

## SOLOMON ISLANDS, READY TO HOST

# BIGGEST GAMES EVER



HONIARA, the host City for the 2023 Pacific Games will be ready to host the biggest sporting event Solomon Islands will have ever seen and experience this year.

Scheduled to take place between November and December, the Sol2023 Pacific Games promises to be a defining event in the country's history, an event that will capture the imagination and interest of all Solomon Islanders, the entire Pacific Region and beyond.

The Games which will take place between November 19 to December 2nd will also be the opportunity for Solomon Islands to showcase itself and its capability of producing a world class event.





## “WE WILL SUCCESSFULLY DELIVER PG2023” Prime Minister Sogavare

**S**olomon Islands Prime Minister, Manasseh Sogavare is optimistic Honiara will deliver a successful 2023 Pacific Games, come November and December 2023.

Speaking in Parliament, 19th of this month (April), the Prime Minister confidently assured the nation and the region that Solomon Islands is ready to host the regions biggest sporting event – the 17th Pacific Games in Honiara, this year.

“Solomon Islands is ready and will witness 24 national teams from the region march into the national stadium under their respective flags.

“In exactly seven months from today (19 April), on 19 November 2023, we will participate in the Opening Ceremony of the 2023 Pacific Games in our brand new 10,000 seat National Stadium,” PM Sogavare said in his response to the Speech from the Throne by the Governor General, Sir David Vunagi.

The Prime Minister said the Games look set to transform Honiara City, with all Games infrastructure expected to be completed within the next six months.

“All Games infrastructure and facilities, including the main road will be completed around October this year.

“All Games venues and facilities will be completed and handed over to the National Hosting Authority by August, while Games villages for accommodation of athletes and officials will be handed over by October.

“The expected completion of major infrastructure including the Games venues and facilities is in August, whilst all Games villages will be completed and handed over by October this year. “These infrastructures represent an investment in our young people, a legacy for our future generations,” he said.

Prime Minister Sogavare also announced that the road from the international airport to the SINU Kukum Campus will be completed by September, while work on Feeder roads in Honiara will start around May and June this year.

Speaking on the huge number of visitors expected in Honiara during Games time? He said, “The population of Honiara will increase substantially during the Games.

“Up to 5,000 athletes and officials from 23 countries will grace our shores to compete. A further 5,000 people comprising supporters, visitors and tourists will also be visiting the country during Games time.”

“Are we ready to deliver? Yes, indeed we are.” “We will deliver a successful PG2023,” the Prime Minister said.



# GOC, FIJI TV announce Fiji Broadcast Rights for Sol2023 PG

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) is pleased to announce that Fiji Television Limited (FIJI TV) has acquired the broadcast rights for the Sol2023 Pacific Games in Fiji.

FIJI TV will provide free to air coverage on Fiji One as well as on its second channel, Na Lololo and will cover the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and a large number of sports throughout the two weeks of the Games.

FIJI TV will be providing Host Broadcast services in the form of crew and equipment to help cover the Games, in exchange for the Broadcast rights.

Sitiveni Halofaki, General Manager for FIJI TV said "We are proud to continue the long tradition of the broadcast of the Pacific Games in Fiji. The Pacific Games are a huge draw in Fiji, and providing our viewers with coverage of Fijian athletes

competing against the best in the Pacific is a huge draw. We are pleased to be able to contribute to the Host Broadcast team, to ensure great coverage of the Games from Honiara this November."

Sol2023 under the direction of the Games Organizing Committee, will be undertaking the Host Broadcast of the Games, and will cover all 24 sports in a variety of means.

As the Host Broadcaster, Sol2023 will produce a daily program of 8-10 hours of coverage known as the World Feed which will be made available to FIJI TV, and other rights holders across the Pacific.

Additionally, all rights holders will be able to produce their own coverage utilising the live venue feeds to highlight specific athlete performances from any of the 24 nations competing in the Games.

GOC's Chief Executive, Peter Stewart, said "FIJI TV has been involved in almost every Pacific Games since the broadcasting of the Pacific Games was initiated, and that the commitment to the Host Broadcast team will ensure great coverage of the Games as the FIJI TV crew have tremendous skills and experience, which will help bring the excitement of the Games to peoples homes across Fiji and indeed the whole Pacific."

