect the ability to develop sports programs, facilities, and governance structures. Domestic funding for MNAs relies on government support, sponsorships, and donations, which is inconsistent.

Inadequate sports training facilities, and transportation networks, can hinder the growth and development of all sports in our region, particularly true in smaller or less-developed nations. Our MNAs have a rich tapestry of cultures and traditions. While this diversity is a strength, it can also pose challenges in terms of governance and representation, as different groups may have varying priorities and approaches to sports.

Political instability in many of our MNAs impact the governance of our organisations. Changes in government can lead to shifts in priorities and funding, affecting sports development initiatives. Capacity building is difficult due to the lack of trained personnel and expertise in sports administration and governance. This limits the effectiveness of organizations and the ability to implement best practices in management, coaching, and athlete development.

Athlete development and their access to quality coaching, training, and competition opportunities can be challenging, particularly in less populated areas due to insufficient funding which is crucial for fostering talent and ensuring success on regional and international stages.

The understanding, promotion and support for gender equality remains a significant issue in sports governance and participation across the Oceania region. Increasing the representation of women in leadership roles and ensuring equal opportunities for female athletes are ongoing challenges.

Environmental challenges are occurring more often with recent Tsunamis, earth quakes etc which severely impact sports infrastructure and opportunities, events can be canceled or relocated due to natural disasters, posing additional governance challenges. As sports become increasingly globalized, most countries in Oceania struggle to compete with larger nations that have more resources and infrastructure to support their athletes, coaches and officials.

Addressing these challenges requires cohesive efforts among governments, sporting organizations, and communities to build more robust governance structures and develop sports sustainably in the region.

### PARA

Any Paralympic sport in the Oceania region face several challenges, similar to those in other parts of the world, but with specific contextual factors that impact their development. Limited funding and resources for many of our MNAs struggle with financial constraints that limit the availability of funding for para-sport programs, athlete development, and infrastructure.

Little or no access to training facilities and sports specific equipment, which are often not designed with inclusivity in mind, can pose significant barriers to participation in para-sports. Awareness and acceptance for para-athletes and the capabilities of athletes with disabilities with cultural attitudes towards disability can also affect participation and interest in para-sport.



Coaching and training with knowledge and experience in para-sport is a major challenge and this hinders the effective development of athletes and coaches. Transportation and accessibility in many areas, especially in remote communities, transportation to training and competition venues is a major challenge.

With almost no access for athletes with a disability to health and rehabilitation services impacts the ability of athletes to recover from injuries and maintain their physical health when in training. Competitive opportunities are limited for competition at local, national, and international levels due to coast affect the development of athletes. Smaller countries will struggle to offer even the simplest in training for athletes to gain experience.

Cultural barriers, cultural stigma or misconceptions around disability can hinder participation. Addressing these challenges requires concerted efforts from national sports organizations, governments, communities, and international bodies to promote inclusivity and create an enabling environment for para-sport in the region.

## **EDUCATION / DEVELOPMENT**

Providing education and development in Taekwondo in the Oceania region presents several challenges.

Again, all of our MNAs consists of many islands and remote communities, which can make access to quality sporting facilities and coaching difficult. The vast distances between islands can hinder the transportation of resources and personnel as costs are extremely high to even complete the simplest task.

All MNAs lack the financial resources to support comprehensive sports education programs. Limited funding affects the ability to adequately educate and develop administrators, athletes, coaches and officials alike. For smaller MNAs (most of ours) to actually be in a position to afford the expensive sports specific equipment necessary for effective training of athletes, coaches and officials is almost impossible.

Poor infrastructure, such as inadequate training facilities and transport networks, restrict the development of Taekwondo programs. Identifying and nurturing talent can be challenging, particularly in remote areas where limited pathways for youth to transition into elite sports programs.

Many communities in Oceania face health challenges, including high rates of obesity and related diseases. This can affect participation in sports and overall physical fitness, making it harder to develop competitive athletes. There may be a shortage of qualified coaches and volunteers to support local sports initiatives. Training programs for coaches may be limited, impacting the quality of instruction.

With the ongoing support from World TT and other strategic partners including the Oceania National Olympic Committees, Pacific Games Council, Olympic Sports Federations of Oceania, together with WT development support, the OTU will continue to provide further development and training programs throughout 2025 for its MNAs and their members.

Future development objectives include but are not limited to the following:

- Accredited further WT IRs,
- Accredited further Level 1 & 2 coaches with the region
- Identify, develop and have athletes participate yearly in WT promoted and sanctioned.
- Conduct face to face WT coaching, referee and technical courses for MNA's and their members in 2025.

