

Issue 17, December, 2015

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the WASO News.

Much has taken place over the last few months with some 13 NOC's staging a Women's Sports Festival organised and conducted by women for women and girls! The diversity of activities is exciting, and hopefully will help promote women's involvement across a range of sporting spheres. We shall share some highlights in the next edition.

Please keep in contact and remember to send through photos and written text to share with others through this newsletter.

With my personal best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

Warmest regards,

Helen Brownlee
Chair, WASO

2016 Oceania Events

8 March, 2016, International Woman's Day

8 - 9 May, 2016 ONOC General Assembly, Port Vila, Vanuatu

10 - 14 May, 2016, OSFO, PGC Meetings, WASO Workshop tbc. Port Vila, Vanuatu

5 - 21 August, 2016, Rio 2016 Olympic Games

11 October, 2016, International Day of the Girl

IOC Women & Sport Awards - Double Win for Oceania

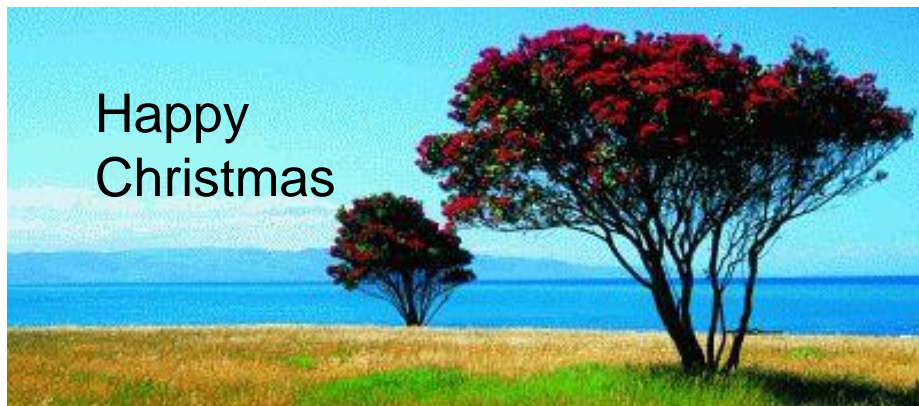


This year the IOC awarded the **2015 Women & Sport World Trophy to the New Zealand Olympic Committee** for their role in championing change to ensure that women have a prominent role in sport, on and off the field of play. This is only the 2nd time the World Trophy has been awarded to an NOC. The Australian NOC received the World Trophy in 2001 in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the promotion of women through the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

The Continental Award for Oceania went to Cathy Freeman, one of Australia's most admired Olympic champions. Since ending her sporting career, she established the Cathy Freeman Foundation (CFF) which aims to bridge the education gap between indigenous and non-indigenous children, ensuring they all share a strong sense of self-belief and access to opportunities in life. The CFF program helps provide young girls and boys with regular, structured sporting and recreational activities, promoting school achievement, attendance, healthy living and sociable behaviour.

Congratulations to Cathy Freeman and the New Zealand Olympic Committee!

The IOC are calling for nominations from NOC's, IF's and Continental Associations for the 2016 Women & Sport Awards. Closing date for nominations to the IOC Office is 15 December, 2015. Your NOC has the Nomination Forms.





Preliminary Notice to NOC's

The 2016 Young Participants Session of the International Olympic Academy will be conducted in Olympia, Greece in June (date to be confirmed). All NOC's (except AUS and NZL) are asked to consider submitting a nomination from a young woman, 20 – 35 yrs of age to WASO early next year. Two candidates will be selected to attend with financial assistance from WASO. Details to be forwarded once received. Start thinking of suitable candidates NOW!

Around the Region - Women in Sport



The ANOC General Assembly was held in Washington D.C, in October. In addition to representatives from NOC's, five women were invited by the ONOC President, Dr Robin Mitchell, to represent Oceania. They were: Dailsie Baniala (VAN), Helen Brownlee (AUS), Susan Lupola (GUM), Deborah Shoniber (MHL) and Emma Waiwai (PNG). This was a valuable opportunity to understand the work of the wider Olympic family and network with others. The delegates also appreciated the emphasis on good governance and credibility which formed a significant part of the agenda.

In addition, Oceania women were well represented in the ANOC organisation by Barbara Kendall (Chair, ANOC Athletes Commission) (pictured left), Baklai Temengil & Auivita Rapilla (ANOC Executive) and Maria Clarke (ANOC Juridical Commission).

The Fijian NOC Women in Sport Commission held a “Conflict Management & Problem Solving” Workshop

in Nadi in late November. Some 36 participants representing sporting federations, including people with disabilities as well as the Fiji National University, increased their understanding of conflict management and problem-solving techniques. By sharing local scenarios and cases studies, participants gained valuable insights which will benefit their respective communities.

SAVE THE DATE: WASO are planning a Women in Leadership

Forum to take place in conjunction with the ONOC General Assembly to be held in early May at the Le Lagoon Resort, Port Vila, Vanuatu. This Forum is intended for all women delegates to ONOC, OSOF and the Pacific Games Council. Details to follow.

The Federated States of

Micronesia (FSM) recently held a three day Women in Leadership Workshop for participants from the four states of FSM. (pictured right).

Although numbers were lower than expected, the participants gained valuable information to help in establishing viable W&S Committees in each of their islands.

Best Practice initiatives were shared, and they participated in a one day session on the OSEP Sport in Communities Administration course.



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