The Host Broadcaster will produce over 1000 hours of coverage during the 2023 Pacific Games.

Meanwhile, more details on coverage, rights holders as well as coverage in the Solomon Islands will be forthcoming in the next month.





## Volunteer applications open till 15 May, 2023

**A**pplication for the 2023 Pacific Games Volunteer Program is open for those interested.

This kick starts the recruitment process the Games Organizing Committee (GOC) is embarking on to recruit and train 3000 Volunteers to join the Games Collective Workforce and help with the deliver of the Games this year. Since applications were made available to the public, 15th April, more than 1600 people have applied for a wide range of Games time roles.

They include;

- Accommodation
- Accreditation
- Anti-Doping
- Athletes Village
- Broadcast
- Catering
- Ceremonies & Culture
- Logistics
- Press Operations & Media
- Spectator Services
- Sports
- Team Support
- Technology
- Ticketing
- Transport
- Venue Operations
- VIP & Protocol
- Volunteer Services.

“Since we opened up applications in April, we have received a lot of interest especially from students. Hundreds of application forms are handed out each week with a handful of them submitted either online or hand delivered.



“This is very encouraging. More and more people are showing and have expressed interest in becoming a Games Volunteer,” GOC Volunteer Supervisor, Donisan Kelly said.

Kelly added that applications will remain open until 15th May.

Meanwhile GOC has over the past three weeks been aggressively involved in Volunteer awareness programs both on social media, the mainstream media and in schools throughout Honiara.







## GOC, Solo visit schools, share 'Volunteer' awareness

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) and 'SOLO' the Games Mascot, have in April started a series of school visits in Honiara, advocating for and providing awareness on the 'Games Volunteer' program.

Part of the GOC's Community Engagement program, the awareness programs were aimed to help students better understand the roles, benefits and opportunities that come with being a Volunteer at this year's Games.

This came following the opening of Games Volunteer registrations 15th April, 2023. The visits also gave schools the opportunity to meet the fun-loving 'SOLO', the Sol2023 Pacific Games Mascot.

Schools so far visited include; Betikama Adventist College (BAC), Burnscreek Adventist Primary and High Schools, Vura Community School and Panatina Community School.

GOC Communications Coordinator, Jeremy Inifiri said that the visits were purposely to share Games volunteer awareness and give schools the opportunity to meet Solo.

"Some schools never had the opportunity to meet Solo during its nationwide mascot tour last year and early this year. They now have that opportunity through these school visit and awareness programs," he said.

Speaking on the impact of the awareness talks, he said that students are now beginning to better understand the roles, the benefits and opportunities that come with Games volunteering.

"Straight after each program we've had students come up asking for volunteer brochures and application forms. There is great interest for volunteering shown by students from both schools visited this week.



"It is indeed exciting and encouraging to see students wanting to be part of this historic event we will host come November 19 to December 2nd," he said. The school visits will continue throughout early May.

Meanwhile the Volunteers registration will lapse May 15th.





**S**ports has an amazingly unique way of making positive impacts in society. Whether it's helping children, youths or the elderly, sports tend to make a difference on people and their lives in communities around Solomon Islands on a daily basis.

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee has achieved this feat over the past four weeks, seeing its Ambassadors program reach three provinces thus far. They include; Guadalcanal province, Malaita province, Choiseul province and Shortland Islands (Western province).

Rolled out early this month and part of GOC's Community Engagement strategy, the Ambassadors program was aimed at informing and educating Solomon Islanders about this year's Pacific Games, raising awareness about Sports and its benefits in communities throughout all nine provinces in the country.

The program is also aimed at showing aspiring athletes in the provinces the sporting pathways from the villages to the grandest international stages such as the Pacific Games, where athletes can dream and aspire toward achieving greatness in their carriers. This is achieved through the shared testimonials and experiences of Games Ambassadors.

Early last month, a total of 10 former national athletes and Pacific Games medalists were signed as Games Ambassadors. Four of them have since been on tour this month. They include; local sprint icon; Jim Marau, national Boxing greats; Joseph Saimei and Jay Makana, and Weightlifting sensation; Jenly Tegu Wini.