## 7. Major Projects in 2025

### DRAFTED ONLY

#### January

##### **Meet TPF Dispatch Masters**

24 January - Brisbane. Australia

##### **Initial Step Up 2032 Meeting**

24-26th January – Management Committee Meeting, Brisbane. Australia

#### March

##### **Meet WT, TPF, KKW, Korean Paralympic Committee**

March – Seoul, Korea

#### April

##### **OTU General Assembly / Elections**

30th May – Virtual

#### May

##### **Assist Cadets to Cadet World Championships – Fujairah, UAE**

#### June

##### **OTU Coach / Referee Course**

Fiji

#### July

##### **OTU Coach / Referee Course**

Tonga

#### July / August

##### **OTU TPF Volunteers dispatch, coinciding with athlete/coach/referee camp**

Vanuatu

##### **Presidents Cup G3**

14th to 15th August – Gold Coast Sport & Recreation Centre. QLD Australia

##### **Australian Open G2**

16th – 17th August – Gold Coast Sport & Recreation Centre. QLD Australia

#### September

##### **World Abilities Games**

11-21 September Indonesia

##### **Oceania Championships G4**

18-19 September, Papeete. Tahiti

##### **Tahiti Open G2**

20-21 September, Papeete. Tahiti

#### October

##### **WT General Assembly**

24 October, Wuxi. China

OTU x 3 Projects 2024	
<b>A</b>	<b>Education / Development</b>
19 Feb	Online meeting with FIJ MNA referees
3-6 April	Regional Qualifications Tournament (SOL)
28 May	Online meeting with SOL / FPO re referees
21-24 Jun	WT IR Course. Malaysia SOL/FPO – (1 x FPO Referee PASSED to IR)
1-6 Oct	World Juniors. Korea AUS/FIJ/FPO*/KIR/NZL/PNG/SOL/TGA
4-7 Nov	WT Poomsae Educator Course in Korea (Linda)
25Nov-2Dec	25 Nov – 2 Dec – Denzil Ray FPO for Referee / Coaches course (Oceania)
<b>B</b>	<b>Para / ALL Projects</b>
20 Feb	Online meeting with FIJ
3-6 April	Regional Qualifications Tournament (SOL)
16-19 May	Oceania Para athletes support to Vietnam-Asian Para Open (DR - FIJ, PNG)
26 Jun	Online Meeting with SOL Para
2-5 Jul	World Para Open. Korea (DR-FIJ/SOL)
29 Aug	Online meeting with AT re Para to Paris
18 Nov	19-28 Nov – Dr Andrew Soma (SOL) to Bahrain for WT Para Classification Course, Flights, Accommodation, visas organized and paid - i) transit visa Dubai ii) meal allowance or reimburse based on receipts – Cancelled due to Andrew's mother passing away
<b>C</b>	<b>Governance (MNA Management / Event coordination)</b>
18 Jan	Online meeting with SOL NOC (Melinda), NSC (Allison), MNA (OrgCom) re: OQT Paris
25 Jan	Online meeting with KPNP Manager (MH)
21 Feb	Online meeting with SOL NOC (Melinda), NSC (Allison), MNA (OrgCom) re: OQT Paris
7 Mar	Online meeting with OPC (Paul/Fiona) re: OQT Paris
11 Mar	Online meeting with WT PC (Olof) re: OQT Paris
13 Mar	Online meeting with SOL NOC (Melinda), NSC (Allison), MNA (OrgCom) re: OQT Paris
19 Mar	Online meeting with SOL NOC (Melinda), NSC (Allison), MNA (OrgCom) re: OQT Paris
20-21 Mar	President/Treasurer to FIJ for ONOC / OSFO Conferences / Meeting with NOCs
22 Mar	Online meeting with PNG & SOL MNAs re: OQT Paris
25 Mar	Online meeting with SOL NSC (Allison), MNA (OrgCom) re: OQT Paris
27 Mar	Online meeting with SOL NSC (Allison) OrgCom re: OQT Paris
30 Mar	Online meeting with SOL NSC (Allison) OrgCom re: OQT Paris
4-8 Apr	MC SOL re: Oceania Qualifications Tournament – re Paris
17 Apr	Online meeting with WT PC (Olof) re: Results from OQT for Paris
24 Apr	Online meeting with VAN NOC (David) / MNA Holmes
26-28 Apr	MC to Bris re: StepUp 2032 Meetings / Planning (MCM #5)
7 May	Online meeting with PNG re Para athletes
28 May	Online meeting with SOL / FPO re referees
5 Jun	Online AGM (OTU)
12 Jun	Online meeting with SOL / FPO re referees
8 Aug	Online meeting with AUS re G-ranked events
10-13 Aug	President to Paris (OG)
15 Aug	Online meeting with AUS re G-ranked events
21 Aug	Online meeting with AUS
4 Sep	Online meeting re website (Peter)
5 Sep	Online meeting with AUS re G-ranked events
11 Sep	Online meeting re website
12 Sept	Online meeting with FPO (Alfred) 2025 events
12 Sep	Online meeting with AUS re G-ranked events
19-22 Sep	MC to Bris – Aus Open / Pres Cup – StepUp 2032 Meetings (MCM #6)
25 Sep	Online meeting with Auditor re WT reporting
30 Sep	President to KOR for WT GA
9 Oct	Meeting with AUS CEO (2025)
16 Oct	Online meeting with VAN NOC (David) / MNA Pres/SG
23 Oct	Online meeting with Book keeper
24 Oct	Meeting with TPF (HY Kim)
1 Nov	Online meeting with VAN NOC (David) / MNA Pres/SG
11 Nov	Online meeting with VAN NOC (David) / MNA Pres/SG
13 Nov	Correspondence to COK NOC & PGC (Andrew) re COK visit early 2025
Nov	AT / OTU Announcement of 2025 AUS Open / Pres Cup dates & location (Aug)

