

Issue 25 - July, 2018

Welcome to the second edition of WASO News for 2018.

Firstly, can I sincerely thank all those who sent congratulatory messages on my recognition as a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours. You all have played a part in my journey, and I wish to acknowledge your support and friendship. Thank You!

After the success of the first Polynesian Leadership Workshop (#Stepping Up) in Samoa, we are moving forward with the organisation of the Melanesian and Micronesian Workshops. Olympic Solidarity have assured funding for these two events for which we are extremely grateful.

Warmest regards,

Helen Brownlee AM
Chair, WASO

Equity and Diversity - #Stepping Up - to Leadership



The Polynesian Leadership Workshop, held in Apia, Samoa from 12-13 June, was a great success. The participants reactions to the Workshop were positive and are reflected here in this 'Stepping Up' word circle.

Aim of Workshop:

To have conversations, generate actions and commitments toward improving conditions and opportunities for women and girls in sport.

Workshop participants with ONOC President, Dr Robin Mitchell and ONOC Secretary-General, Rick Blas.



Recognition of Women Making a Difference

2018 Oceania Events

18 – 19 August, 2018, Port Moresby, PNG. Melanesia Workshop 'Stepping Up'

5-6 October, 2018
Olympism in Action Forum
Buenos Aires, Argentina

6- 18 October, 2018 YOG,
Buenos Aires, Argentina.

11 October, 2017
International Day of the Girl

November, 2018 Guam –
Micronesian Workshop
'Stepping Up'

26 30 November, 2018
ANOC General Assembly,
Tokyo



Liz Dawson (NZL) has been made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for services to sports governance. (Left in photo) Congratulations Liz!

Helen Brownlee AM has been made a Member of the Order of Australia, for significant services to sport administration, to women as an advocate for greater participation in sport and to the Olympic movement.

Gill Gemming (NZL) was recognised as an Officer in the New Zealand Order of Merit, for her contribution to the sport of hockey at a local level and in her role as the Continental Development Officer for Oceania Hockey. Congratulations Gill!

Nynette Sass (SAM) received the Oceania Badminton President's Award for Outstanding Service to Badminton, after only one year of involvement. Awesome! Pictured right with President, Geraldine Brown.



From Grassroots to Gold – A Passion for Sport



Sevens star and Olympic gold medallist Ellia Green, has been honoured as Australia's third UN Women "national champion". Ellia, of Fijian origin, will become one of the official faces of the UN campaign to improve gender equality and promote female empowerment.



Vanuatu village volleyball – Mamas making history! In the Vanuatu village of Eratap, on the island of Efate, traditional culture has not encouraged women playing sport. As a result of the Volley4Change initiative, this village received equipment and support, as well as English classes. The Mamas of Eratap believe volleyball is improving their health and well-being as well as providing new opportunities for exercise, social interaction and education.

Patricia (COK) was named Flag Bearer for Gold Coast 2018. At the 2017 Pacific Mini Games she made history as – the first female Cook Islands athlete to win the a Gold medal in the Women's 200m, and a silver medal in the Women's 100m. Just prior to the Games, Patricia broke the National record with a time of 11.97secs.



COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION

We invite you to join our closed FACEBOOK page: **WASO – Women and Sport Oceania** where you can share ideas and get up to date information on what is happening in Oceania for women and girls in sport. As well as the WASO News, we intend to upload news on the website as it becomes available.

Updated data following the ONOC AGM Women on NOC Executive Boards

NOCs	W/Total	2018	30%	2012
American Samoa	4/9	44%		25%
Australia	4/13	31%		14%
Cook Islands	5/10	50%		30%
FSM	2/7	28%		22%
Fiji	4/9	44%		50%
Guam	2/10	20%		0%
Kiribati	1/5	20%		16%
Nauru	3/9	33%		42%
New Zealand	5/10	50%		66%
Marshall Islands	3/7	43%		16%
Palau	5/9	55%		50%
P.N.G	5/10	50%		50%
Samoa	4/9	44%		18%
Solomon Islands	4/10	40%		16%
Tonga	2/8	25%		25%
Tuvalu	1/5	20%		20%
Vanuatu	4/9	44%		22%
ONOC Executive	5/12	42%		20%

The WASO Executive met prior to the Workshop to plan for 2018/19, and the two Sub-Regional Workshops for later this year.

It was agreed to assist female athletes to achieve Olympic Qualification, with the Vanuatu Beach Volleyball Team our first recipient.

Gender Equality

The IOC request that all NOCs develop strategies for gender-balanced representation in their governance bodies.

For the first time, the 2018 Youth Olympic Games will achieve gender parity with equal men and women competitors.

Through Olympic Solidarity, the IOC have invited one male/one female from each NOC to attend the **Olympism in Action Forum**, Buenos Aires, Argentina from 5-6 October, 2018.



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