Marau was the first Ambassador on tour to North and Central Guadalcanal, followed by Saimei to Shortland

## GAMES AMBASSADORS TOUR

Four provinces reached  
this month

Islands. Wini was next, touring the southern regions of Malaita, followed by Makana who is currently on tour in Choiseul province.

"The Ambassadors program is fast becoming a success in all the provinces and areas it has thus far reached. The program is gaining momentum amongst our rural communities, the provinces and people are now becoming more aware of the Games and the benefits and opportunities that sports bring.

"Young aspiring athletes are now becoming aware of the pathways and the opportunities that come with being involved in sports and sports competitions.

"Listening to our Ambassadors share their testimonies, their experiences, their achievements help motivate young athletes to want to strive a achieve more, even whilst starting off their carriers," GOC's Community Engagement Coordinator, Jacqueline Maeli said.

Maeli said that like the mascot nationwide tour, the Ambassadors will visit all provinces throughout Solomon Islands.







“We are confident the Ambassadors will achieve the same feat, the same impact Solo has achieved in its nationwide tour last year,” she said.

Not only has the program been an inspiration to many aspiring athletes, but rather it has also been a sight for sore eyes to many former national reps and Games medalists throughout the country.

“It is indeed very encouraging to see numerous former athletes come out and render support toward this program in the provinces. We have had former athletes, national reps and even former Games medalists come out and throw in their support behind the Ambassadors program,” Maeli said.

Meanwhile six more Ambassadors are still to tour the provinces. They include; Chris Votu, Primo Higa, Junior Benjamin, Hellen Saohanga, Batram Suri and Timothy Inifiri.





## Unauthorized Use Of Games Indicia, A Criminal Offense

The unauthorized use of Pacific Games Indicia is a criminal offense under Solomon Islands law.

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) is again calling on the general public to respect the Games and refrain from using its brand, logo, signs, mascot, symbols, name, without proper authorization.

The call was made following the discovery of multiple fake or spam page accounts carrying the official Sol2023 logo and page name on popular social media hub 'Facebook.'

This also came about following the seizure of fake merchandize sold at two shops in Honiara this month.

"Just this month, with the assistance of Police we confiscated a total 50 illegally printed and sold t-shirts that had 'Solo' the official Games Mascot printed on it. The t-shirts were pulled off the shelves of Bisi shop and New Fashion shop at Alvaro building in Point Cruz, Honiara.

"We have since filed a complaint against both shops for breaching the Pacific Games Intellectual Property and Media Rights. The matter is currently with the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) of the RSIPF (Royal Solomon Islands Police Force)," GOC Revenues Coordinator, Mike Veresen said.

He said people should show respect towards the Games and not indulge themselves in such unlawful, unwanted activities. "We would like to reiterate our previous call to the public that unauthorized use of the Sol2023 brand or logo is a criminal offense under the PG2023 Act 2017.

"The Act provides in Part 4, Intellectual Property and Media Rights to the National Hosting Authority (NHA) and the GOC. The Act effectively disallows the use of Games Indicia (Brand, Logo, Distinctive Marks, Signs, Mascot Regalia, Merchandising, Naming, Marketing and Media Rights) without a license or authorization from the NHA or GOC," GOC Revenues Coordinator, Mike Veresen explained.



He added that those caught in breach of this Act face prosecution and a hefty fine. "The breaching of this Act and the unlicensed use of the Games Indicia will attract a maximum penalty of \$150,000 (sbd).

"We therefore officially denounce any association with any person(s) or businesses who indulge in this unlawful practice and immediately call on them to refrain or face the full force of the law," Mr Veresen said.

Meanwhile both the GOC and the NHA are continuously monitoring social media platforms and for any breach of this Act.







# PUBLIC NOTICE



## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND MEDIA RIGHTS

Established in 1963, the first Pacific Games were hosted by Suva, Fiji- and have since been held in 12 countries and territories within the region. For Solomon Islands, this will be the largest historical event ever, to be hosted over 2 weeks from November 19 -December 2, 2023. This will bring 5,000 athletes and officials including Australia and New Zealand to compete in 24 sports from 24 countries. We will be serving 15,000 meals per day, have a Vehicle fleet of 250 buses and 50 cars, 3,000 volunteers, 1,000 contractors and the largest hotel in the Region with 3,500 beds.

The Games is a Highly sponsored event by the Government and various private stakeholders who give back to the Host Country through economical benefits.

The Pacific Games in Solomon Islands is governed by the Pacific Games 2023 ACT 2017. Passed by the National Parliament on 22nd February 2017. This is AN ACT, to Provide for the Hosting of the Pacific Games 2023.

**The Act provides in Part 4, Intellectual Property and Media Rights to the National Hosting Authority and Games Organizing Committee.**

**Therefore its INDICIA which comprises of the Games- Brand, Logo, Distinctive Marks or Signs, Colours, Mascot Regalia, Merchandising, Naming, Marketing and Media Rights belong to the Duly appointed National Hosting Authority and the Games Organizing Committee which will deliver the Games.**

This Act effectively Disallows the use of Games Indicia without a License from the above Authorities.

The Breaching of this Act and Unlicensed use of the Indicia will attract a Maximum Penalty of 150,000 units.

This event is the largest event ever in Solomon Islands and it brings us to Challenge, Celebrate and Unite. Our people, our country and our region the Solomon Islands way.

Anyone who wishes to use the Opportunity to Partner with the Pacific Games, through an authorized License, is encouraged to make contact with the National Hosting Authority or the Games Organizing Committee at the address below or visit our offices at the Sea King Building, Honiara, during official hours for further information.

» The Manager  
Marketing & Communications  
National Hosting Authority  
Games Organizing Committee  
Level 1, Sea King Building  
Honiara, Solomon Islands

Email : LTasa@sol2023.com.sb  
Phone: +677 7240 458





## DC Park field, ideal for Touch Rugby

DC Park is ideal for Touch Rugby at this year's 2023 Pacific Games.

Touch Rugby Technical Delegate (TD), Ian Milne highlighted this in his brief visit to Honiara this month. Mr Milne who was in the country to observe Games preparations and to assess DC Park (the Games venue assigned for Touch Rugby) said that he was happy with preparations he has seen in Honiara.

He said that the space that DC Park playing ground offers is sufficient and adequate for Touch Rugby competition at the Games time.

"There are three multi-used fields out there, although around the edges are probably not up to standard, the main part of the field is ideal and offers sufficient and adequate space required for Touch during Games time. "The grass cover is really good, the fields are level, the space that we would need for two touch fields is sufficient and good," he said.

Asked what his expectations are for the Rugby Touch at Games Time?

Milne said that he is adamant the Touch Rugby tournament at this year's Pacific Games will be a successful one.

"What we would hope is that we have a good and successful Touch Rugby tournament and that the best team wins."

He added, "The most important thing is that we leave a legacy after the games, something for the local Solomon Islands people to build on for the betterment of their sporting future for generations to come."

## Turner runs training workshop for local Volleyball TO's

Meanwhile also visiting Honiara this month was Dean Turner, the Games Technical Delegate for Volleyball.

Turner with support from GOC's Sports Delivery team conducted a two-day training workshop for local Volleyball technical officials whilst in Honiara this month.

"The training was aimed at equipping local technical officials to be prepared for Sol2023.

"We had a good number of participants attend the workshop – some seasoned officials who have officiated at previous Pacific Games and new officials who have been officiating at local competitions in the country," Luke Paeni of GOC's Sports Delivery Team said.



Asked how the workshop had helped local volleyball officials?

Luke said, "the workshop was very beneficial to participants. TD Turner was able to give updates and teach officials new international rules of Games. Participants also had the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas regarding the sport."

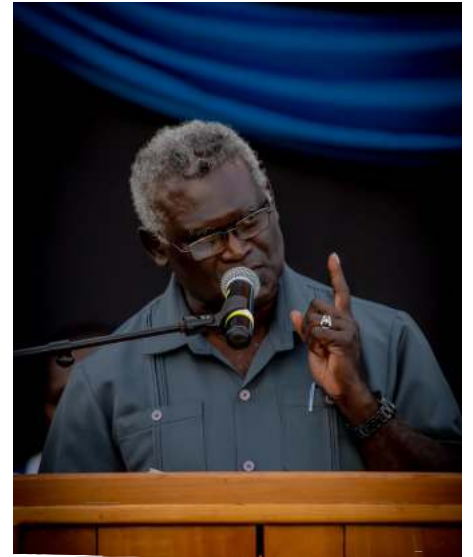
Meanwhile whilst in Honiara, Turner had the opportunity to visit Friendship Multipurpose Hall, the assigned venue for Volley at the Games this year







## PM Sogavare impressed with Solomon Games



The 2023 Solomon Games has been an impressive event, showing impressive performances and providing an excellent platform for local athletes gearing up towards this year's 2023 Pacific Games.

Solomon Islands Prime Minister, Manasseh Sogavare highlighted this at the official closing of the Games in Honiara early this month.

"I applaud all the provincial sports federations, the coaches and the athletes who had taken part in this year's Solomon Games. You have all performed impressively. "This Games was the best opportunity to help our athletes reach new heights in their chosen carrier sports and their preparations for November's Pacific Games."

Mr Sogavare congratulated athletes who have done their provinces proud in scooping up medals at the Games, whilst also congratulating others who have caught the attention of national selectors through their performances.

"It (Solomon Games) is but one part of our journey to go for forty Gold Medals in this year's Pacific Games. New national champions have emerged and some current champions have retained their titles, whilst many have caught the attention of national selectors with their high-quality performances."

The Prime Minister highlighted that the process of a cultural change in the Solomon Games has started, with focus and consideration given to both Honiara and provincial athletes.

"For far too long, these Games have focussed too much on Honiara and not enough on our provinces. The process of a cultural change in the Solomon Games has started for the betterment of sports and our athletes," Mr Sogavare said.

Meanwhile the Games Organizing Committee (GOC) has congratulated organizers of the Solomon Games for successfully hosting the event.



GOC's Senior Operations Manager, Jack Smith expressed that it was good seeing people starting to have see what this year's Pacific Games would look like, however at a much bigger scale.

"We will be having multiple sporting events happening at the same time - which is way bigger than the Solomon Games. However, it is good seeing people starting to feel what it will be like at this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games."



# Photo of the Month



© GOC Media | Sol2023 Pacific Games

## KEEP HONIARA CLEAN FOR SOL2023 PG

CEO of the 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee, Peter Stewart leading Games staff in cleaning up Ranadi area, in Honiara. They form part of more than 1000 public servants, HCC and Guadalcanal Provincial Assembly staff involved in the weekly Honiara City clean-up campaign that started in March this year. As part of the Government's 'Safe and Green Games' initiative, this joint effort is aimed at cleaning and beautifying Honiara City in preparation for the Games which will kick off from November 19 to December 2nd, 2023.







## RSIPF, HCC begin 'Road Safety & Littering' Public Awareness

■ RSIPF Media Unit

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) and the Honiara City Council (HCC) Law Enforcement Unit have started conducting public awareness on road safety and littering throughout Honiara City, as preparations for the 2023 Pacific Games progresses in Solomon Islands' national capital.

This is part of the 'Safe and Green Games' Government initiative to clean up, beautify and make Honiara City safe in preparation for the Sol2023 Pacific Games that will be held from November 19 to December 2nd, this year. Over the past three weeks, public awareness has been conducted along the main street of Honiara, from White River in the west, to Ranadi, east of the City.

Director National Traffic Department, Superintendent William Foufaka said that road safety awareness programs are important in educating the public on road safety, and abiding by traffic rules in avoiding unwanted traffic accidents.

"Road safety and traffic rules are critical in avoiding traffic accidents.

"This awareness program helps educate road users about these basic but very important traffic rules. Simple things like, ensuring the road is clear before crossing, do not drive when you are under the influence of liquor, consider other road users during busy times, and most importantly, do not drive if you don't have a licence, or if your vehicle license is expired.

"These may sound simple but are critical in avoiding unwanted traffic accidents from occurring now and during Games time," he said.

Foufaka added that as Honiara prepares to host up to 10,000 visitors from both the provinces and abroad at

Games time, it is also important that the Honiara public start taking pride of the City and the Government in efforts to clean up and beautify Honiara City.

"Littering is a great concern faced in Honiara today. The RSIPF and HCC Law Enforcement is ready to implement 'On the Spot fines' that will take effect as of next month (May). These fines are purposely to deter people and discourage the unwanted habit and practise of littering in public places."

Foufaka appealed to all Solomon Islanders to take ownership of the City and be proud of the fact that Solomon Islands will host the biggest sporting event in the region.

"It is now time for us good citizens to take ownership of our City, be proud of our City and help keep it clean, safe and beautiful, as we prepare to host the Sol2023 Pacific Games here in Honiara," Superintendent Fofoufaka said.

Meanwhile as part of the Safe and Green Games Campaign, Solomon Islands Cabinet last month (March) approved weekly clean-ups for all Public Servants in Government Ministries, the HCC and the Guadalcanal Provincial Government.

accept and get the message directly from you as someone who has been to the Games, experienced the Games and had been part of the Games.

"This I believe will get Solomon Islands behind the Sol2023 Pacific Games," Mr Rara said.

Meanwhile the first Ambassador tour to Central, East and North East Guadalcanal was completed this month by Solomon Islands first and only 100m SPG (Pacific Games) gold medallist and Sol2023 Games Ambassador, Jim Marau. (More on our next issue).





## CPP gear up for Sol2023

■ Police Media Unit

The Close Protection Personnel (CPP) of the Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) is enhancing its capacity and capability in preparation for the 2023 Pacific Games which will take place in Honiara between November and December this year.

Mandated to coordinate and provide security at the Games, the RSIPF has stepped up its efforts by increasing its CPP training team.

Honiara, the host City for this year's Pacific Games is expecting up to 10,000 visitors coming to its shores for the Games which will take place between November 19 and December 2nd, 2023.

As part of its preparedness, the RSIPF had conducted firearms training through its Train the Trainer program for selected CPP and OST (Operational Safety Training) personnel since February this year. A total 10 officers have since then completed the trainings and had become certified CPP trainers.

"These officers who have successfully completed the trainings are now certified instructors. They are now qualified to assist in delivering CPP training including Glock pistol firearm training to RSIPF members.

"This is a major achievement for the RSIPF and its National Response Department (NRD) in terms of sustainable capacity and capability development. We now have a lot more qualified officers who can deliver firearms training (both theoretical and practical) to members of the force now and in the future."

Assistant Commissioner Thugea added that such is also a boost toward the RSIPF's Security Planning and Preparedness ahead of the Games.

## MHMS to build new mental health ward before Sol2023

■ MHMS Press

Plans are in place for the erection of a new Mental Health Acute Unit at the National Referral Hospital (NRH) to house mentally ill patients during this year's Pacific Games in Honiara.

The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and the NRH is working to build the new mental health unit before the start of the Games in November this year, a joint-effort aimed at addressing the increasing number of mentally ill people roaming the streets of Honiara.

NRH Chief Executive Officer, Dr George Malefoasi explained that the construction of this new unit aligns with the new Mental Health Policy which calls for a more multisectoral approach in caring and protecting the mentally ill in the country.

"There is a rapid increase in youths, men and women suffering from neurotic and psychotic mental disorders, especially depression amongst youths. This policy aims to address this."

Dr Malefoasi said, "The proposed New Mental Health Acute ward will be built next to the Current Day Clinic and the NRH Psychiatric Unit (next to the old morgue). It will make available five (5) beds for acute patients and one (1) for very critical patients needing isolation and management."

He said that such development is an important step forward in efforts to addressing and helping psychiatric patients, adding that it should also help address the increasing number of mentally ill people roaming the streets of Honiara.

"We are optimistic that we will have this new unit completed before the start of the Games this year," Dr Malefoasi said.

Meanwhile the NRH Mental Health Unit is functioning but mostly on consultation basis, with new patients and those needing ongoing treatment referred to Kilu'ufi Hospital in Malaita province.





## SINIS host Para Athletes & Coaches from Region

■ SINIS Media

The Solomon Islands National Institute of Sport (SINIS) successfully held an Elite 'Para' Athletes and Coaches High Performance Training in Honiara, late last month (March).

Selected by the Oceania Paralympic Committee (OPC) to host the elite para training camp, SINIS welcomed athletes and coaches from five participating Pacific island countries, including Solomon Islands. They include; Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Nauru and Papua New Guinea (PNG).

The training camp was aimed at enhancing para athlete knowledge and skills, coaching, trainings and competition skills based on five para sports. They include; Athletics, table

tennis, powerlifting and archery.

Also, as part of the training camp, athletes underwent the 'Critical Classification Process', which helps identify their sport classification in various specific para sport events, with guidance and mentorship provided by high performance international coaches from Australia and from SINIS Performance Support staff.

OPC President Paul Bird described the training camp a success in achieving its expected outcome, which is to enhance the knowledge and skills of all participants that attended.

Bird also commended SINIS for providing the ideal training environment and support for the camp through its facilities and support.

"The newly established SINIS facilities provide an ideal training environment for coaches and athletes, combined with the professional expertise on hand, I am confident that all camp participants have had the opportunity to enhance their skills in their respective para sports.

"The camp has also helped our para coaches to perfect their coaching strategies, training and competition skills - this in turn will boost and motivate athletes to perform at their best in future competitions," he said.

SINIS meanwhile thanked OPC for choosing Solomon Islands to host this year's Elite Para Athletes and Coaches High Performance training.







## PNG Sports Foundation Team meets with NHA

■ NHA Communications

A team from the PNG Sports Foundation representatives recently travelled to Honiara on an advance logistics mission to scout possible venues for accommodation, mobilization, and other preparations ahead of high-level visits planned for later this year.

The team's mission was welcomed and assisted by the Sports Division within the Solomon Islands Ministry of Home Affairs and the National Sports Council.

Part of their mission was to hold informative session with NHA and the PG2023 Organising Committee to gather useful information to enable them prepare their government delegation to the 2023 Pacific Games Sports Minister's meeting and to express their desire to share venue management and operations experiences.

The team of three was impressed by the level of commitment demonstrated by the Solomon Islands government and its donor partners in preparing for the events. They visited the PG2023 Football Training Field/SIFF Academy, the Friendship Hall, and the High-Performance Center at the Solomon Islands National Institute of Sports (SINIS).

During their visit, they also had an audience with the National Hosting Authority (NHA), where they exchanged information and experiences. The NHA Chairman/SPM, Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, outlined the NHA Governance structure and the financial commitment of the Solomon Islands government, which has also invested a substantial amount of money in the preparations.

The PNG Government has committed 40 million Kina to support Solomon Islands in the PG2023 Preparations, of which, 20 million Kina was already received and expended. The funds enabled the government to make deed settlement payment to settlers whilst securing the NSC Land for development and

the construction of the New PG2023 Football training Field/SIFF Academy that is co-funded by PNG Government, the Japanese Government and Solomon Islands Government.

NHA Chair/SPM Dr. Rodgers revealed that a major task yet challenging for the NHA from now on and after the Games would be to ensure that appropriate legislation is in place to maximize and sustain the Games Legacy and avoid similar experiences that have occurred in previous host countries. He also revealed to the team, that NHA has offered to support the National Sports Council (NSC) amend their legislation before the end of 2023 and are confident that these amendments would facilitate the smooth transition of NSC after the Games. Amendments would include:

- i) Amending the status of NSC as a division within the Ministry of Home Affairs into a statutory authority that still reports to the Minister but not embedded in the Ministry.
- ii) Including a provision to the Act guaranteeing an annual subvention by the government to this established statutory Authority, to avoid the NSC from having to go through the current budget request process.

The PNG Sports Foundation team suggested that the best advice they could give was to learn from their mistakes. They emphasized the importance of legislative amendments to maintain sports facilities as part of the legacy. The team admitted that Solomon Islands had carefully strategized a proper governance plan and execution plan for the games and legacy, which was solutions-based.

Dr. Rodgers also informed the PNG team that the office of the Prime Minister in Solomon Islands will send an official invitation to the PNG Prime Minister and his delegation to attend the Handover ceremony of the PG2023 Football training Field/SIFF Academy in August and suggested that this will be discussed at the margins of the Forum Leaders Meeting to be held on May 22 in Port Moresby, which the Solomon Islands Prime Minister and delegation will also attend.

The PNG team acknowledged that reports have reached the PNG Ministry of Treasury regarding the progress of the PNG-funded project, and that information may have also reached their CEO, who gave a positive note.





## Gov't appeals to Private Sector to join Safe & Green Games Campaign

■ GCU Press

Government has appealed to private sectors and all stakeholders to join the Safe and Green clean-up campaign in preparation for November and December's Sol2023 Pacific Games.

This call was made by the Chair of the Government Services Integration Committee (GSIC) overseeing Government Preparations for the Pacific Games, in the office of the Prime Minister and cabinet, Bernard Bata'anisia.

"The government is seeking the assistance of the Private Sector and all the other stakeholders to help in cleaning up Honiara. This is to compliment government ministries and agencies, which are doing cleaning up every Friday afternoons," Bata'anisia said.

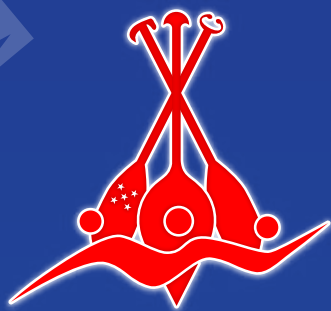
He also appealed to the public and residential homes to join up in the clean-up.

"The cabinet has approved Ministries doing weekly Friday afternoon clean ups from March 10 to December 15, 2023, in preparation for the games."

He said GSIC recently held a meeting with the private sector group and briefed stakeholders on how better they can plan and improve the "keep Honiara clean" campaign.

Bata'anisia said stakeholders were also briefed on the Honiara City Council by-laws and on the spot-fines which the cabinet approved on March 9, 2023, as a means of preparing Honiara City, keeping the City clean and ready for the November games.





# 2023

PACIFIC GAMES  
SOLOMON ISLANDS  
CHALLENGE • CELEBRATE • UNITE

## INFO SHEET

# THE FIRST PACIFIC GAMES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

»» 19TH NOVEMBER - 2ND DECEMBER 2023

## STAGGERING FACTS



**5,000**

ATHLETES



**15,000**

MEALS PER DAY



**3,000**

VOLUNTEERS



**250**

BUS FLEET



**1,000**

CONTRACTORS



**3,500**

BED HOTEL



**60**

TONNES OF WASTE  
PER DAY



**50**

CAR FLEET

## WHAT ARE THE GAMES AND HISTORY?

The Pacific Games (formerly known as the South Pacific Games) is a continental multi-sport event competing Olympic sports, with participation exclusively from archipelago countries around the Pacific Ocean, It was renamed the Pacific Games in 2015 following the inclusion of Australia & New Zealand. It is held every four years and began in 1963.





**2023**  
**PACIFIC GAMES**  
**SOLOMON ISLANDS**  
 CHALLENGE • CELEBRATE • UNITE



## 24 SPORTS »»

 ARCHERY	 ATHLETICS	 BASKETBALL	 BODY BUILDING	 BOXING	 FOOTBALL	 GOLF	 HOCKEY
 JUDO	 KARATE	 NETBALL	 RUGBY 7S	 RUGBY LEAGUE 9S	 POWERLIFTING	 SAILING	 SWIMMING
 TABLE TENNIS	 TAEKWONDO	 TENNIS	 TOUCH RUGBY	 TRIATHLON	 VA'A	 VOLLEYBALL	 WEIGHTLIFTING

## 24 COUNTRIES »»

 AMERICAN SAMOA	 AUSTRALIA	 COOK ISLANDS	 FIJI	 FEDERATED STATE OF MICRONESIA	 GUAM	 KIRIBATI	 MARSHALL ISLANDS
 NEW CALEDONIA	 NAURU	 NEW ZEALAND	 NIUE	 NORFOLK ISLANDS	 NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	 PALAU	 PAPUA NEW GUINEA
 SAMOA	 SOLOMON ISLANDS	 TAHITI	 TOKELAU	 TONGA	 TUVALU	 VANUATU	 WALLIS & FUTUNA





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# ARE YOU READY?

24  
SPORTS &  
COUNTRIES

